



Report from the Chair

sportalliance INFO



Memo to: Provincial Sport & Recreation Presidents and Executive Directors/Chief Operating Officers

From: Holly Abraham
Chair, **sportalliance** Board of Directors

Re: December 2009 "Update"

With the SAO new year underway, I would like to first of all thank the following Board Members for their continued service to the SAO. A special thank you to Mike Murphy and Doug Rosser, both have completed their terms as Chair and Past Chair of the SAO respectively. Thank you to Vice Chairs Dave Saad, and Ilene Watt, Secretary Stephen MacDonald, and Treasurer Janet Gates, along with Roger Robbins and Adam Evans who are continuing in their positions as Directors. I would like to welcome new Board Members Peter Dunbar, Edith Pedden and Linda Corcoran. Edith has agreed to serve the one year term from the resignation of Barbara Hoffmann I would also like to acknowledge the work of Sue Holloway, a Ministry appointed representative who will be stepping down this year. Sue has always provided a welcome perspective to our discussions with her passion and history in amateur sport. A new representative has just been appointed by the Minister to the SAO Board, Molly Killingbeck brings a tremendous sport background and I am sure she will contribute substantially to the SAO Board deliberations.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Jim Bradley our Chief Executive Officer. The year 2009 was a very busy and stressful year with the move to Concorde Gate. With very little interruption of services, the SAO managed to successfully execute the move under the leadership of Jim Bradley and Doug Rosser. It was an enormous task to coordinate and I want to thank Jim and his staff for all their work. We hope that everyone has settled into the new offices and that your sports are enjoying more professional surroundings.

This update is meant to provide information to our members on items of interest at the board level. We have held two board meetings since the AGM in September and the following agenda items have been discussed.

2015 Pan American Games and Para Pan American Games

- The announcement became the biggest news to hit amateur sport in Ontario in decades. SAO is very excited to fully support and engage all sport in this event. We will do our best to keep our members and the sport community up to date on any newsworthy items.

Ministry of Health Promotion

- It was great to host Deputy Minister Angela Longo at our new buildings and sport facilities on October 20th. The Deputy Minister was very impressed with the tour of some of the sport offices, the Canadian Sport Centre and the printing facilities. Thanks also go to CSCO and Debbie Low for their support of the event and hosting the welcome reception.
- I am pleased to congratulate Rick Beaver on his recent appointment as Director of the Sport and Recreation Branch. Rick's long standing volunteer role on the Canada Games Missions for Ontario will give him a great perspective.

Strategic Plan 2010-2013

- A Steering Committee was struck to begin preliminary discussions on updating the Strategic plan. The CEO will be bringing forward information to the members at the December communication meeting in an effort to engage a larger group of stakeholders and discuss priorities for the SAO and sport beyond 2010. The Steering Committee members include Jim Bradley, Dave Saad, Mike Murphy and Holly Abraham.
- A formal strategic planning session is being set up for early March following the Olympic Games.

2010 is the Year of Games for SAO

Beginning in January, come and join Ontario's athletes, coaches and officials at the largest amateur sport events in the country. In fact the OWG has more participants than the 2010 Winter Olympic Games. The SAO staff lead by Blair McIntosh, have been hard at work with all the sports and host organizing committees to ensure a successful event for all participants.

- Ontario ParaSport Winter Games www.ontarioparasportgames.com
- Ontario Winter Games www.2010ontariowintergames.ca
- Ontario Summer Games www.2010ontariosummertimegames.ca
- 2010 Ontario Senior Summer Games – Actifest
- 2011 Ontario Senior Winter Games – Winterfest
- 2011 Canada Winter Games, Halifax, N.S.

Games Review

- The SAO staff has had meetings with MHP to discuss enhancements to the Games Program as well as Team Ontario for 2009/10 and 2010/11.
- Evaluations of the sports will be conducted at the Games and be part of the 2012 selection process.
- Currently developing tools to evaluate sports on their participation in the 2010 Games.
- An evaluation tool has been developed with input from PSO's as well as a first draft of the sport selection document for 2012 Summer and Winter Youth Games.
- A revised travel subsidy has been developed with input from PSO's.

Team Ontario Development Grant Program (TOPGP)

- Canada Winter Games sports are thrilled that they will be given the opportunity to participate in the TODGP particularly after seeing the results of the 2009 Program in the medal count for Summer sports.
- 20 applications were received.
- Terms & Conditions Agreements have been signed and returned by PSOs/MSOs.
- 90% installment letter & cheques are currently being processed

Finance

- The SAO is undergoing a transformation in our financial services including a tender for a consultant to identify the steps in that transformation.
- The next step will be to confirm the consultant and begin review of financial reporting and documentation.
- Thanks to the Finance Committee for their ongoing leadership in the finance area, Janet Gates, Ilene Watt, Roger Robbins and Jim Bradley.

HST Position

- The CEO informed the Board that a paper was developed by a working group with recommendations to modify the government's HST implementation.
- The group met with a senior policy advisor at the Ministry of Finance to see if the recommendations can be implemented.

The Building Services Committee – Terms of Reference

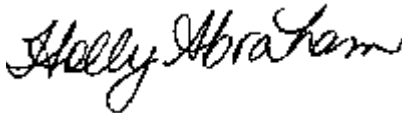
- The Board reviewed and revised the Terms of Reference for the Building Services Committee to better reflect and enhance the communication between the members/tenants and the management staff.

Marketing and Communications Sub-Committee

- A new marketing and communications sub-committee has been created to review a communications strategy and a marketing approach.
- One of our goals is to build capacity in the marketing and communications area.
- A Trillium Grant application has been submitted in support of these plans.
- An RFP was circulated for the services of a designer to revamp our web site.

Please contact the CEO Jim Bradley at jbradley@sportalliance.com if you have any questions, concerns and ideas regarding the SAO.

Sincerely,



Holly Abraham
Chair
Sport Alliance of Ontario