

**PARTNERS**

CANADA

**President's Report****British Columbia Speed Skating Association  
AGM May 2017**

2017 is a very special year; BCSSA is proud to be celebrating 60 years of Speed Skating in British Columbia!

Once again our BC athletes stood tall this past season. Domestically, we saw our athletes bring home strong results at both Can-West and Canadian Age Class Long Track Championships. Also BC athletes are continuing to grow and show stronger results on the international stage. Both Provincial Championships were well attended. Well done Dawson Creek and Mission organizing committees.

**Growth & Marketing**

Our Grass Roots initiative introduced in 2014 has been a bit slower while in the implementation phase, than first hoped for. We have seen some clubs do very well in attracting new members. For this initiative to be successful, the Association needs to continue to work with our committees in meeting the differing needs, strengths and wants of our diverse member clubs.

**Planning**

During this past year our Board worked on completing a succession plan for Board and Committee members as well as staff. This was a difficult task and we would like to thank Ian and Elizabeth for their work on this project, BCSSA is about to undergo a significant change in both operations and personnel and we all look forward to the upcoming challenges and new vision ahead.

After reviewing our current Strategic Plan, the Board has assessed our current standing with respect to accomplishing our goals and where additional work is required. We are currently finalizing an action plan with respect to timelines where applicable.

**Financial**

BCSSA continues to be in a very strong position both fiscally and with the overall management of the Association. We are fortunate to have had the past leadership plan well and we continue to stay within our annual budgets. While our funders have recently introduced stronger criteria, our overall funding has not seen any major reductions.



## British Columbia Speed Skating Association

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### Programs

Time and resources have continued to slow our First Nations and In-Line initiatives. That said we have clubs that are currently working with first Nations and have an In-line component within their club training.

We are very pleased to be entering into our 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the BC Speed Skating Academy. While year 1 was a success, year 2 with 4 distinct locations saw our registration triple.

All BCSSA Academy locations provide similar programming opportunities to all Academy athletes supporting and enhancing the coach programming they get at their home clubs. This initiative brings our club skaters together with third party on-ice coaching along with off ice programs working to develop truly well rounded athletes...

In May we are launching our Racing to Red Deer program which is the official start of our 2019 Canada Winter Games Preparation. This along with our Speed Skating Academy program helps provide a road map for our skaters working towards their goals of excellence.

### Membership

Overall membership numbers showed a slight decrease of about 2% for 2016/17 season. However we look forward to taking advantage of the upcoming Olympic Games to help create more awareness of Speed Skating throughout our communities and grow our membership. The Board would like to thank our clubs in their efforts and continues to work with our committees in developing and solidifying programs helping our clubs to enhance the footprint in their communities.

There continues to be a strong focused effort within both the Officials and Coaching Development Committees to grow their numbers and enhance the educational material. We have committed members and a committed Board of Directors wanting to ensure the continuing strength and growth in our many program areas, There is every reason for optimism in the coming years. Our Members and Staff are to be commended for their outstanding service to the Association.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Dave McQuaid**

President,

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