Revealing the Champion in All of Us
We have come a long way since Special Olympics Alberta was founded in 1980, growing from an organization with only a few dozen athletes and a handful of sports, to over 2,700 athletes that train and compete in 18 official sports:

We are not just an event!

Special Olympics programs operate daily year round offering sport training and competitive opportunities to athletes of all abilities and interests. Athletes are provided with the opportunities at the local, provincial, national and international level with the focus being on inclusion, personal achievement and athlete empowerment.

These programs are made possible thanks to the SUPPORT and LEADERSHIP of over 1,000 VOLUNTEERS from across the province.

**Mission**

Special Olympics is committed to enriching the lives of Albertans with an intellectual disability through sport.

**Vision**

Special Olympics Alberta will provide individuals with an intellectual disability, of all ages and abilities, opportunity to realize their full athletic potential, with appropriate training, coaching and competitions, to develop life skills, a healthy body and self-esteem.
Special Olympics Alberta offers sports programs in communities around the province:

1 Airdrie  17 Leduc
2 Barrhead  18 Lethbridge
3 Brooks  19 Lloydminster
4 Calgary  20 Medicine Hat
5 Camrose  21 Olds
6 Crowsnest Pass  22 Peace River
7 Drumheller  23 Red Deer
8 Edmonton  24 Rocky Mountain House
9 Edson  25 St. Albert
10 Foothills  26 St. Paul
11 Fort McMurray  27 Strathcona
12 Grande Prairie  28 Vegreville
13 Hinton  29 West Central
14 Innisfail  30 Westlock
15 Lacombe  31 Wetaskiwin
16 Lakeland  32 Whitecourt
Message from the Board of Directors Chair

Revealing the champion in all of us! That is the guiding idea, the heart of Special Olympics. The Promise: Special Olympics unleashes the human spirit through the transformative power and joy of sports everyday around the world.

For Special Olympics Alberta, 2011/2012 was a year that saw our athletes achieve their goals and celebrate success. 78 athletes proudly represented Alberta at the 2012 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games in St. Albert. In their own backyard, they had many personal bests resulting in 11 of our athletes heading to South Korea for the 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games.

The Special Olympics Alberta Board of Directors is committed to bringing even more awareness to our athletes. Through Law Enforcement Torch Run events and local initiatives we strive to raise funds but also educate others about the strengths and abilities of those with an intellectual disability. By telling the story of Special Olympics athletes we hope to make the world a more welcome place bringing dignity, acceptance, pride, joy, fitness, friendship and a sense of community to our athletes. We cannot do this without your continued support.

Thank you for all you do.
Message from the President and CEO

As I continue to travel throughout Alberta meeting friends and fans of individuals with an intellectual disability, I see firsthand the transformation in our athletes’ lives, and the empowerment gained by experiences through sport; it often brings one to tears of joy.

There is so much potential in this province for growth within the Special Olympics movement. St. Albert & Jasper hosting 650 athletes from all across Canada was an overwhelming success and 700 volunteers demonstrated the true spirit of community and brought an amazing sense of pride to the 2012 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games. Our everyday volunteers continue to be the biggest difference makers in all of our communities throughout Alberta. You are the heart of our organization!

We officially added three new sports this year: basketball, bocce, and golf and have a new games model for the 2013 Provincial Games to accommodate them. The Spring Games will be held in Red Deer, April 19 - 21 and a Summer Games in Devon, June 21 - 23.

We continued to build relationships. Our government supporters are strong advocates for Special Olympics and we are working hard to develop our corporate sponsors.

I look forward to a great year ahead as we continue to bring communities together, recognizing our athlete's humanity and driving change to create an environment of tolerance.

Albertans continually remind me that no physical or mental barrier can restrain the power of the human spirit.
A Year in Review

Sports Excellence

- Two new Young Athlete Outreach Programs
- Alberta hosted its first National Games since 1996 with St. Albert welcoming the country at the 2012 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games
- Team Alberta 2012: 78 athletes, 23 coaches, 8 mission staff, 3 mental trainers
- Provincial Spring and Summer Games hosts selected - Red Deer and Devon
- Four swimmers at Western Canada Summer Games; Team Alberta Speed Skaters took part in Alberta Amateur Speed Skating Association competitions
- Eleven athletes, four coaches and one mission staff selected to 2013 Team Canada
- Coach Forums engaged over 100 coaches
Building Communities

- Official endorsement and distribution of The Athlete Rights and Responsibilities by both the Athlete Leadership Committee and Board of Directors
- Affiliate Representative Council actively engaged
- New community programs established in Innisfail and Rocky Mountain House

