



Special Olympics
Newfoundland & Labrador

Annual Report 2007/08



EXECUTIVE REPORT

2007-08 was another extremely successful and productive year for Special Olympics Newfoundland and Labrador. It was highlighted by amazing accomplishments and performances at all levels of the organization by athletes and volunteers alike.

SONL's athletes had an outstanding year that brought with it acclaim on the local, provincial and national stage. Athletes took part in four Provincial Championships, an all time high for this province, while Team NL's 24 athletes represented the province at the 2008 National Winter Games in Quebec City. Fuelled by their year of dedicated training as part of the Provincial Team Training Program the athletes had phenomenal performances. Highlighting this year of competition was the recognition of Janet Maher as the 2008 Female Athlete of the Year for Canada.

One of the most important and groundbreaking program developments from last year was the launch of the Active Start Program. This program offered the first dedicated activities for individuals with an intellectual disability under the age of ten and provided a great entry level introduction to Special Olympics for young families. Active Start programs were piloted in Gander and St. John's with much success and received positive feedback from participating families.

Coach development took a huge step forward when Mary Holloway was named the province's first ever Master Learning

Facilitator. This status means that SONL is completely self sufficient and has the ability to train its own Learning Facilitators and offer coach training when required. To ensure that administrative volunteers received adequate professional opportunities, SONL held its second Leadership Conference this past spring in Marystown. This conference provided volunteers with the opportunity to meet other volunteers in a similar position while taking part in a series of professional development sessions covering a wide range of pertinent topics.

To help provide long term direction the board of directors and regional leadership council initiated a strategic planning process that will be used by the organization to establish a set of goals to guide growth and development in future years. The initial stages of this process have been very insightful and rewarding and have provided valuable feedback and information that is already being used. The intent is to develop a plan that can be used by all levels of the organization as a practical guide to decision making and goal setting.

2007-08 continued a trend of sustainable growth and outstanding achievements that have defined the past five years for SONL. It is a priority to continue this trend in future years while making sure we take time to recognize and celebrate our accomplishments and milestones when they occur.



Ken Marshall
Chair - Board of Directors



Johnny Byrne
Executive Director

Board of Directors

Ken Marshall, Chair
Carmel Casey, Vice Chair
Heather Moores, Treasurer
Winnie Power, RLC Representative
Evan Ash, Parents Representative
Kevin Casey, Director
Tom Clift, Director
Rod Dunne, Director
Bob Moakler, Progress Club Representative
Dan Hutton, Director
Kate O'Neil, Director
Gwyneth Pryse-Phillips, Director
Brenda Steele, Auto Dealers Association Representative

Staff

Johnny Byrne, Executive Director
Nelson White, Program Director

Mission: Special Olympics is committed to enriching the lives of Newfoundlanders and Labradoreans with an intellectual disability through sport.

Female Coach of the Year: Eileen Reid

Eileen Reid is a coach with the Mount Pearl Tigers Floor Hockey Team. She is an extremely capable coach who is well-organized, knowledgeable and dependable; all the adjectives that one would want to describe the coach of your son, daughter or team. Her tenure as assistant coach of the Gold Medal winning Provincial Floor Hockey team highlighted all her best qualities. The athletes looked up to her, treated her with respect and sought her company because she made and continues to make them feel valued and appreciated as persons regardless of their ability as a player.

No matter what the job, game or setting the athletes are always her priority, not just because it is her responsibility but because she thoroughly appreciates them and enjoys her time with them. Nothing is too much trouble or too small a detail for Eileen to look after.

Male Coach of the Year: Frank Simms

Frank has been a soccer and floor hockey coach in Gander for the past four years and has taken the lead in developing team sports for their club. There were no soccer or floor hockey programs before Frank's involvement. He has struggled with adequate numbers to keep programs going, but he doesn't let this get him down or deter him. When practise numbers are low, he focuses on individual skills and the lucky athletes get more of his undivided attention.

Frank is an excellent coach. He is always encouraging the athletes while making sure they are properly instructed in skill development. He is interested in the athletes and challenges each of them to become the best player they can be. Athletes learn a lot from because he has a lot of fun with them but also because he has earned their affection and respect.

