

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2021-2022

April 1, 2021 to
March 31, 2022



Presented at the
Annual General Meeting
on July 9, 2022 in Laval (Qc)



CANADIAN DEAF SPORTS
ASSOCIATION



MISSION

The **Canadian Deaf Sports Association (CDSA)** is a non-profit organization dedicated to the development of high performance Deaf and hard of hearing athletes. Through direct financial support CDSA helps athletes participate in international sport events sanctioned by the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD), and the Pan American Sports Committee

VISION

The CDSA is well known for providing leadership to Canadian Deaf and hard of hearing athletes by allowing them to develop their athletic skills, and boosting their physical and mental well-being while helping them reach the podium at international sport events.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION

The Canadian Deaf Sports Association is a Canadian amateur athletic association registered with the Canada Revenue Agency.

Registration Number R/N: 127556306

Charity Number: 127556306RR0001

Legal name registered with the Canada Revenue Agency: CANADIAN DEAF SPORTS ASSOCIATION, INC./L'ASSOCIATION DES SPORTS DES SOURDS DU CANADA, INC.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Members,

In 2021-22, as the second year of the pandemic followed its course, society continued to adapt to this new reality. Adaptation is the process of getting back to normal – a goal for which the CDSA has also been striving.

Admittedly, 2021-22 was an interesting year on several fronts. At the governance level, for instance, we adopted a new policy on diversity as well as an independent third-party mechanism. The latter feature is critical for the CDSA and our funder, Sport Canada, as it helps to ensure sports safety and a healthy environment for our athletes.

On the sports front, in November 2021, the CDSA hosted the Canadian Curling Championships in Morris, Manitoba. Also, in March 2022, we welcomed the world's best curlers in Banff, Alberta, as part of the World Deaf Curling Championship. What is more, many of our athletes took part, throughout the year, in our various sports programs.

In the months and years ahead, I will be looking to our members' continued collaboration in efforts to bolster our leadership, especially with regard to the new orientations set out in our strategic plan.

Sportingly,

Donald Prong
President, Board of Directors

GOVERNANCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

	<i>Term ending in :</i>
Donald Prong, President (Pickering, Ont.)	2021-2022
David Joseph, Treasurer (Gatineau, Qc)	2022-2023
Nyla Kurylowich, Director (St-Albert, Alb.)	2021-2022
Shawna Joynt, Director (Winnipeg, Man.)	2022-2023
Francis Roussel, Director (Montréal, Qc)	2022-2023

ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES

Erin Ramsay (Calgary, Alb.)	2022-2023
John Gessner (Winnipeg, Man.)	2021-2022

NEW
POSITION

TEAM COACH AND MANAGER REPRESENTATIVE

Lois McIntyre (Ottawa, Ont.)	2023-2024
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BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

The four meetings of the Board of Directors were held by videoconference. Two planned face-to-face meetings were replaced with virtual sessions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

May 15, 2021 | September 18, 2021 | December 3, 2021 | February 25, 2022

STANDING COMMITTEES

The CDSA has three standing committees that ensure good governance practices while making recommendations to the Board on some of the Association's operational practices.

Following the adoption of the Gender Equity Policy in 2020-21, for the first time in its history, **the CDSA had at least one woman on each of its standing committees (Finance, Human Resources and Governance).**

In accordance with the CDSA's efforts to enhance its interaction with minority community members, the work of the Governance Committee resulted in the development and adoption of a new Diversity and Inclusion Policy for LGBTQIA+ and Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC).

2021-2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

LONG-TERM ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT CLINICS



In 2020, the Alberta Deaf Sports Association (ADSA) and the CDSA signed an agreement to support young participants across Canada in their sports pursuits. In this second year of the ten-year agreement, the ADSA has provided the CDSA with \$3,000 per year for its Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) projects.

Jointly funded by the ADSA and CDSA, the two parties enabled its member organizations to offer various sports activities to a total of **67** people from the community.

Silent Voice

- ✓ Twenty-three people from cultural communities took part in several basketball clinics. Sixty-two attendees and 91% of participants are BIPOC.

ASSQ/AQEPA

- ✓ In November 2021, 19 children of primary school age, that is, ranging from 5 to 13 years old, took part in introductory hockey and volleyball activities.

ODSA

- ✓ Five teenagers from the Halton Region of Ontario took part in hearing leagues in a civilian capacity. Three teens in volleyball, one in hockey, and one in basketball benefited from interpreting services.

BCDSF

- ✓ Twenty school-age children enrolled in a ski and snowboard school in winter 2022.

Three deaf and hard of hearing players had been selected for the basketball all-star game. From left to right : Natalie Spoules, Evangeline Fisher-Palmer and Vyoletta Santos.



CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Two CDSA-sanctioned National championships had been scheduled for 2021-22.