Connecting Fans & Funds

- Youth Development funded by the Government of Alberta through their Healthy Active Living Grant, and the Government of Canada
- Investment in Team Alberta last year $124,471
- $617,476 invested in Community Development
- The MDA Charity Classic Golf Tournament raised $275,000 in 2011
- Alberta Law Enforcement Torch Run hosted the first International Conference in Calgary, the first time outside of the United States
- ATCO Gas Employees Participating In Communities raised more than $78,000
- Government of Alberta grants supported 2012 Team Alberta and Special Olympics Canada Winter Games
Alberta on the International & National Stage

For the first time in 30 years, the International Law Enforcement Torch Run Conference for Special Olympics took place in Canada. Calgary and Alberta’s Rocky Mountains provided the beautiful backdrop for the conference November 3 to 6, 2011. With participation of over 950 individuals from 10 countries it was an overwhelming success! Those in law enforcement certainly followed the theme “Reaching New Heights”!

All eyes from across the country were on Alberta as St. Albert and Jasper hosted the 2012 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games. Over 700 athletes, coaches, and mission staff from across the country took part competing in Canada’s seven official winter sports.

Team Alberta was represented by 78 athletes and 34 coaches at the Winter Games. A testament to the quality Team Alberta was that 11 athletes from four different sports were selected to represent Canada at the 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games in PyeongChang, South Korea.
Draft an Athlete Supporters

We are proud to have the support of the following groups and individuals that drafted our athletes and supported their dreams of competing on the national stage:

- AFA Forest Products Edmonton
- Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission Social Committee
- ATCO Gas
- Attia Reeves
- Burger King
- Camdon Construction Ltd.
- Canadian Western Bank
- Craig Simpson Never Say Never Charity Golf Tournament
- Darby Taylor & Family
- David Pelletier
- Delta Bow Valley Hotel
- Delta Edmonton South Hotel
- Diversity Technologies Corp
- El Tigre Silver Corp
- First Truck Centre
- GranTierra Energy Inc
- Harry & Stacy Myeers
- High Performance Coating
- Jamie Salé
- Joan & Jack Donald
- John Cameron
- John Pinsent Professional Corp.
- Kurtis & Chelsea Ashton
- MacMillan Team - RE/MAX
- Marie Hughes
- MNP LLP
- Physiotherapy Alberta College & Association
- Prism Flow Products
- Ric’s Grill St. Albert
- Roll’n Oilfeld Services
- Rotary Club of Calgary Olympic
- Rotary Club of Rocky Mountain House
- Simmer Fine Wine & Spirits
- SNF Canada
- Sunshine Door
- The Luxus Group
- The Pipe Yard
- Yardstick Technologies
Male Athlete of the Year

Nicholas LeBlanc  
Grande Prairie

Nicholas has been with Special Olympics for 16 years and participates in 5-pin and 10-pin bowling, golf and floor hockey. He is known for his love of sport, determined work ethic and boundless sportsmanship. In 2011 Nicholas represented Canada at the World Summer Games in Athens, Greece. In preparation for World Games his work ethic was on full display through his commitment to his fitness and bowling technical training. His hard work helped him lose 55 pounds allowing him to have a more accurate bowling delivery, run faster and score more goals in floor hockey, and have more upper body strength for golf.

Female Athlete of the Year

Janelle McGinley  
Edmonton

In her five years with Special Olympics Alberta, Janelle has demonstrated great perseverance, commitment and consistency in improving her skills and techniques in her sports: figure skating, basketball, and indoor and outdoor soccer. She is attentive in practice and committed to perfection. Janelle’s confidence and self-esteem have improved since joining and she always celebrates the successes of her teammates. She is a true ambassador and demonstrated this past winter when she was one of the athlete representatives that helped lead the Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg before the 2012 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games.

Team of the Year

Orange Tigers  
Edmonton

The Orange Tigers were formed three years ago as the first all-girls soccer team in Alberta. This blazed trails and not only brought out the girls skills, but allowed them to come together off the field as well, building strong, lasting friendships. The confidence gained through the Orange Tigers program has propelled them to take on greater roles at speaking events, the Torch Run and within the community, creating greater awareness for Special Olympics. Their bond as teammates and friends has also flourished creating many new opportunities off the field as strong female role models and on the field as a quality, successful soccer team.
Volunteer of the Year

Karen Mengersen
Olds and District

Karen has dedicated 26 years and an enormous number of hours to helping persons with disabilities. She is a woman of endless drive, filled with kindness, commitment and humanity. Since Karen took over as chair of her local affiliate the program has doubled in athlete numbers and added nine new sports. She leads by example through coaching, volunteering or administrating. She is never hands off at an event and always ensures that she contributes in every possible aspect. Karen has been a part of both Provincial and National Games and has held every possible role within the organization, she truly lives and breathes the movement.

