

2015 AGM Report
Chair, Board of Directors
Greg White, December 2015

A. GOVERNANCE

The Chair of the Board of Directors is responsible for the Governance of the Organization, part of the Strategic Plan.

Strategic Plan 2013 – 2016: Organization Capacity

3. Governance

- *Provide strong leadership and accountability through appropriate governance systems and structures*

Outcomes

In 2015, we started the year with all positions filled on Board of Directors.

Two Athlete Representatives, who joined the Board of Directors in December 2013, have completed their two years terms. Jessica Smith & Chris Winter have made a significant contribution to the organization and are both training for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games. Chris Winter has put his name forward for the Director role of Marketing & Communications. Jessica Smith is a nominee for next 2 year term for Female Athlete Director.

All of the eight zones in the province are well represented at the board by a designated Zone Representative.

The volunteer time commitment for each Director ranges from 50 to 200 hours annually. Many of the Directors have additional volunteer roles with BCA as Event Volunteers, Officials, Coaches, BC Team Staff and Club Executives.

The Board meetings were well attended by the Board of Directors who met formally five times in 2015 on March 7, May 26, July 14, October 26 & November 14. The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors met an additional four times on February 3, April 7, June 23 & August 11.

All of the meetings were attended by teleconference or in person at the BCA offices. All of the eleven (11) Board & Executives meetings were attended by Brian McC Calder, President & CEO, and at times by other staff members. The minutes of these meetings are posted to the Governance section of the BCA Website.

Challenges

The schedule is very busy for board members and it is challenging to find a time to meet in June & July due to the competition schedule. Most of the meetings are now teleconference calls in the evenings during the week. The Board of Directors meets twice a year in person and also at the AGM.

Recommendations

In 2015, a complete review of the governance of BC Athletics was started & will continue in 2016.

The function of recruitment of new Directors should be a year round process especially when there are some Directors that have served more than two terms and may leave the organization in future years.

B. SUPPORT FOR ATHLETES in completion at a provincial, national & International level.

Athlete Development (and support for the athletes) is a pillar of the Strategic Plan.

Strategic Plan 2013 – 2016: ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

Sport Performance

- *Investigate the establishment of a sustainable provincial development centre for Athletics*
- *Provide an effective competition schedule with appropriate opportunities for Athletes to maximize their potential*
- *Provide Athlete and IST support services to help Athletes to train and perform at their best*

Outcomes

The BC Endurance Program with Richard Lee as the Coach has completed its second year of operation. The athletes in this program have been very successful in 2015, completing at the 2015 Pan Am Games and the 2015 IAAF World Championships. One athlete has set a Canadian National Record and qualified for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games.

As the representatives of BCA at the Athletics Canada (AC) Branch Council, the Chair and the President & CEO along with the other branch representatives continue to be very active in bringing forward the concerns of the Athletes and the Coaches in regards to the High Performance program.

Athletics Canada is in its second year of operations of the Western Hub (Victoria & Vancouver) and the Eastern Hub (Toronto).

Challenges

Athletics Canada's Western Hub (Victoria & Vancouver) is now active after having been delayed in becoming fully operational in the previous year.

Recommendations

The Board of Directors looks to continued input and feedback from the Athletes and the Coaches on the effectiveness of the programs.

C. COACHING EDUCATION PROGRAM

Coaching education continues to be a high priority for 2015

Strategic Plan 2013 – 2016: COACHING DEVELOPMENT.

Coach Education

- *Increase NCCP training and certification opportunities annually in all parts of the province*
- *Provide Para Athletics Coach education in all NCCP and non-NCCP training programs*
- *Increase professional development opportunities for teachers and club Coaches*

Outcomes

In 2015, BCA continued to support a successful staff position for coordinating coaching education.

Challenges

The challenge is in maintaining and sourcing funding for these initiatives.

Recommendations

The Board of Directors should continue to look for additional sources of funding.

D. COMPETITIONS

The Board of Directors continues to support the staff of BC Athletics and the member Clubs that deliver competitions for Athletes.

Strategic Plan 2013 – 2016: COMPETITIONS

Competitions

- *Deliver a competitive calendar and seasons of competition that provide the best opportunity for Athletes to maximize their potential and put more Athletes on the national teams*
- *Ensure events of the highest quality in all parts of the province and in all disciplines*
- *Develop a hosting strategy to maximize opportunities for the organization and future of the sport*

Outcomes

The funding approved by the Board of Directors in 2013 for the hosting grants for member Clubs that bid for National Champions is a key factor for BC Clubs to bid on National Championships.

Board of Directors members attended most of the competitions in the province in 2015.

The Chair attended competition events in 5 of the 8 zones in BC in Vancouver, Victoria, Nanaimo, Kamloops, Whistler, Burnaby, Richmond, Coquitlam, Abbotsford and Edmonton.

The Chair attended the following 2015 competition events

1. Harry Jerome Indoor Event – February 7, 2015, Richmond
2. BC Half Marathon Championships @ First Half Marathon, Feb 15, Vancouver
3. BC Masters Indoor Championships @ Van Ryswyk Invitation – Feb 15, Kamloops
4. MODO Spring Run-off 8K, March 22, 2015, Vancouver
5. 2015 High School Gran Forza Indoor Meet, April 11, 2015, Richmond
6. Emilee Mondor Invitational at SFU, April 11, 2015, Burnaby
7. 2015 VOC Elementary Meet, April 18, 2015, Vancouver
8. SunRun 10K, April 19, 2015, Vancouver
9. BMO Vancouver Marathon, May 3, 2015, Vancouver
10. South Fraser Junior Olympics, May 16, 2015, Surrey
11. Elwood Wylie Track Meet, May 23, 2015, Nanaimo
12. BC High School Championships, June 5, 2015, Langley
13. Harry Jerome, June 8, 2015, Vancouver
14. Jesse Bent Memorial Track & Field Meet, June 12, Coquitlam
15. Universal Track Meet, June 27, 2015, Surrey
16. Scotiabank Half Marathon, June 28, 2015, Vancouver
17. Canadian Track and Field Championships, July 4, 2015, Edmonton (Personal Trip)
18. 2015 Toronto PanAm Games, July 24, 2015, Toronto
19. Eastside 10K, September 19, 2015, Vancouver
20. Festival of Cross Country, October 2, 2015, Surrey
21. BC Cross Country Championships, October 24, 2015, Nanaimo
22. Oasis RNR Half Marathon, October 25, 2015, Vancouver
23. BC High School XC Championships, November 7, 2015

