

SPORT, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND RECREATION BRANCH - SPAR -



May 2021

New COVID 19 measures in place for SPAR stakeholders

On May 4, Alberta's government announced the implementation of further restrictions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. These restrictions will remain in place for at least three weeks, and may be extended if necessary.

Please visit www.alberta.ca/stopthespike for the up-to-date list of affected communities and the most current information on all health measures.

Please contact the [SPAR Branch](#) or your respective SPAR consultant if you have any questions.

COVID recovery aid for Alberta small businesses

The Alberta government is expanding the Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant to put more money in the hands of job creators when they need it most.

SPAR organizations, with the exception of those currently receiving operating grants from the Alberta government, are eligible to apply.

The Alberta government is offering small businesses affected by the most recent public health orders another payment of up to \$10,000 through the Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant.

Alberta businesses affected by the latest public health orders will be eligible to

apply for another payment in the second half of April. This additional payment will also be available to new businesses that began operating between March 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021.

Funds can be used for the following:

- Cover costs of items that help prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies.
- Pay rent, employee wages or replace inventory.
- Help businesses expand their online presence or e-commerce opportunities to continue to serving customers.

For more Information on the grant and application, guidelines please visit <https://www.alberta.ca/sme-relaunch-grant.aspx>.

Application deadline is May 31.

2022 Arctic Winter Games is rescheduled for 2023

The Arctic Winter Games International Committee (AWGIC) has announced that the Arctic Winter Games will take place from **January 29 to February 4, 2023** in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

Following the postponement announcement in March, the AWGIC worked in collaboration with the Wood Buffalo Arctic Winter Games Host Society and participating contingents to secure new dates for the host community.

As part of its ongoing commitment to the safety of participants, the AWGIC has also confirmed that it will increase the maximum number of coaching positions for the rescheduled Arctic Winter Games. These additional leadership positions will help enhance participant experience and protect athletes, coaches and cultural delegates from potentially vulnerable situations.

Visit the [website](#) for more information.

Canada Games Council announces host province for the 2025 Canada Summer Games

The Canada Games Council announced on April 22 that Newfoundland and Labrador has won the bid to host the 2025 Canada Summer Games.

Team Alberta is looking forward to heading to the East Coast for the games in 2025. Newfoundland and Labrador previously hosted the Canada Winter Games in Corner Brook in 1999 and the Canada Summer Games in St. John's in 1977.

Please visit the [Canada Games website](#) for more information.

The Community Sports Participation RESTART Grant Program now available

Makadiff Sports is about "striving to make a difference to and through community sport." This organization is founded on the belief that sport can be better, and that the status quo is not an option in light of the growing number of inactive, sedentary and disengaged citizens.

The RESTART Program will offer targeted financial support totaling \$300,000 to eligible grassroots community sport organizations to assist in their recovery from the impacts of COVID-19 and in their preparation for a safe and proper 2021 recommencement of community sport during and post-pandemic.

Online applications and grant submissions are now open. The deadline for grant submissions is May 31, 2021.

Visit the [Makadiff website](#) for more information.

2021 ARPA Awards and Scholarship applications are now open

Alberta's recreation and parks community has developed awards and scholarships that honor the leadership of its communities, organizations, volunteers, professionals and the businesses.

With the uniqueness of the past year, the Alberta Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA) want to celebrate the outstanding leaders and

communities in the recreation and parks sector. The nominees can be individuals, groups, agencies or communities.

The award categories are:

- ARPA Awards
- ARPA Scholarships
- Lieutenant Governor's Awards

Visit the [website](#) today to nominate someone in your community. Application deadline is May 31, 2021.

Gender Equity and Recreational Sport Initiative - a crowd sourcing activity

A significant barrier for the participation and retention of girls, women and gender diverse people in recreational sport is access to recreation facilities in their communities. Community sport and recreation practitioners have indicated a need for tools that would assist them in removing these barriers.

The Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) is looking to know more about what is currently happening in communities across Canada to ensure women, girls and gender-diverse people have access to equitable facility use and spaces that are designed to provide a sense of belonging and to ensure they feel safe and welcoming.

If your organization is addressing the issue of gender equity through facility use and/or design, we invite you to send us some information about your work so that we might share it with others as a resource tool.

The CPRA would like to create a resource share for organizations. If you would like to be part of this exciting initiative, organizations are asked to send your resource(s) via email to Christa Costas-Bradstreet at christa.costas@outlook.com or go to CPRA's [The Bench](#) and upload your resource to the Discussion Group titled "Gender Equity in Recreation, Sport and Physical Activity".

Please note: if you are not currently a member of The Bench, you will have to register (free). The good news is that you will then have access to all shared resources and ongoing discussions on this topic.

Alberta Fitness Leadership Online Courses

Alberta Fitness Leadership Certification Association (AFLCA) is hosting a range of online courses, seminars and workshops now through June. The workshops and courses are evidence-informed and offered by leading scholars and practitioners.

Register today to take the [Summer Intensive Online Series](#) from May 26 to June 2.

AFLCA [online certification courses](#) are also available.

June is Recreation and Parks Month

Mark your calendars, as “June is Recreation and Parks Month” (JRPM). JRPM highlights the many benefits recreation and parks bring to our community and acknowledge the strong foundation of parks and recreation facilities and programs in Alberta.

This year, JRPM will be focusing on connecting people, together and with nature, through recreation and parks.



The image is a graphic for the Canadian Sport HelpLine. It features a yellow background with the text "CANADIAN SPORT" in grey, "HELPline" in large white and grey letters, and two overlapping speech bubbles (one white, one orange) to the right. Below this, there are three rows of contact information: a phone icon and "1-888-83SPORT (77678)", an email icon and "info@abuse-free-sport.ca", and a website icon and "www.abuse-free-sport.ca". To the right of these rows, in a separate box, it says "8 am - 8 pm (ET)" and "7 days a week".

Concussion Awareness

The [#HeadstrongCanada](#) campaign is based on the Government of Canada's Concussion Framework and the [Concussion Awareness toolkit](#), is designed to give every sport organization the resources they need to



show they are concussion smart and to learn the key points in concussion awareness.

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