Male Coach of the Year

Darren Brown
Olds and District

Darren has been part of Special Olympics for five years. In that short time he has evolved from coaching a single sport to taking over both softball and floor hockey programs as well as creating a new curling program. Darren has recruited knowledgeable coaches and volunteers which have ensured the delivery of quality sport programs that emphasize personal achievement and teamwork amongst the athletes and volunteers. Darren’s innovation and commitment has led to the doubling of enrollment in his programs and to attracting new athletes to the program.

Female Coach of the Year

Kelly Edwards
Calgary

Kelly has been involved with Special Olympics since 1986, and has served as the head coach of swimming for the past 15 years. She is accomplished at all levels including being member of Team Alberta numerous times and Team Canada twice. Kelly has made her biggest impact at the grassroots level where her influence resulted in a significant increase in athletes leading to multiple expansions of her swim program in order to accommodate numbers and the needs of various ability levels. Her openness to new ideas and approaches to working with athletes are the keys to her success and her impeccable reputation among other coaches, athletes and supporters.
Murray Koch Youth Development Award

Robin Hood Association

The Robin Hood Association partnered with Special Olympics Alberta to offer the young athletes programs, Active Start and FUNdamentals. They initiated a pilot program in 2011 and received extremely positive response. There were 16 participants and 4 paid staff running the program. The Active Start program had a great start; the children were excited to be there and had so much fun. The FUNdamentals group also showed great potential as feedback from parents involved in the programs has also been well received. Robin Hood is now on the 2nd year of the program and is expecting to build on this success.

MDA Community Leadership Award

Edmonton

Edmonton has taken numerous measures to inject a refreshed approach to their operations, including a renewed Affiliate Management Committee to focus on driving athlete growth and creation of a strategic business plan. They are actively involved with all sport programs and engaged in revenue sharing and governance that benefits the local program and Provincial and National fundraising programs. Their support of the 2012 Winter Games showcased their commitment to the advancement of Special Olympics in both Edmonton and the province. The forward movement and planning is a framework for their continued success for the sport programs in Edmonton.

LETR Community Spirit Award

Edmonton

This past year Edmonton hosted numerous events, including a very successful Walmart Free the Fuzz and first ever Polar Plunge, now to be created as an annual event. Without hesitation, Special Olympics Edmonton consistently and enthusiastically over delivers when it comes to administrative, volunteer, and athlete support, from set up, to helping cheer on the participants. They are also very involved in the actual event fundraising initiatives. They are truly dedicated to ensuring the success of LETR in Edmonton.

To date, $5 million has been raised at the Motor Dealers Association of Alberta Golf Charity Classic.

Officers from Law Enforcement Agencies across Alberta participate in Torch Run programs to raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics athletes.
Financial Information

Where Does Your Money Go? Actual 2011/2012
Total Expenses $1,732,519

- Affiliate Development: $617,476 (36%)
- Resource Development: $58,508 (3%)
- Operations: $59,351 (3%)
- Program: $986,420 (57%)
- Communications: $10,764 (1%)

Sources of Funding Actual 2011/2012
Total Revenue $1,686,974

- Government Funding: $513,088 (30%)
- General Revenues: $449,439 (27%)
- National Sponsorship: $382,369 (23%)
- Program Revenue: $21,751 (1%)
- Event Revenues: $320,327 (19%)

Program
- Affliate Development
- Operations
- Resource Development
- Communications
Donors