2008 AWARD WINNERS



Volunteer of the Year: Mary Holloway

Mary is an unselfish, caring and dedicated volunteer. She has taken the lead locally, provincially and nationally to try and improve opportunities available for Special Olympics athletes. Mary has been an integral member of the Special Olympics Mount Pearl Club. She started with coaching in 1999 and shortly after became a member of the Local Committee. In 2006 Mary took on the role of Program Director, overseeing the day to day sport activities of the club. She is currently a leader in coach development for the province making the investment to become the province's first ever master learning facilitator. Because of her commitment NL is self sufficient and has the capability to offer its own coaching courses and train new learning facilitators where required.

Mary is a dynamo in a small package; a retired elementary school teacher who only looks for what's best for the whole. Her involvement has made SONL a better organization and any club would be overjoyed to have someone so capable in their midst.

Gina Blundon Award: Elizabeth Lambert

Elizabeth has been a member of the Special Olympics Gander Club since its inaugural days. Her strong will, love of life and general concern for others is what Special Olympics is all about. Elizabeth is a caring and compassionate women, who brings a joy for life to everything she does. She is a captain of her bowling team and is a tremendous help to her coaches and continually takes athletes under her wing. She is a very outgoing individual, with a pleasant attitude and cooperative spirit. The ultimate recognition of her capabilities was her naming to the Gander Club's organizing committee, a first for an athlete in this province.

Male Athlete of the Year: Eddie Hynes

Eddie has been a member of the Mount Pearl club for ten years. He participates in Floor Hockey, Bowling, Athletics and Soccer. Eddie has been to two National Games with his crowning achievement being winning the Gold Medal in Floor Hockey at the 2008 National Winter Games. Many fans and spectators in attendance at the national championships used the term "he stood on his head" to describe Eddie's performance. In Quebec City Eddie's last minute heroics in the finals was integral in helping Team NL win gold.

Eddie is the type of dream athlete that every coach would love to have. He puts 100% into everything he does. He is confident in his abilities, dedicates himself to his sporting endeavors and most of all is very coachable.

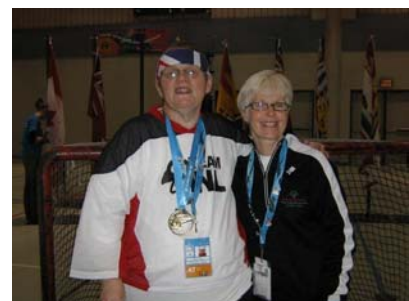
JANET MAHER

2008 FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR FOR NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR AND CANADA

Mount Pearl's Janet Maher is the 2008 Female Athlete of the Year for Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada. Janet has been active in Special Olympics for over 10 years participating in Floor Hockey, Bowling, Athletics and Soccer. Janet has competed at a number of National Games, but was most recently a member of the National Gold Medal Floor Hockey Team in Quebec City. Janet has exemplified the true spirit of Special Olympics, but more importantly has been a testament to the athlete's oath, "let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt", at both sport and in her every day life.



In 2007, Janet was diagnosed with breast cancer which proved to not only be a life threatening, but also a life altering experience. She was forced to take time away from both work and Special Olympics for a number of months in order to receive treatment and surgery. Once cleared by her Doctor, Janet immediately returned to Special Olympics and began training for floor hockey, in order to participate at the 2008 National Winter Games in Quebec. Acting as an inspiration to her whole team, Janet was instrumental in helping Team NL's Floor Hockey Team go on to win gold. Janet faced her treatment with courage and humour. Her drive for life and dedication to sport, her teammates and herself truly make her a champion.



Club development

Special Olympics continues to develop its existing programs while working with communities in an attempt to reach new athletes and families that could benefit from our programs across Newfoundland and Labrador. In 2008 SONL reached out to two new communities, Port aux Basques and Baie Verte, to help them explore the potential of setting up programs. Their development is still at the preliminary stages but the potential of reaching new athletes and volunteers is exciting. Although the growth of Special Olympics programs over the past five years has been impressive, there are still many communities and potential athletes that need to be reached.

Coaching

The development of quality trained coaches is the corner stone of Special Olympics. Coaches are on the front lines of program delivery and they are integral to ensuring an athlete gets the most out of their Special Olympics experience. In 2008 SONL made a huge step forward when Mary Holloway was designated as this province's first Master Learning Facilitator. In 2008 SONL had another first when Mary travelled to Labrador to offer the first ever coaching course for the Happy Valley Goose Bay club.

Developing Team Sports

SONL continually strives to offer new and inventive ways to provide sport training and competition to our athletes. Because of the low athlete numbers that exist in some clubs it is tough to field full sized teams that are required to play many team sports. In the winter and spring of 2008 the Mount Pearl Club took the initiative to host two events that have been key to the continued development of team sports in this province.

