



**Press release**  
For immediate release

## **Tokyo 2025: CDSA launches a national initiative in support of Deaf athletes selected for the Deaflympics**

**Ottawa, May 28, 2025** – Forty-eight Deaf and Hard-of-hearing athletes will proudly represent Canada at the 2025 Summer Deaflympics to be held in Tokyo from November 15 to 26. To support their participation in this extraordinary adventure, the [Canadian Deaf Sports Association](#) has launched a national fundraising campaign to raise \$100,000 by October.

### **Landmark delegation for the 2025 Deaflympics**

These 48 athletes, hailing from all over the country, will compete in nine disciplines, namely, track and field (marathon and 5,000 m), badminton, basketball, golf, beach volleyball, women's volleyball, tennis, and table tennis. This is **one of our country's largest such delegations since Team Canada's initial participation in 1959.**

The Deaflympics, which have been held at four-year intervals since 1924, are the longest-running multiple-sport competition apart from the Olympic Games. The event is also the largest international competition for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing athletes. It brings together thousands of athletes worldwide in a setting tailored to their language and culture. "The Deaflympics are a celebration of both sporting excellence and inclusion. Our team aspires to make Canada stand out on the global stage while proudly defending its colours," says **Alain Turpin**, CDSA Executive Director.

### **Required funding for the Canadian delegation's participation**

CDSA is the only organization in the country dedicated to supporting and accompanying Team Canada in national and international Deaf sports competitions; however, it is currently facing a critical lack of resources. Despite support from the federal government and donations from various sources, CDSA does not have sufficient funds to cover athletes' travel and lodging costs. **As a result, it has launched a fundraising campaign that aims to raise \$100,000 by October to enable Team Canada athletes to take part in the 2025 Deaflympics.**

"It's a huge honour to represent Canada at the Deaflympics. As a Deaf athlete, I realize how fortunate I am to be able to compete at this level, but I also know that there is a long way to go before I can take part in this competition. We need



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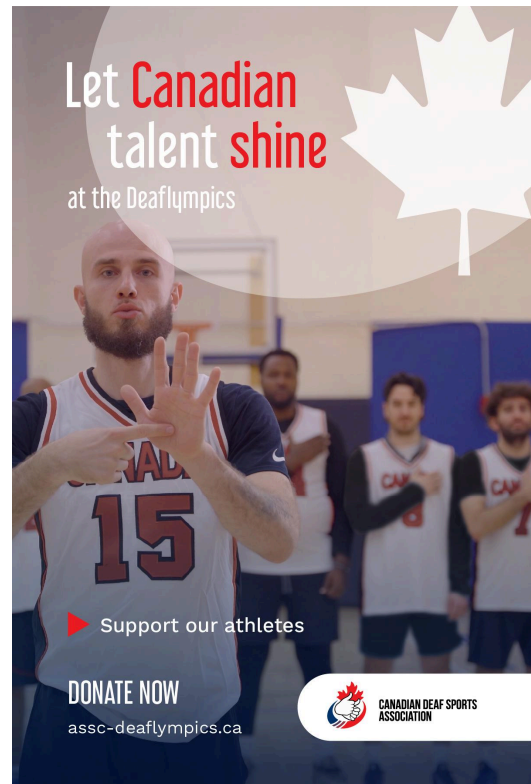
everyone's support to represent Canada and showcase the Maple Leaf on the world stage," says Canadian badminton player **Marguerite Morissette**.

### **"Help Canadian talent shine at the Tokyo Deaflympics": a campaign in support of our athletes**

In addition to raising funds, the campaign also aims to raise public awareness of the distinctive challenges that characterize Deaf sports and foster national unity through the rallying power of sport.

"At a time when social and political divisions are ever-present, Deaf sports have the power to bring people together. It conveys a strong message: Canada is inclusive, united, and determined to showcase its values on the world stage," states Alain Turpin.

[A promotional video has been released](#) to mark the launch. The video was shot in Ontario and Québec and features many top-level Deaf athletes, including Sasha Laoun, one of the world's best female golfers. CDSA will also hold several awareness-raising and promotional activities across the country. The campaign calls on Canadians to support their athletes with a donation.



### **How you can help**

Individuals and businesses are encouraged to make a donation on the [CDSA portal](#) or become corporate partners by contacting CDSA Executive Director Alain Turpin at [alain.turpin@assc-cdsa.com](mailto:alain.turpin@assc-cdsa.com).

"Each contribution matters, as it takes us one step closer to Tokyo 2025!" enthuses **Alain Turpin**.

**Press kit (images and additional information):** [access the document here](#).

### **About CDSA**



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CDSA is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to developing high-level Deaf and Hard-of-hearing athletes. Thanks to direct financial support, they can participate in international sports events sanctioned by the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf and the Pan American Sports Committee for the Deaf.

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### **Information**

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