



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: March 2007 "Update"

I am pleased to provide the sport community with a quick **March "Update"** on activities and directions for the Sport Alliance of Ontario. The first quarter of the year is a very busy time for the SAO as it is for all PSO's/MSO's and our recreation partners.

STRATEGIC PLANNING & GOVERNANCE

This area has been the highest priority for action of our Board since last Fall's AGM. We retained the services of an excellent external consultant, Marg Strus, and with her expertise and the enthusiastic commitment of our committee we have made tremendous progress. We first tackled the fundamental issue of "governance structure" as it seemed to be a major impediment to progress in other areas. We believe a resolution has been developed which the Board reviewed and supported at our January meeting. Our By-laws are currently being re-written to reflect the new organizational design. These revisions will go to the Board for approval in late March, and if approved, will be forwarded to the existing constituent members for their approval in early April. Assuming everything is approved, our 2007 Annual Meeting will then operate under the new By-laws with a greatly expanded membership base. I would sincerely thank the Executive Directors who joined this committee and provided so much of their time and thoughtful input – **Wendy Cathcart** (Softball), **John Craig** (Track & Field), **Cathy Vincelli** (Paralympics), and **Al Will** (Sailing).

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 Show this year. In anticipation of an even larger crowd, we are moving the Awards Gala to the Granite Club. Invitations will soon be distributed and I would encourage you to confirm your attendance early. Perhaps you may even wish to purchase a table for your association. Awards Gala Chair, **Davis Saad** and his committee have a spectacular evening planned.

CANADA WINTER GAMES

The 2007 Canada Winter Games officially opened on February 24th. Team Ontario arrived in Whitehouse last week and we all wish them well as they compete for medals and to help Team Ontario bring home the Canada Games Flag.

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ONTARIO SENIOR WINTER GAMES – “WINTERFEST”

I had the opportunity in mid-February to travel to Brockville and participate in the Closing Ceremonies for the Ontario Senior Games – Winterfest 2007. This was a wonderful experience with just less than 1000 athletes and participants from across the province celebrating success and enjoying outstanding eastern Ontario hospitality. I would salute Ontario Senior Games Association President, **Bill Little** for a great event. At the Closing Ceremonies Bill and I were pleased to present the OSGA flag back to the Mayor of Brockville as their community successfully re-applied to host the Games again in 2009.

SAO CONGRATULATES THE PSO COUNCIL

We were pleased to learn that the PSO Council recently announced that they had hired their first ever Executive Director – **Brandy Tanenbaum**, who most recently worked with the Ontario Hockey Federation as Manager of Risk Management. Congratulations Brandy!

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