The first of these was the Canadian Deaf Golf Championship to be hosted by the Manitoba Deaf Sports Association. Regrettably, the event, which was to be held in LaSalle, Manitoba in July 2021, was cancelled due to the uncertainty regarding the spread of COVID-19

As a result of the dissolution of the Canadian Deaf Curling Association, the CDSA organized, for the first time, the Canadian Curling Championship in Morris, Manitoba, in November 2021. Two events were featured at the Championship, namely, Men's and Mixed Doubles. These competitions formed the basis for selecting players for the National Team for the World Deaf Curling Championship, held in Banff in the winter of 2022.



29
ATHLETES FROM
6 PROVINCES



Skip LaVallée's men's team, which included Demianyk, Broszeit and Miller, all from Manitoba, won the event in their category.



Michael Austria (Man.) and Sally Korol (Alb.) were the first Canadian Mixed Doubles champions in history.

NATIONAL TEAM TRAINING

In the second year of the pandemic, the CDSA pursued its goal of stimulating its top athletes and keeping them in optimal physical shape for a return to normal conditions. These athletes were able to benefit from considerable financial support to train at the local level.

After a one-year hiatus in its sports programs, the CDSA has held no fewer than 16 training sessions since August 2021. With these sessions, operated and supervised by CDSA sports coaches, along with several training camps, the CDSA has never in its history invested so much in its sports programs, with an annual outlay of **\$210,000**.



TEAM CANADA AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

The only representation we had in 2021-22 was the participation of our National Teams in the World Curling Championship held in Banff, AB in March 2022.



It was a great experience, and we can be proud that our three teams won medals in their respective categories.



Women's Team
Emma Logan, NS
Hannah Brown, MB
Holly Maschmeyer, AB
Susanne Beriault, MB
Cecilia Tung, BC



Mixed Doubles Team
Sally Korol, AB
Michael Austria, MB



Men's Team
Ross LaVallée, MB
Shawn Demianyuk, MB
Brian Broszeit, MB
Kayle Miller, MB
Michael Austria, MB

As the event was held in Canada, the CDSA would like to underline the great privilege of being able to count on the President of the organizing committee, Mark Kusiak, who assembled a great team of dedicated volunteers. Despite many COVID-related challenges and with support from the Alberta Deaf Sports Association, Mark Kusiak made this a successful event, thereby providing curlers with a memorable stay in Banff.



SPORT SAFETY AND GENDER EQUITY

Gender equity in sport and safe sports are important issues for Sport Canada. As a result, new funding for the Canadian sports community will be dedicated to addressing the following issues in the years ahead: harassment, abuse and discrimination; concussion; and antidoping efforts. Naturally, the CDSA will be actively involved in these initiatives so as to raise awareness in the Deaf and hard-of-hearing sport community across Canada.

The CDSA has received **\$43,500** in funding from Sport Canada. Accordingly, the CDSA carried out three (3) activities and/or initiatives in the past year for the community as a whole, namely:



THE WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN BANFF



INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY MECHANISM



RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT CONCUSSION



CONCUSSION EDUCATION SHEET

What is a concussion?
 A concussion is a brain injury that can occur as a result of a blow or jolt to the head or a violent shaking of the head. Concussion can occur in a wide range of sports, activities and situations. Concussion is a medical condition and should always be taken seriously. Symptoms can last from a few days to several weeks.

When should I suspect a concussion?
 A concussion should be suspected in any athlete who experiences a significant impact to the head, neck or spine, or who experiences any of the following signs or symptoms, including but not limited to: loss of consciousness, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, blurred vision, double vision, ringing in the ears or other auditory symptoms, difficulty hearing, or difficulty speaking or understanding.

What are the symptoms of a concussion?
 Common symptoms include:
 • Headaches or neck pain
 • Dizziness
 • Blurred or double vision
 • Difficulty concentrating
 • Irritability, anger or mood swings
 • Fatigue or loss of energy
 • Nausea or vomiting
 • Sensitivity to light
 • Sensitivity to noise
 • Sleep problems
 • Loss of appetite
 • Memory loss or confusion
 • Personality or behavior changes
 • Slurred speech or other language difficulties
 • Loss of consciousness

What are the visual signs of a concussion?
 Visual signs of a concussion may include:
 • Loss of consciousness
 • Inability to get up or hold an object or stand
 • Inability to walk or maintain balance
 • Inability to follow simple instructions
 • Inability to understand questions
 • Inability to follow directions
 • Inability to follow rules
 • Inability to follow instructions
 • Inability to follow directions
 • Inability to follow instructions

What should I do if I suspect a concussion?
 If an athlete is suspected of sustaining a concussion, they should be removed from the game or activity immediately. The athlete should not be allowed to return to the game or activity until they have been cleared by a healthcare professional.

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Concussion Education Sheet | 1

Funded by the Government of Canada



UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2022-23

MAY 2022



JULY 2022

SEPTEMBER 2022



OCTOBER 2022

NOVEMBER 2022



BEST OF LUCK TO OUR NATIONAL TEAMS!

