CANADIAN DEAF SPORTS ASSOCIATION

2022-2023 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023

REPORT PRESENTED

at the Annual General Meeting
on June 10, 2023 in Winnipeg, Manitoba

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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 **Canadian Deaf Sports Association (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 (CDSA)** 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Partners,

Given that we are sort of in a post-COVID period, it is a pleasure to witness our several national teams returning from their pandemic hibernation with their passions to participate in various international competitions; the past year has been extremely productive from a sports standpoint. It is also worth noting that our beloved Canada won a medal at the Summer Deaflympics in Brazil (2022) for the first time since 2009.

At the national level, in collaboration with Association sportive des Sourds du Québec, in summer of 2022, we held the Canada Deaf Games in Laval, Québec, with more than 130 participants from several provinces. Simply put, it was with excitement to see, once again, our athletes, our affiliated members of the provincial Deaf sports associations, and the CDSA mission team at this event.

In closing, I would like to thank all those who have contributed to develop the CDSA's latest strategic plan. In the plan, especially during the current global economic challenges, with all of our hearts, we will continue with our commitment to maintain CDSA as a key leader in the Deaf sports community; to elevate our fundraising/ sponsors seeking to ensure that we are able to propel our elite Canadian athletes to new heights.

Sportingly yours,

Donald Prong
President, Board of Directors

GOVERNANCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

	Term ending in :
Donald Prong, President (Pickering, Ont.)	2023-2024
David Joseph, Treasurer (Gatineau, Qc)	2022-2023
Nyla Kurylowich, Director (St-Albert, Alb.)	2023-2024
Shawna Joynt, Director (Winnipeg, Man.)	2022-2023
Francis Roussel, Director (Sorel, Qc)	2022-2023

ATHLETES REPRESENTATIVES

Erin Ramsay (Calgary, Alb.)	2022-2023
John Gessner (Winnipeg, Man.)	2024-2025

TEAM COACH AND MANAGER REPRESENTATIVE

Lois McIntyre (Ottawa, Ont.)	2023-2024

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

The majority of meetings were held via videoconference.

April 9, 2022 / June 18 / July 13 (special session)
October 1 / December 9 (in person in Montreal) / March 4, 2023

STRATEGIC PLAN

In its effort to develop a new strategic plan, the CDSA organized several focus-group meetings and surveys. This voluntary approach garnered an impressively high response rate, and our special thanks go to the following:

- CDSA affiliated members (4 respondents)
- CDSA Board members (5 directors and 3 representatives)
- Former Board members from the period from 2017 to 2022 (3 respondents)
- CDSA sports team managers (5 respondents)
- CDSA sports coaches (7 respondents)

As mentioned above, the response rate was high, reaching 61%, which is a very good result in light of the fact that the expected average rate is only 30%. In conjunction with the CDSA's Executive Director, an external consultant hired for this purpose conducted a comprehensive analysis of the focus group and survey data, which informed the development of the strategic plan. The Board approved the new version of the strategic plan in spring 2023, which is available on the CDSA website.

YEAR IN REVIEW: 2022-23

THE YEAR IN SPORTS AT A GLANCE

A total of 200 participants attended one of the events in 2022-23.

2022-23

Event Month	Sports Event	Location	Total Athletes	Women	Men
May 2022	Summer Deaflympics	Caxias do Sul (Brasil)	15	5	10
May 2022	Volleyball Canada Senior Nationals	Edmonton (Ab)	7	7	0
June 2022	USA-CAN Invitational Hockey Tournament	Chicago (USA)	18	0	18
July 2022	Canada Deaf Games	Laval (Qc)	131	29	102
October 2022	Summer Deaflympics	Petaling Jaya (Malaysia)	4	2	2
October 2022	World Deaf Golf Championship	Lihue, Hawaii (USA)	14	3	11
November 2022	Pan American Basketball Championship	Buenos Aires (Argentina)	11	0	11
		Total Athletes	**200**	**46**	**154**

200 participants

71 high-level athletes at international competitions

Team Canada at 2 major events

4 Training Camps

Participation in 4 regional/ national events

YEAR IN REVIEW: 2022-23

SUMMER DEAFLYMPICS

HIGHLIGHTS

- For 9 athletes out of 15, this was their first time at the Summer Deaflympics ;
- Largest number of registered badminton players at the Deaflympics with five athletes, four of whom reflected the country's diversity ;
- Great performance by the tennis team with a total of 3 victories, including one in Men's Doubles ;
- The youngest Team Canada athlete was Vaunn Smith (20), who is a beach volleyball player ;
- Honourable mention to Lance Gordon: the 55-year-old badminton athlete competed for the fifth and last time at the Summer Deaflympics ;
- First medal since 2009 at the Summer Deaflympics by a Canadian athlete, a silver medal earned by golfer Russell Bowie.

YEAR IN REVIEW: 2022-23

SUMMER DEAFLYMPICS

YEAR IN REVIEW: 2022-23

SUMMER DEAFLYMPICS

YEAR IN REVIEW: 2022-23

WORLD DEAF GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

Our fourteen Canadian golfers performed very well at the World Championships in Hawaii. Impressively, five golfers finished in the top ten in their respective categories.