Challenges

Volunteer fatigue for multiple year events continues to be an issue.

Recommendations

The Board of Directors looks to the clubs for any feedback or suggestions.

E. OFFICIALS

The Officials are an important part of our competitions. The Board of Directors looks to support the Officials especially in the area of recruitment.

Strategic Plan 2013 – 2016: COMPETITIONS

Officials

3.1 Officials Training & Education

- *Ensure that the Competitions Program is supported by an appropriate number of well- trained Officials*

3.2 Officials Recruitment

- *Encourage recruitment and training of new Officials within all regions of the province*

Outcomes

A sub-committee has reviewed issues relating to recruitment and retention.

Challenges

Over the next four to eight years, many of the long serving Officials will be retiring from an active role and there may be less available Officials for competition

Recommendations

Following the completion of review of the sub-committee, the Board of Directors should look at an implementation plan.

F. PROVINCE OF BC, VIASPORT, SPORT BC & ATHLETICS CANADA

The key funding and program partners are the Province of BC, viaSport, Sport BC and Athletics Canada.

Strategic Plan 2013 – 2016: Organization Capacity

7. External Partners

- Strengthen relations with external funding and program partners to maximize opportunities and profile

Province of BC

The Province of BC through the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development is the primary funder of BCA.

In July 2015, **Premier Christy Clark** appointed **Peter Fassbender** as Minister of Community, Sport, Cultural Development and Minister Responsible for Translink.

In September 2015, **Premier Christy Clark** announced the appointment of **Gordon Hogg**, MLA for Surrey-White Rock, as Parliamentary Secretary for Youth Sport to the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development.

Gordon Hogg will focus on promoting and advancing youth participation in sport as an important element in building strong and healthy communities, with an initial focus on First Nations and Aboriginal youth.

“Getting young people more involved in sports has real, long-term benefits – not just for the individual, but for their communities as a whole,” said **Premier Christy Clark**. “Helping to co-ordinate efforts throughout British Columbia will get more Aboriginal youth involved in athletics, building legacies of success that reach far beyond the playing field.”

The Premier also announced a new **Premier's Award for Aboriginal Youth Athletic Achievement**. The award will bring together British Columbians to celebrate achievement and build stronger, healthier communities.

Gordon Hogg has been asked to work with First Nations and Aboriginal leaders and youth to co-create the award program, with a goal of completing the first round of nominations, selection, and award by the fall of 2016.

"I've seen countless examples of how sports enrich the lives of young people and communities throughout the province," said **Gordon Hogg**. "My focus will be on finding new and innovative ways of getting our youth more active and healthy, leading to more successful adults."

viaSport

The relationship with viaSport is very important. The President & CEO has been very active and successful in engaging the leadership of viaSport. On September 8, 2015 viaSport announced, "Following an extensive consultation and recruitment process, ViaSport is proud to announce the appointment of Sheila Bouman as its new Chief Executive Officer. Sheila will join ViaSport's leadership team effective September 8, 2015."

Sport BC

BCA is a member of Sport BC and has been very active in supporting Sport BC and also its Athlete of the Year awards. Sport BC is an important service provider for BCA in the areas of payroll services. Two members of the BCA Board of Directors also serve on the Sport BC Board.

Sport BC is also hosting the 2016 Americas Masters Games in Vancouver in August 2016. Athletics is one of the 24 sports. The Chair of BC Athletics is a member of the Advisory Committee.

Athletics Canada

BCA is a very active branch member of Athletics Canada (AC). In 2015 the President & CEO and the Chair represented BCA at monthly AC Branch Council conference calls, the AC AGM Toronto meeting in July and will be attending the December 10 – 13, 2015 AC SAGM Saskatoon meeting. The Chair of BCA also serves as the Chair of the Athletes Canada Branch Council.

The issues discussed by the Branch Council at the Athletics Canada AGM in July 2015 included

- Review Branch Council Terms of Reference
- Elect new Branch Council Chair – Greg White, BC
- Rule changes
- Hosting opportunities for future Canadian Track & Field Championships
- Athletics Canada Committees

The following BC Athletics members has been appointed to IAAF Committees in August 2015

- David Weicker, IAAF Officials Committee
- Thelma Wright, IAAF Cross Country Committee

Elections for Athletics Canada Board of Directors

In July 2015 at the AGM, the members of Athletics Canada elected 3 Director-at-large and an Athlete Representative (Female) to the Board. The Athlete Director (Female), Jill Drouin, was nominated by members of the Senior & Junior Teams and was elected by the Athletics Canada members for a two (2) year term.

The BC Athletics nominated Directors, **Tim Berrett** (AB) & **Grant McDiarmid** (BC) were elected for a two (2) year term. The Ontario Athletics nominated Director (with an endorsement by BC Athletics members Dr. Doug & Diane Clement) **Helen Manning** (ON) was elected for a two (2) year term.

Three Director-at-large positions will be elected at the July 2016 AGM for a two (2) year term.