



Athlete Representative Report

Hi, my name is Heidi Mallett, and I am happy to be presenting my third Annual report as your SOPEI Athlete representative. I have been an SOPEI athlete for 15 years. I enjoy participating in bowling, bocce, golf, and snowshoe. I am honored and blessed to serve on the SOPEI Board of Directors and the Canadian Athlete Leadership Council as the PEI's Athlete representative. I am also on the Global Athlete Leadership Council as North America region Athlete representative.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic our Athletes have been able to participate in their local programs. This year SOPEI was very excited to host sport fun days for our Athletes and volunteers.

Every three months I meet with the SOPEI staff to review new applications and reports for the Athlete Leadership Academy that members can apply to, build their skills, and learn about the leadership opportunities. I would like to congratulate the 11 Athletes and their mentors who completed the courses. There will be more opportunities for athletes to take courses in the future.

Canadian Athlete Leadership Council

I would like to share a few highlights from the CALC over the past year. The CALC is in the process of updating the terms of reference and preparing a handbook and a video for new Athlete reps and their mentors.

We also helped with the selection process for the SOC Athlete of year awards.

Global Athlete Leadership Council

Last fall I was honored to be selected to the Global Athlete Leadership Council as the North American Region Athlete representative. There are a total of seven Athletes on the council, one from each region. This past June the GALC elected me to be their chair. This is a huge opportunity and I have always wanted to do work internationally with an organization and it is a dream come true to do it with Special Olympics. Some of the topics the GALC discussed this past year are world games, Athlete Leadership, and planning for the next Athlete Congress. I also get to work with the Athlete regional councils in Canada, the United States, and the Caribbean.

I would like to congratulate the two PEI Athletes who will be representing Team Canada at the 2023 World Winter Games in Kazan, Russia Christi-Joe Synders-Couchman in snowshoeing and Jordan Koughan in speed skating. Also, congratulations to board member Craig Watson who is going as a mission staff and SOPEI Executive Director Charity Sheehan who is the Chef de Mission.

In closing, I am grateful and blessed we were able to gather in person at this year's AGM & Awards this evening to celebrate the accomplishments of our Athletes, coaches, volunteers, and supporters. I also would like to thank the SOPEI staff and the Board of directors for their guidance and support over the past year. Thank you.

Heidi Mallett,

Athlete Representative