



Report from the Chair

sportalliance INFO



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

From: Doug Rosser
Chair, *sportalliance* Board of Directors

Re: January 2007 "Update"

Welcome to 2007... a year which we anticipate will be one of great significance for the Sport Alliance of Ontario and we hope for all of our stakeholders in sport and recreation across the Province.

STRATEGIC PLANNING & GOVERNANCE

My last several "Updates" have kept you posted on the progress of the Committee's work on our "**governance structure**". We have made significant strides forward on the development of a model which will be more inclusive for PSO/MSO stakeholders and the Consultant is making a presentation at our January 22nd Board meeting.

With much of that work behind us, we are returning our focus to completing the "**strategic plan**". The Board plus a number of other stakeholders are holding a focused strategic planning session on February 9th & 10th to hopefully complete the strategic framework. SAO Vice Chair, **Mike Murphy**, is providing leadership to this process and we have retained the consulting expertise of Marg Strus to assist us.

BUILDING FUTURE

The arrival of 2007 brought with it increased activity for the Building Future Committee. Prior to Christmas we had publicly tendered for companies interested in being our "agent" helping us to examine the marketplace, evaluate the needs and expectations of our resident stakeholders, and to assist with possible facility negotiations. While the existing lease expires in the Fall of 2009, the intervening 30+ months will go very quickly and we want to be in a position to negotiate the most favorable lease for all of our stakeholders. Please be assured that there will be extensive consultation with all stakeholders before any final decisions are made.

BUDGET PROCESS

It is that time of year again where we turn our attention to preparing the annual budget. While 2007/08 will mark year #2 of our current Three-Year Agreement with the Ministry, we still require plenty of internal work with all of our departments (service and program delivery) to ensure we remain on a sound fiscal base, within the parameters of our funding platform. We are also continuing to modify our reporting format to make it easier for the sport community to understand our statements. To assist in this regard, we are investigating the acquisition of more sophisticated financial software. SAO Board members **Ilene Watt** and **Roger Robbins** along with Finance Chair, **Carol Nickle**, are working with Jim Bradley and Edmond Lo on the Finance Committee.

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KIDSPORT

Our provincial KidSport program continues to do well, reaching additional Ontario communities each month. KidSport is one of the key "Charities of Choice" for Maple Leaf Sport & Entertainment and we are actively involved with the 50/50 draws at Maple Leaf Hockey games. To quote our KidSport Provincial Manager, Lyle Abbott...

"Through 10 games (1/3 of the assigned games), KidSport Ontario has generated over **\$119,000 of revenue** from 50/50 draws... an increase of just over \$4,000 from last year's total at the same stage of the season.

Of the three charities in the 50/50 Draw, KidSport continues to lead in terms of revenue generated and volunteer support (an average of 60 volunteers fundraising at each game)."

ONTARIO SPORTS AWARDS

I hope that everyone has already marked **Thursday, April 26th** on their calendars for this year's Sports Awards Gala. Based on the tremendous success of last year's event we are anticipating a complete sellout. We are very proud of our community partnership with Centennial College and their staff and students are returning again to produce the event this year. In anticipation of an even larger crowd we are moving the Awards Gala to the Granite Club. If you have not already submitted your award nominations please do so before the end of January deadline. The Gala Steering Committee is led by SAO Board member **David Saad** and staff member **Herb Gray**.

CANADA GAMES

All of the winter based PSO's are focusing their efforts on the upcoming Canada Winter Games in Whitehorse and on behalf of the SAO Board I would like to extend our best wishes to the entire Ontario Team. Chef de Mission, **Blair McIntosh**, reports that the two pre-Games "Camps" have been highly successful and we are looking forward to great results in all sports. Additional financial support from the Ministry via the Quest for Gold program enabled us to hold the two pre-Games Camps.

OTHER

We would like to welcome **Derek Ventnor**, the new Executive Director of ROWONTARIO to the building. Derek is already getting involved by volunteering to participate on the Building Future Committee.

I would again reiterate that if there is **ANYTHING** that you would like further clarification on, or would like to discuss please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (416) 426-7234 or call our CEO, Jim Bradley at (416) 426-7074