1474297 Alta. LTD.
AGLC Social Commitee
Airdrie Dodge Chrysler
Airdrie Rotary Club
Alberta Law Enforcement Torch Run
All Systems Contracting Calgary Inc.
Ashton, Kurtis & Chelsea Associated Canadian Travelers
Aston Hill Financial Inc. Atchinson, A.
ATCO Gas
Avocet Foods LTD
Ayotte, Roger
Battle River Community Foundation
Big Al Baseball
Black Diamond Land & Cattle Company Inc. Boulanger, Brian
Braud, Rick
Buchanan Barry LLP Chartered Accountants
Burnswest Corporation C.R.C.P. Society
Calgary Flames Foundation
Calgary Flames Hockey Club
Calgary Old Time Hockey Players Association
Calgary Rotary Challenger Park Society
Calgary Stampeder Football Club
Cameron, John
Canadian Pacific Railway Company
Canuck Industrial Sales (1982) Ltd
Cardel Homes
Cash Casino
Castiglione Family Foundation
Cenovus Energy Foundation
Charitable Foundation
Clauson Cold & Cooler Ltd.
Continental Imaging Products
Country Hills Golf Club
Crozeen, Greg
Custom Electric Ltd.
DeeThree Exploration LTD
Donors Servus Credit Union
Dundee Securities
Edmonton Journal
Edmonton Police Foundation
Edward, N. Murrays
Ellert Law
Ellis-Don Construction Services Inc.
Emes, Dr. Claudia & Allen
Encana Cares Foundation
Energy Drilling Services Inc.
Energy for Friends
Golf Classic
Engbloom, B & N
FGI Sports LTD
Fitzpatrick, Dean
Flaman Fitness
Frank J. Flaman Foundation
Gernandt, R.
Gernandt, Rita
Gibson Energy ULC
Global Edmonton
Gran Tierra Energy Inc.
Gratton, Neal
Gregg Distributors
Ham, Hugh
Harry & Martha Cohen Foundation
Heredity Homes
Hesje, Murray & Shirley
Holiday Inn Express Airdrie
Hudson, Robert
Hughes, Marie
Jack Dawe Fund
Jarlslovsky Fraser LTD
Jennings Capital Inc.
Kayak Foundation
Keg Steakhouse and Bar
Kenaco Capital
Kiwanis Club of Edmonton Oil Capital
Knights of Columbus # 1732
KPMG Foundation
Landmark Group of Builders Ltd
Lecuyer, Christina
Leduc Lions Club
Leesman, B & J
Leesman, Bill
Lethbridge Auto Association
Lodge, Gordon
MacDonald, Myles
MacLeod Dixon LLP
Mann, Jeffrey
Marjoram, K & S
Marsh Canada LTD
McDonald’s Camrose
Miles, Thomas
Motor Dealers Association
of Alberta
Myers, Harry & Stacy
Nickle Family Foundation
Northlands
Nucleus Information Service Inc.
Nufarm Agriculture Inc.
O’Rourke Engineering Ltd.
Old Timers Hockey Players Assoc.
Order of the Royal Purple #125
Pace Oil & Gas Ltd.
Parkland CLASS
Perfco Investments Ltd.
Petasky, Stephen
Pinsent, John
Precision Drilling Corporation
Profitco Energy Propak
QV Investors Inc
RBC Royal Bank
Red Deer Elks Lodge #85
Red Deer Motor Dealers Association
Regional Office
Ric’s Grill
Richardson GMP Limited
Roll’n Oilfield Services
Ross, D & L
Rotary Club of Calgary
Rotary Club Sunrise
Rumpel, Glen
Salé, Jamie
Savanna Energy Services Corporation
Saxon Energy Services
Second Glance
Servus Credit Union
Sherros Posse
Signature Authentic Inc.
Snyder, D & M
Sophina Restaurants Ltd.
Spanach, Rob
Stephenson, Kenneth M
Stevenson, Dr. Thomas
Stoneham Drilling Inc.
Strathcona County
Sunterra Quality Food Markets Inc.
Switzers Investments LTD
T. Otoole (Gateway Tubulars)
TD Canada Trust, Prairie Telus Corporation
The City of Calgary
The City of Edmonton
The Muttart Foundation
Tuxedo Source for Sports
Unified Systems Group
Vanderwell Contractors (1971) Ltd.
Vantage Point
Walmart Canada
Weidner Motors Ltd
Westminster Savings Credit Union
Whitecap Resources Inc
Wideman, Carol
Wideman, Graham
Women of the Moose
Wood Automotive Group
Woodpath Investments Ltd.
Provincial Partners

National Sponsors

Government of Canada
Toyota Canada
Toyota Canada Foundation
STAPLES Canada
Home Hardware
Wolseley Canada
Canada Safeway
Law Enforcement Torch Run

RBC Foundation
The Forzani Group Ltd.
JYSK
The Harry “Red” Foster Foundation
The Canadian Progress Club
Veritas Communications
Rub A535
Canada Life

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Dale Ellert  2nd Vice Chair
James Melnyk  Finance Director
Tom McKenzie  Secretary
Chris Doty  Athlete Leadership
Lisa Kerr  Youth Leadership
Grant Howell  Director
Robert Parmenter  Director
Mary Payne  Director
Georgette Reed  Director
Jamie Salé  Director

Provincial Sport Council

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Katie McGillivray
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