MEN'S CATEGORY

Russell Bowie (ON), finished 2nd
Jason Plumb (ON), 7th
Alex Ouellet (QC), 8th

WOMEN'S CATEGORY

Sasha Laoun (QC), finished 2nd

SENIOR'S CATEGORY

Jonathan Rose (ON), finished 9th

PAN AMERICAN DEAF BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Canada fielded its best national basketball team on paper in 25 years. The team was trying to qualify for one of the three spots for the 2025 Summer Deaflympics, which will take place in Japan; despite several good performances from our players, the team finished in 4th place.

TEAM ÉQUIPE CANADA

ACOSTA, KYLE	ON
ALAKHRAS, KAREEM	ON
BÉRARD, ZACHARIE	QC
BODNAR, GRAHAM	MB
CARRANZA, JUAN CARLOS	ON
GRYDKO, DANYLO	ON
IDEMUDIA, BENJAMIN	BC
OKITO, STEVEN	QC
PARKER, TOBIAS (TOBY)	ON
PREER, MICHAEL	BC
VISHWAKARMA, RAHUL	AB

YEAR IN REVIEW: 2022-23

CANADA DEAF GAMES

One of the exciting moments of the Opening Ceremony was when Grant Underschultz, of the 2020 Canada Deaf Games, handed the iconic CDG flag to Démi-Lie Thibault to mark the opening of 2022 Games.

The Canada Deaf Games Award is given to the provincial Deaf sports association or group with the highest number of points (medals) in all sports. Congratulations to the victorious provinces!

PRIX DES JEUX DES SOURDS DU CANADA
CANADA DEAF GAMES AWARD

Province	Total
QUÉBEC	28
ONTARIO	24
ALBERTA	13

YEAR IN REVIEW: 2022-23

CANADA DEAF GAMES

The Sportsmanship Award is awarded by the CDSA Board of Directors to a province, team or group whose mission staff, coaches, team managers, and athletes have displayed a combination of performance in competition, sportsmanship, cooperation, and friendship.

The CDSA is proud to award this honour to the team from the Alberta Deaf Sports Association (ADSA), especially for the fine examples of sportsmanship outlined below:

- The best Canadian badminton players come from Alberta, and, at the Games, they provided players from other provinces with outstanding encouragement as well as good technical pointers on a regular basis.

- Alberta's top basketball player, Rahul Vishwalkama, suffered a severe injury on the first day of competition and had to withdraw from the tournament. That didn't stop Rahul from supporting the Alberta and other Canadian players for the rest of the tournament.

- Golfer Holly Maschmeyer, who won three medals at the Games, often had to take the bus on her own to get to the links. The many other athletes taking part in other sports took a different bus, but Holly was not overly bored on her journeys and always maintained her positive attitude.

YEAR IN REVIEW: 2022-23

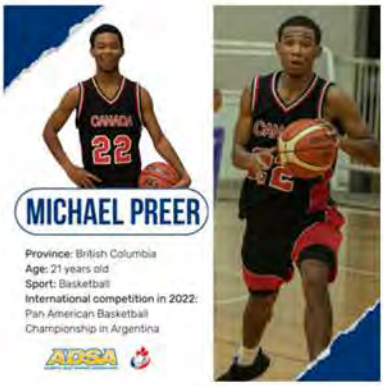
NATIONAL SELECTION AND TRAINING CAMPS

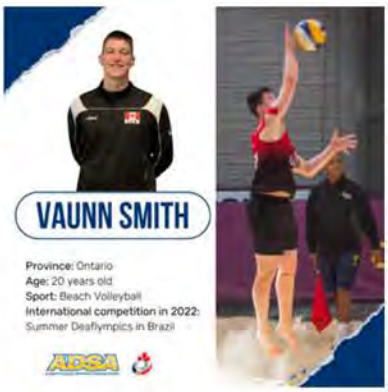
LONG-TERM ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Thanks to the funding of $3,000 annually from the Alberta Deaf Sports Association (ADSA), the CDSA operates a long-term athlete-development program. In this third year of their ten-year agreement, the criteria for athletes were to:

- ✓ Be aged 25 years or less
- ✓ Have taken part in an international competition in 2022-23

The five winners are:





SAFE SPORT

The CDSA received funding from Sport Canada for a total amount of $6,667. Two initiatives were carried out in the past year by the CDSA involving the following projects:

- Provide a secure and confidential platform for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing sports community, including an independent third party, to deal with allegations of mistreatment.
- Launch a portal on concussion to be used primarily by national team managers, coaches, and medical staff at sporting events.

Financé par le gouvernement du Canada | Canada

DIVERSITY

MAY 2022 - SUMMER DEAFLYMPICS IN BRAZIL

As many as 11 of the 26 members of the Canadian team were from the diversity group.

JULY 2022 - CANADA DEAF GAMES IN LAVAL, QUEBEC

At the Opening Ceremony, Marsha Ireland spoke about recognizing Indigenous lands.

NOVEMBER 2022 - PAN AMERICAN DEAF BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP IN ARGENTINA

Diversity has never been so present. Of the 15 members of Canada's national basketball team, 11 proudly reflected the country's diversity!