

Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Branch – SPAR –

July 2023 – Special Edition Newsletter

Minister of Tourism and Sport Mandate Letter

On Friday, July 14, Minister Schow received his mandate letter to deliver on the government's commitment to support the growth of tourism and sport in our province. The Ministry of Tourism and Sport is dedicated to serving Albertans, delivering recreation, sport and tourism programs, and developing effective policies so that Alberta continues to be “the” place to live, play and visit.

To watch Minister Schow's statement on leading Alberta's new Ministry of Tourism and Sport and showcasing our province as a captivating destination for visitors and athletes alike, click on the following link: [Alberta Tourism and Sport](#)

The mandate letter can be found here: [Minister of Tourism and Sport mandate letter](#)

Every Kid Can Play Program – Keeping Sport Affordable for Kids and Youth

Alberta's government is investing \$8 million to increase affordability and accessibility of sport, physical activity and recreation (SPAR) programs across the province through the Every Kid Can Play program. The news release can be viewed [here](#).

The grant program is designed to help more Alberta children and youth access sport, physical activity and recreation. The program will provide subsidies for program registration costs to eligible Alberta families and will also provide financial support for community-based SPAR programs for Alberta's kids and youth. Thanks go out to KidSport for administering part of this program on behalf of the government.

Information sessions will be hosted in August and September to provide more information on the Every Kid Can Play Grant Program, Application Portal, and to answer questions about the program. The session dates and times are:

- 1. Provincial Scope Non-Profit Organizations Information Session**
When: August 3, 2023 01:30 PM – 2:30 PM
Registration Deadline: August 1, 2023
- 2. Community Level Non-Profit Organizations Information Session**
When: August 15, 2023 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
Registration Deadline: August 13, 2023
- 3. Community Level Non-Profit Organizations Information Session**
When: September 7, 2023 07:00 PM – 08:00 PM
Registration Deadline: September 5, 2023

To register for the information sessions, please use the following link: [Every Kid Can Play Registration](#).

For more information and program application forms please go the [SPAR website](#).

National Coaches Week – September 16-24, 2023

September marks the ninth **National Coaches Week** in Canada. The annual campaign recognizes coaches for the integral role they play in sport. #ThanksCoach.

To celebrate National Coaches Week and to show appreciation for Alberta coaches, the Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation (SPAR) Branch is providing a discount between 25% and 50% on most National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) multi-sport and core training modules offered in the month of September. Registration for those courses opens on **July 31, 2023** and we recommend you register early, as they fill up fast!

Coaches can view the available courses on the [NCCP Multi-Sport Calendar](#).

FREE IN PERSON NCCP MULTI-SPORT MODULES:

As part of the Coaching Association of Canada's National Mental Health and Sport Project, Tourism and Sport will be delivering **in person** NCCP multi-sport modules focused on the topic of mental health, at no cost.

The NCCP modules will be offered on a first come, first serve basis, in limited locations and limited dates. The **free NCCP In Person Multi-Sport Modules include:**

- Make Ethical Decisions
- Planning a Practice
- Basic Mental Skills and
- Teaching & Learning

The courses will be offered in the following locations and registration is [NOW OPEN](#):

Grande Prairie:	August 26, 27, September 9, and 10
Fort McMurray:	September 9, 14/15, 17, and 23
Edmonton:	September 13, 14, 20/21, and 27/28
Red Deer:	September 9, 16, and 23
Calgary:	September 11, 17, 21, and 23
Lethbridge:	September 15, 16, and 17

Calgary Wins Bid to Host the 2027 North American Indigenous Games

Calgary has been chosen to host the 2027 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) – the largest multi-sport and culture event for Indigenous youth on Turtle Island. The Games, which take place every four years, will be returning to their roots, having begun in Alberta more than 30 years ago. The NAIG bid was prepared by Tourism Calgary in partnership with Tsuut'ina Nation, with input and involvement from all local Indigenous Nations, The City of Calgary, and many community partners. View the official announcement [here](#).

The multisport games for youths 13 to 19 years-old showcase unity, sport, culture, volunteerism and teamwork between First Nations, Métis, Inuit and Non-Indigenous communities. The Games were created to promote healthy lifestyles, strengthen self-image, and highlight Indigenous role models through sport and culture.

The NAIG sport program features 16 sports including three traditional Indigenous sports: canoe/kayak, lacrosse, and 3D archery. The Games will bring with it more than 5,000 participants from over 756 Nations around North America, competing in 16 sporting events.

For more information on the games visit the [NAIG website](#).

2023 Alberta Summer Games – July 20-23, 2023

The 2023 Alberta Summer Games in Okotoks/Black Diamond (Diamond Valley) July 20-23, 2023 were a big success. 2,800 athletes and coaches came from across Alberta, participated in 14 different sports representing 8 different zones. Over 365 medals presented.

Congratulations to the following Zones on the winning the Games Trophies:

- **Zone 3 - Calgary** was awarded the **Alberta Cup** for achieving the most medal points overall at the games.
- The **Minister's Cup** was awarded to **Zone 1 – Sunny South** for showing the greatest improvement from the 2018 Alberta Summer Games.
- **Zone 2 – Big Country** was awarded The Spirit of Sport award for their fair play, sportsmanship, team spirit and co-operation on and off the field.

Go to the [Alberta Games website](#) for a complete list of results.

Coming next is the 2024 Alberta Winter Games taking place in Grande Prairie, February 16-19, 2024. See you there!

ParticipACTION – Alberta's Most Active Community

Congratulations to **Red Deer** for being named the Most Active Community in Alberta in the ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge. This is Red Deer's second year in a row winning this challenge. This year they win the reward of a \$7,500 prize!

The ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge is an annual month-long, national physical activity initiative that encourages Canadians to get active in search of Canada's Most Active Community. Salisbury, New Brunswick was victorious and named as Canada's Most Active Community!

Podium Alberta Grant – Now Open

Podium Alberta, the High Performance Athlete Assistance Program, is open for applications July 18 to September 28, 2023. The grant supports Alberta's high performing athletes by:

- helping athletes continue their pursuit of athletic excellence at the highest levels of national and international competition.
- encouraging athletes to stay in Alberta to live and train.
- enabling athletes to successfully pursue excellence in sport while fulfilling their educational goals.
- increasing athlete access to high-performance coaching and sports science practitioners.
- enhancing training and competitive opportunities available to athletes.

Please go to the [Podium Alberta webpage](#) for more information and eligibility requirements.

Concussion Awareness

The #Headstrong Canada 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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