

Randy Smallwood joining Special Olympics Team BC 2016 as Honorary General Manager

*Silver Wheaton President and CEO will support provincial team in
Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador*

The 178 members of Special Olympics Team BC 2016 are set to compete in the 2016 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games, which are being held in Newfoundland and Labrador for the first time in the 47-year history of Special Olympics Canada Games. In Corner Brook, the team will be joined by a key supporter: Randy Smallwood, President and CEO of Silver Wheaton and a member of the Special Olympics BC Board of Directors, has been named Team BC 2016's Honorary General Manager.

Smallwood has taken the time to attend team training camps during the months leading up to the Games, encouraging the athletes and coaches and assisting with training exercises and logistics. In Corner Brook, he will enter the Games Opening Ceremony with the team and cheer them on at events.

"I'm honoured to be selected for this role, and am very much looking forward to the Games," Smallwood said. "I feel that B.C. has one of the best Special Olympics programs in Canada, if not in North America, and I look forward to supporting the team and joining them in Corner Brook."

Smallwood generously supports SOBC through his efforts as a Director since 2012 and through his work with the Sports Celebrities Festival presented by Silver Wheaton, the annual gala for SOBC and the Canucks for Kids Fund that has raised more than \$4 million to date.

Silver Wheaton is a significant supporter of Special Olympics, as the Presenting Sponsor of the Sports Celebrities Festival and an ongoing major sponsor of the Goldcorp Invitational Golf Tournament. In 2014 Silver Wheaton also stepped forward to extend their support of Special Olympics athletes as a sponsor of the Special Olympics Canada 2014 Summer Games in Vancouver.

[Team BC 2016](#) is comprised of 126 athletes with intellectual disabilities, 42 volunteer coaches, and 10 mission staff from 31 communities around the province. From March 1 to 5, Team BC will go for gold at the [2016 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games](#) in Corner Brook, competing in seven sports: alpine skiing, cross-country skiing, curling, figure skating, floor hockey, snowshoeing, and speed skating.

Since qualifying for their spots on Team BC 2016 through their performances at the [2015 Special Olympics BC Winter Games](#) in Kamloops, the provincial team athletes and coaches have been hard at work with the team training program to help them be at their best at the National Games.

Through year-round training and competitions, Special Olympics athletes empower themselves and inspire everyone around them as they set and achieve goals, build pride and confidence, and forge valued friendships.

The 2016 Special Olympics Canada Games will see more than 950 delegation members from Canada's 10 provinces and two of three territories come together to compete in Corner Brook, creating an outstanding display of sport and sportsmanship in seven sports.

More Team BC 2016 information: www.soteambc2016.ca

Team BC 2016 quick facts

126 athletes

42 coaches

10 mission staff

31 B.C. communities represented

13 age of youngest Team BC athlete

65 age of oldest Team BC athlete

54 athletes will be competing at
National Games for the first time

Together, Team BC athletes
have **1,930+ years** of Special
Olympics experience

7 sports

- Alpine skiing
- Cross-country skiing
- Curling
- Figure skating
- Floor hockey
- Snowshoeing
- Speed skating

About Special Olympics BC

Special Olympics BC is dedicated to providing individuals with intellectual disabilities opportunities to enrich their lives and celebrate personal achievement through positive sport experiences. In 57 communities around the province, we provide year-round training and competitive opportunities in 18 different sports to more than 4,400 athletes of all ages and abilities, thanks to the dedicated efforts of over 3,400 volunteers. For more information, please visit www.specialolympics.bc.ca.

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Media contact

Megan Grittani-Livingston
SOBC Manager, Communications
Tel: 604.737.3077
Email: megan@specialolympics.bc.ca