Floor Hockey: In the winter the Mount Pearl Club offered a floor hockey sport development camp and provincial championships that was attended by athletes and coaches from the St. John's, Tri-Con and Gander clubs. The event was used to provide athletes and coaches with the chance to learn skills and coaching techniques from the national games gold medal winning Team NL as well as play a mini-tournament. There was great momentum and hype generated by this event that has strengthened the sport of floor hockey and its grass roots growth and development.

Soccer: In the spring the Mount Pearl club once again played host. Their club offered a one day soccer camp that focused on drills and how the play the game. Soccer is the next team sport that is being focused on by many clubs and there are hopes that it will have its own provincial championships in the near future. This camp was a great start for the sport and all participants walked away with a ball, t-shirt and positive memories that will help grow the sport at the club level.

2008 Newfoundland and Labrador Games, Corner Brook

Special Olympics is continually working to improve and add to the training and competitive opportunities we can offer to our athletes. Having the opportunity to have Special Olympics be a part of the NL Games provided a chance for our athletes to compete at one of the premiere sporting events in our province and to be recognized as an equal among the athletes of this province.



Although the organization was represented by only twelve athletes in two sports they were representing over 500 athletes that are competing and training across the province. Participating in opportunities like the NL Games helps our athletes and organization grow and show that we are part of the sport community and that we can make a valuable contribution to the growth of sport in this province.

Regional Leadership Council

Winnie Power, Chair
 Nanette Blake, Vice-Chair
 Heather Burlingham, Secretary

Club Coordinators

Region 1: St.John's - Daniel Reid, Coordinator
 Bell Island - Josephine Lewis, Coordinator

Region 2: Mount Pearl - Don Finch, Coordinator
 CBS Local – Gail Baker, Coordinator

Region 3: Tri-Con – Gina King Coordinator

Region 4: Marystown - Trudy Power, Coordinator
 Fortune Local - Heather Burlingham, Coordinator

Region 5: Vista

Region 6: Gander - Carmel Casey, Coordinator

Region 7: Exploits - Marilyn Bouzane, Coordinator

Region 8: Corner Brook – Hope Wiseman, Coordinator

Region 9: Happy Valley/Goose Bay - Nanette Blake, Coordinator



Special Olympics young athletes™

REACHING OUR FUTURE



In 2008 SONL launched a program for young children, called the "Active Start Program (ASP)". The development of the ASP helped provide a physical activity experience for individuals with intellectual disabilities between the ages of two and nine. The program introduced them to the organization at an early age and assisted them in their physical and social growth as they and their families socialized with their peers while participating in physical activity.

The integration of this age group and their families into Special Olympics programs is helping to streamline involvement and knowledge of Special Olympics at an early age. This in turn will help expand the reach of our organization and ensure we offer programs for athletes at all stages of their lives.

The ASP has also shown to have an effect on the capacity of a community to meet the needs of families with young children with intellectual disabilities. Upon the launch of this program the initial feedback received from parents was that before ASP their child did not have an avenue to be physically active in a formal setting. As their children aged they often were deemed not suitable for the rigid environments offered by generic sporting programs. The ASP offered a fresh alternative to these families which was otherwise absent.

In the winter of 2008 ASPs were launched in Gander and at MUN in St. John's. These programs were a great success, reaching over twenty children and their families. These programs were offered again in the fall of 2008. To date the fall enrollment has more than doubled from last year's numbers and SONL is exploring ways to increase capacity and reach new members.

It is SONL's intent to grow these current programs and expand into new areas of the province. ASP programs were possible due to the contributions of the United Way of Avalon, the MUN School of Human Kinetics and Recreation and Mattel.



Remembering an Active Start Pioneer

Special Olympics Gander was deeply saddened on Thursday September 18, 2008 to learn of the sudden passing of Active Start Coach Kim Stuckey. This 31 year old special needs teacher will be remembered as a pioneer in the Active Start movement. Kim was passionate about the need of this program for young Special Olympic Athletes and she volunteered as co-lead coach for the 2007/2008 season and intended to be the lead coach for the 2008/2009 season at the time of her death. Kim's quiet and gentle manner had a calming effect on her Athletes many of whom have autism. Learning of her death one of her Athletes told his mother "the only time Mrs. Stuckey made me sad was when she died." Kim will be sadly missed by her Active Start Athletes, fellow volunteers, and coaches with Special Olympics Gander. She is mourned by her husband Doug, parents Geraldine and Peter Gillingham, sisters Kellie and Christie, and brother Trevor.



