



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: August, 2006 "Update"

On behalf of the SAO's Board of Directors I am pleased to again be able to provide you with another "Update" on recent SAO areas of activity. The past several months have been extremely positive and productive ones for the Sport Alliance and I will highlight some of these below.

However, I would first like to take a moment to extend my most sincere congratulations to everyone involved with the recent Ontario Summer Games in Ottawa. On August 9th I had the pleasure of joining Premier Dalton McGuinty, Minister of Health Promotion Jim Watson and the Mayor of Ottawa Bob Chiarelli to officially open the 19th Ontario Summer Games. The City of Ottawa did an outstanding job organizing these Games and they have worked hard to leave a meaningful legacy for future host communities. New Games logos have been developed, standardized event signage, and more sophisticated Games management software will be available to future host cities – a large savings of money and effort! Under the direction of SAO's Director of Games, **Blair McIntosh**, we are in the process of preparing detailed Games Management Policy & Procedures binders with the support of the Ministry and Quest of Gold. It is very encouraging to see interest already lining up from communities wishing to host the 2008 Summer Games.

Grant Status

In my June Update I indicated that negotiations were well underway with the Ministry for both a new three year contract which would govern our 2006-2009 relationship and also our specific 2006/07 funding. I am pleased to be able to report to you that these were very positive discussions which resulted in a dynamic new contract and some very modest funding increases to our base budget. Key "new" components included the following amounts (for fiscal 2006/07)

- \$30,000.00 to help SAO offset significant operating cost increases, primarily related to increases in energy costs.
- \$20,000.00 to provide administrative support for the Ontario Sport Action Plan Steering Committee.
- \$15,000.00 as Phase One funding for another provincial sport conference proposed for early in 2008.

Community Sport Grant

The SAO was also successful in applying for funding under this separate provincial funding program. We received a 2 year grant of \$150,000.00 to primarily support the KidSport Program as well as to invest in Community Sport Councils.

Increasing Committee Involvement

I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered to sit on one of the SAO's Planning Committees. We recognize how important stakeholder input is to our future planning and it is great to see Executive Directors stepping forward and becoming involved, and in return, become more knowledgeable about our operations.

Key committees that have significant ED involvement include:

- Strategic Planning & Governance 4 ED's
- Building Future Committee 3 ED's
- Client Operations Committee 5 ED's

A complete listing of all Committees along with their respective Terms of Reference will be posted by September on our website.

Next on the Horizon

So what's up next for Sport Alliance? With grants and budgets now behind us, what is underway for the SAO in the months to come?

- The **2006 SAO Annual Meeting** is scheduled for Tuesday, September 19th. Immediately following the business component of the meeting we will be holding three "info sessions" to bring our stakeholders up-to-date on areas such as the future of our facility, a report from the Games Review Committee, and an update on our Strategic Planning.
- Work continues on the **Ontario Sport Action Plan**. At the Steering Committee's most recent meeting it was agreed that the SAO would co-chair the Committee along with Jean Lam, ADM of the Ministry. The SAO's CEO **Jim Bradley** and **Margaret Emin** of the PSOC are working on a redraft of the Committee's Terms of Reference to ensure the Plan is responding to the outcomes of the February '06 Sport Momentum Conference.
- The inaugural **KidSport Golf Tournament** is approaching on September 12th at the Lionhead Golf & Country Club. Corporate foursomes are going quickly and the event promises to be a very successful fundraiser for the SAO and the KidSport program. We are particularly appreciative of the tremendous support being provided by Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment, the National Hockey League Players' Association, and by Mazda Canada. The Planning Committee is led by **Joe Halstead**, whom many of you will know as a previous Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for sport.

I hope that the remainder of the summer allows everyone a bit more time to relax before the busy Fall season arrives. I would again encourage anyone who has any questions to not hesitate to contact me directly at (416) 426-7234 or call our CEO, Jim Bradley at (416) 426-7074