



Alberta Guardian

We want to Celebrate You!

We are holding the 2019 Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Alberta Kick Off Conference in Leduc, Alberta this year. Not only are we providing some valuable sessions and speakers, we want to this opportunity to CELEBRATE YOU and all you have done for Special Olympics! This conference is free to all attendees and we still have some spots open for free accommodations.

October 19th 7:00 pm – Meet & Greet

October 20th 8:00 am-4:00 pm – Conference

October 20th 6:00 pm – Awards Ceremony & Recognition Banquet

This is also a unique opportunity to network with Torch Run officers, Special Olympics affiliates, and volunteers throughout the province! We are providing breakfast and lunch, and this year we are also holding an Awards & Recognition Dinner evening to celebrate our many volunteers and sponsors.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

The first 6 registrants from each region (outside of Edmonton region) will receive free accommodations for Friday and Saturday night (based on double occupancy). These reservations will be handled by Lorrie Sitler and she will notify you right away if you qualify for the free room.

HEROES RUNNING FOR HEROES

We are holding our 1st annual Heroes Run for Heroes event in Edmonton. This family-friendly fun run and walk is hosted by local Law enforcement officers in support of Special Olympics. The pledges and donations you raise will help athletes with intellectual disabilities participate in sport.

Special Olympics is the world's largest sports organization for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, providing them year-round training and competition in 18 different sports. For 50 years, Special Olympics has unified, empowered, and celebrated the abilities of children, youth and adults. It has provided comfort and understanding you don't get anywhere else.

We are asking each participant to raise \$50 through pledges & donations, in return they will receive a special 50th Anniversary shirt.

A \$50 donation can help provide an athlete:

- 12 months of exciting sports training and programs
- 18 different sports to choose from
- Network of support of other families who are involved with Special Olympics.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Lethbridge Gala

Want to enjoy an incredible night out? The Lethbridge Gala has [hippodrome](#) performing this year and a great selection of incredible silent auction items. Contact Matt Burton for tickets (403 393 3742 or letrblacktiegala@gmail.com)

Upcoming Events

We are always looking for volunteers and committee members. Please contact the event lead below if you would like to be part of our upcoming events. Thank you for helping us make dreams a reality for over 3,300 Athletes across the province.

Event	Location	Date	Event Lead
2019 Kick Off Conference	Leduc	October 20 th	Lorrie Sitler lsitler@specialolympics.ab.ca
Heroes Running for Heroes	Edmonton	October 27 th	Amanda Trenchard amanda.trenchard@edmontonpolice.ca
Gala	Lethbridge	October 27 th	Mat Champagne mchampag@taber.ca
Cops, Pops & Pizza	Lacombe	October 27 th	Jeff Hewitt JHewitt@lacombe.ca
Polar Plunge	Edmonton	January 27 th	Amanda Trenchard amanda.trenchard@edmontonpolice.ca
Battle of the Badges	Camrose	February 23 ^d	Kelly Bauer kbauer@camrose.ca

Polar Plunge	Calgary	February 23 rd	Stephen Scott stevenscott@shaw.ca
Polar Plunge	Red Deer	March 9 th	Kevin Duval central.albertatorchrun@gmail.com

Meet one of our great Volunteers!



My name is Braylon Hyggen. I have been a member of the Lethbridge Police Service for 11 years. When I started my career in policing I wanted to represent police as a positive influence in the community I serve. I want the public to understand that police do more than give tickets and handcuff people, officers try to give back to their community by being role models and a positive influence. In 2009 or 2010, I recall being asked by retired member, Blaine Stodolka if I wanted to participate in a Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics.

I honestly had no idea what LETR was, but I loved running. We carried a torch around the downtown core of Lethbridge and took a few photos. I continued to help out wherever I could with local events.

Most LETR members talk about that moment they get “hooked”. I was reeled in at the 2012 opening ceremonies of the St. Albert Special Olympic Canada Winter Games. I participated in the Final Leg from the local detachment into the ceremonies. After the torch was passed off, I went and watched the opening ceremonies. I was standing beside a young man who had Down Syndrome. He was not participating in the games, but I have never seen someone display so much excitement. I watched as he cheered on the Athletes, not only from his home town or province, but from across Canada.

Since my getting “hooked” experience I have helped coach the Lethbridge Special Olympic Basketball team since it started 5 years ago. It is rewarding to watch as my players encourage each other, no matter what side of the court they are on. They have taught me the true meaning of sport. I love when I am working and hear my name called out from across the street and look to see one of the athletes from Special Olympics with a big smile and a wave.

I was recently selected to participate in the 2018 Summer Games Final Leg in Nova Scotia. It was incredible to see officers from each Province and Territory instantly bond and create incredible friendships. LETR is like a family, we all have the same passion for what we do. We all had unique and different personalities and

backgrounds, but we were all there united for the same reason, creating awareness by running around the province for an incredible cause. We had the pleasure of traveling around the province with Special Olympic Athlete, Erin Magee. Erin had just competed in the Down Syndrome World Swimming Championships and was sick with a cold. Erin was a trooper, she refused to let her cold or fatigue keep her from running each leg, carrying the torch to each community. Erin was a constant reminder of why we do what we do.

Over the years I have organized ½ Marathons, jumped into frozen lakes, biked to Edmonton, packed groceries, attended LERT Provincial and International Conferences, served food, been locked up at Walmart, sold raffle tickets coached a gold medal basketball team at the Provincials and played Unified Bocce. My highlights have been Carrying the torch into opening ceremonies for the Alberta Provincial Games with my PSD Myke and Running around the beautiful Province of Nova Scotia. The feeling you get as you walk into an arena or stadium full of Special Olympic Athletes cannot be described in words, but I would bet you cannot find that much pride and happiness under one roof at any other event.

If you want more information on upcoming events visit our website
www.albertatorchrun.ca

Email: albertatorchrun@gmail.com

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