2008 SPECIAL OLYMPICS CANADA WINTER GAMES - QUEBEC CITY



From February 25th - March 2nd, 2008 over 1000 Provincial Team members representing ten provinces and two territories traveled to Quebec City to participate in the 2008 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games. Newfoundland and Labrador was represented by 24 athletes, 6 coaches and 5 mission staff participating in the sports of cross-country skiing, figure skating, floor hockey, and snowshoeing.



In February of 2007 this team made a commitment to training and personal excellence when they signed up to be part of the second ever Provincial Team Training Program (PTTP). This involved additional training and conditioning sessions as well as being part of Team NL and sport specific training camps. The team's commitment never wavered throughout the year. Even when other athletes and coaches were taking a break, Team NL stayed resolute in their commitment.

As a result of their hard work Team NL received Gold medals in 3 of the 4 sports they competed in at the Games and most impressively achieved personal bests in over 80% of their races. Their performance was due primarily to their commitment to training and the financial and psychological support that they received from all levels of the organization. The organization made a significant financial commitment to our provincial team through the PTTP. Team NL 2008 showed the value in that investment and the importance of providing our athletes and coaches with the opportunity to perform at the best of their abilities.

Just as important as their athletic performances was the example that Team NL's members set as ambassadors for their province. Team NL was seen as consummate class acts that embodied the qualities of sportsmanship and took to heart their role as representatives of their province.

FINAL RESULTS

Gold: 7 Silver: 2 Bronze: 4
Snowshoeing - G: 4, S: 1, B: 4
Cross Country - G: 2, S: 1
Floor Hockey - G: 1



Special Olympics Provincial Championships Blaze New Trails

With the continued growth of the organization the ability to host a "come one come all" event is becoming increasingly difficult. The demands placed on hosts and the limited capacity of facilities is becoming a reality that SONL must address when examining potential hosts. The organization is committed to hosting annual provincial events and exploring new and creative ways to ensure the provinces athletes have these very important competitive opportunities.

2008 Summer and Winter Championships



In its continuing effort to meet the needs of athletes and to find new hosts and opportunities for Provincial Competition SONL changed the look of its provincial championships in 2008.

For the first time SONL brought its provincial championships to Marystown and Gambo. Gambo played host to the snowshoeing and cross country skiing championships while Marystown hosted the track and swimming championships. Both of these communities took on the responsibility of hosting a championship without the direct involvement of a local Special Olympics club. In both cases Special Olympics staff and volunteers were involved and had

input. However it was town that did the lion share of the work and planning.

The feedback received from Special Olympics clubs about these championships was overwhelmingly positive for being efficient and extremely technically sound. Expanding to new communities was also exciting for teams and the organization as it exposed new areas of the province to our athletes.

SONL would like to extend a special thanks to both the Town of Gambo and Marystown. It was their commitment and hard work that provided Special Olympics with the opportunity to host provincial competitions in 2008 as well as raise the bar for future hosts.

2008 Bowling Championships



In another first, the 2008 Bowling Championships hosted in St. John's were held as a one day event. This format allowed St. John's to host another provincial event without the added responsibilities of organizing an athlete's village. The organizers did an outstanding job of ensuring a quality experience for everyone involved and as a result they delivered a bowling event that was as good as any that have been held in this province.

THANK YOU

PROVINCIAL PARTNERS

Law Enforcement Torch Run

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is the largest financial supporter of Special Olympics programs in the world and in Newfoundland and Labrador. In 2008 the LETR raised in excess of \$75,000 for local and provincial programs while generating awareness about Special Olympics programs.

North Atlantic Petroleum

The North Atlantic Petroleum Charity Golf Event was once again one of the premiere golf events in the province, raising in excess of \$30,000 for Special Olympics. At a time when the number of golf fundraisers being offered is drastically increasing the NAP Golf Event continues to stand out. The commitment of the NAP staff as well as the involvement of the Special Olympics athletes in the event makes it a memorable day on the course that is a staple on many corporate calendars.

Auto Dealers Association of Newfoundland and Labrador

Ever since there has been Special Olympics in Newfoundland and Labrador, the Auto Dealers have been there in support. In 2008 the ADANL provided a cash donation of \$20,000 to support SONL's programs. Part of their donation is the presenting sponsorship of the Special Olympics Festival, in which they also play a major role in promoting.

Canadian Progress Club St. John's

The CPC St. John's donated \$15,000 to SONL and an additional \$10,000 to ensure the athletes of Team NL would have no barriers to their success at the National Games. Although the financial support is invaluable to the success of SONL they are best known by our athletes for the socials and other athlete-centered events that they organize. Whether it is the Christmas party, summer fling or the legendary Halloween Party you can be guaranteed that you will find CPC members in the background enjoying the merriment of the athletes.

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

The Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation nearly doubled its funding to SONL in 2008. The increase in funding was due to the Government's increased commitment to sport and the overall health and wellness of Newfoundlanders and Labradoreans.

United Way Avalon

In 2008 the United Way of Avalon provided a \$15,000 grant that made the development of SONL's Active Start program a reality. Their support came at a



perfect time when programs for young children with an intellectual disability were much needed and SONL was poised to fill that need.

SUPPORTERS AND INITIATIVES

Knights of Columbus

One of the international mandates of the Knights of Columbus is to support Special Olympics. Over the past three years this relationship has grown exponentially. The K of C took part in the draft an athlete program, drafting two athletes. Additionally clubs and councils have started to become more involved at the grass roots level. We are looking forward to developing this relationship at all levels.

Special Olympics Festival

The "SOF" is one of SONL's biggest fundraisers of the year. It has seen many incarnations over the years and in 2008 it once again took on a new look. The SOF was hosted at Club One, a venue that provided the organizing committee with the opportunity to plan a night that was fun and easy going while raising much needed funds and awareness for SONL. The night was highlighted by guest speakers Gerry Cheevers and athletes Jason Roche, Andrew Ash and Travis Sceviour. The feedback received about the format and feel of the evening was overwhelmingly positive so the organizing committee is confident they have found an identity that is a great fit for the event for years to come.

Other Key Sponsors and Supporters

MUN Medical School Monte Carlo Grant
Newfoundland and Labrador Police Curling Association
O'Neill Motors and Glendenning "Hole in One" Program
VOCM Cares
Mattel

Draft an Athlete Program

The second edition of the Provincial Team Training Program was made directly possible by the draft an athlete program. The draft created a link between donors and the athletes they were drafting and had a personal approach that appealed to corporate sponsors.

Draft an Athlete Donors: Bob and Sue Windsor . Wolseley . Canadian Progress Club . Rogers Cable . Knights of Columbus: Council 9303 – Rev. Father Francis Jackman Council & Council 5769 – McCormack Council

SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR
Financial Statements
Year Ended June 30, 2008

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of Special Olympics Newfoundland & Labrador

We have audited the statement of financial position of Special Olympics Newfoundland & Labrador as at June 30, 2008 and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flow for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, we conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many charitable organizations, the company derives revenue from (specify type of contributions affected) the completeness of which is not susceptible of satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the company and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to contributions, excess of revenues over expenses, current assets and net assets.

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the contributions referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the company as at June 30, 2008 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador
September 9, 2008

Harris Ryan

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2008

	2008	2007
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 821	\$ 43,696
Marketable securities <i>(Note 3)</i>	72,138	68,740
Accounts receivable	94,320	35,031
Prepaid expenses	2,437	2,321
	\$ 169,716	\$ 149,788
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable	\$ 42,053	\$ 25,108
SURPLUS		
Surplus	127,663	124,680
	\$ 169,716	\$ 149,788

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

Director

Director

See notes to financial statements

SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

Year Ended June 30, 2008

	2008	2007
REVENUE		
Fundraising (Schedule 1)	\$ 130,678	\$ 137,066
ADAN	14,000	14,000
Law Enforcement Torch Run	24,832	20,000
NL Police Curling Association	3,000	5,000
Progress Club	26,750	20,000
SOC Coaching Grant	1,020	1,633
Government Grant	25,036	9,500
Knights of Columbus	2,500	-
Other Grants & Sponsorships	26,000	11,400
SOC Coaching Courses	-	215
National Games	5,000	12,654
Investment	3,398	1,744
Provincial Games	-	855
Miscellaneous	590	2,763
	262,804	236,830
EXPENSES		
Fundraising (Schedule 1)	30,395	32,954
Administrative Expenses (Schedule 2)	142,272	129,247
Program Expenses (Schedule 2)	87,154	73,664
	259,821	235,865
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 2,983	\$ 965

See notes to financial statements

PROVINCIAL PARTNERS

adanl.....
Automobile Dealers Association of Newfoundland & Labrador



PROVINCIAL SPONSORS



NATIONAL SPONSORS





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Special Olympics
Newfoundland and Labrador
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