

NOCA 2018 Annual General Meeting
Monday June 25, 2018
6:30 pm (ET)
Via teleconference

1. Introductions – call to order 6:32 p.m.

- Michael Szajewski, NOCA President, welcomed everyone to the 2018 Annual General Meeting of the Northern Ontario Curling Association
- **Moment of Silence for those who have passed in the last year, in particular Bill Charlebois.**
- Michael reminded the attendees that the only voting delegates on motions set forth in the agenda are the Club Delegates (one vote per club). The NOCA Board members, unless they are representing their club, do not vote on motions.
- Introduction of guests:
 - Katherine Henderson, Curling Canada CEO
 - Scott Comfort, Curling Canada
 - Kristen Spithoff, BDO
 - Jennifer Ferris, Ontario Curling Council Manager Programs and Operations
- Michael asked those in attendance to mute their phones when not speaking.

2. Attendance:

Board:

Hayley Smith (Region 1), Karen Saarimaki (Region 3), Candace Sharpe (Region 4), Sandra Lahti (Region 5), Stephen Meunier (Region 6), Michael Szajewski, President and Director at Large, Jim Turner (Director at Large).

Staff:

Leslie Kerr - Executive Director

Club Delegates:

Hayley Smith, Peggy Taylor, Jim Turner, JoAnne Van Horne, Bryan Burgess, Kent Maarup, Brian McLeod, Sarah Potts, Gail Overall, Karen Saarimaki, Ed Hoffman, Scott Adams, Angela Johnston, Robert MacLeod, Marc Doyle, Barb Nott, Johanna Smorhay, Christine Dubuc, Jacques Begin, Bobby Ray, Hugh Campbell, Jenifer Bertrand

Other Guests:

Kristen Spithoff, Kathy Henderson, Scott Comfort.

3. Constitution of meeting:

Michael Szajewski reported that the notice of meeting had been sent to all voting delegates 21 days prior to the meeting thus the meeting is duly constituted.

4. Report on Credentials:

Leslie Kerr reported that 23 voting delegates were present, and that a quorum of 5 was required.

5. Acceptance of the Agenda:

Motion:

THAT the agenda be accepted as distributed

Moved: Kent Maarup

Seconded: Barb Nott

Carried

6. **Minutes of June 19, 2017 Annual General Meeting:**

Motion:

THAT the minutes of the AGM dated June 19, 2017 be accepted as distributed.

Moved: Jim Turner

Seconded: Karen Saarimaki Carried

7. **Business Arising:**

None

8. **Finances:**

a. **Financial Report – Leslie Kerr (for Linda Vellinga) and Kristen Spithoff** (attached financial statements and financial report)

- Leslie Kerr, NOCA Executive Director, reported that while a small deficit had been projected in the budget, an actual surplus was realized. Additional funding from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport was the main reason for the surplus.
- The completion of two large sponsorship agreements will affect the financials next year.
- The budget for 2018-19 will reflect a \$2/member increase in the per capita fee bringing the fee per member to \$17. This is the first increase in per capita fees since 2010.
- Kristen Spithoff is a Partner at BDO in Thunder Bay and is responsible for the Review Engagement.
- Kristen reported that the year end review went very well with very few adjusting entries at year end.
- The cash flow for the organization is quite strong compared to last year. Some reserves were used to help with the sizable deficit incurred by the Amethyst Curling Camp.
- Kristen complimented the staff on being very organized, detailed, and efficient.

Motion:

THAT the draft financial statements for the year ending April 30, 2018, be accepted as presented

Moved: Scott Adams

Seconded: Kent Maarup Carried

b. **Motion to conduct an Accounting Review:**

Motion:

THAT an Accounting Review be conducted for the 2019 fiscal year

Moved by: Jim Turner

Seconded by: Barb Nott Carried

c. **Motion to appoint an Auditor/Accountant**

Motion:

THAT BDO Canada LLP in Thunder Bay be named as the Auditor for 2019

Moved: Ed Hoffman

Seconded: Jim Turner Carried

9. **Board and Staff Reports agenda items a – e (attached):**

a – e.

- The President, Committee Chairs, and Executive Director reviewed their reports, highlighted any pertinent items, and answered any questions.

f. Curling Canada Report:

- **Kathy Henderson, Curling Canada CEO** extended greetings from Curling Canada and thanks Mike for the invitation to attend this AGM.

- Kathy noted that Mike and Leslie and previous NOCA Board members are critical people to Curling Canada and their insight is often sought.
- Kathy noted that Mike sat on the Governance, and Competitions Review Committees while Leslie sat on the NCC planning committee, and the Curling I/O committee. She also thanked Leslie for her work on organizing Professional Development, advocacy, and governance sessions for at the national meetings.
- Kathy extended congratulations to the organizers of the World Women's Curling Championships in North Bay. It was well organized superb event which set the bar for events going forward. The host and organizing committees deserve huge accolades.
- **Scott Comfort, Curling Canada Governor**, thanked everyone including the clubs and their staff and volunteers for all they do for curling in Northern Ontario.
- Scott brought greetings from Resby Coutts, Curling Canada Chair, and thanked Mike and Leslie on Resby's behalf for all of their contributions provincially and nationally.

c. Ontario Curling Council Report – Jennifer Ferris, Manager: Programs and Operations (attached)

- Jennifer thanked Mike for the invitation to attend and congratulated NOCA on a successful year
- Jennifer noted that there was an increase in Ministry funding to the OCC (and CurlON and NOCA) and reported that this was largely due to how well the three organizations work together. The keys to the success of the three organizations are aligning the strategic and operating plans for each organization as well as the budgets.
- The OCC/OCA/NOCA staff work very closely together to ensure all organizations are following the Ministry guidelines for funding as well as collaborating on other funding applications and programming.
- Through special funding projects, The Great Ontario Bonspiel was a huge success, and some NOCA Clubs invested in the Adult Learn to Curl Program which realized membership growth for their clubs. Jennifer encouraged all NOCA clubs to offer the Adult Learn to Curl program at their clubs.
- Jennifer thanked Andrea Ronnebeck, Education Manager North (contract employee of the OCC) for her work organizing coaching courses and assisting with coach and athlete development in Northern Ontario.

Motion:

That the reports of the Board of Directors and Staff for 2017-18 be accepted as presented and distributed.

Moved: Jim Turner

Seconded: Scott Adams

Carried

10. Acts of Directors:

Motion:

THAT the actions of the NOCA Board of Directors for the 2018 fiscal year be ratified

Moved: Jim Turner

Seconded: Karen Saarimaki

Carried

11. New Business:

No motions or requests for New Business were received.

12. Adjournment

The President thanked all of the Club Delegates and Board for their dedication and hard work on behalf of their organizations.

The President declared the meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm and thanked all attendees and guests for attending the 2018 NOCA Annual General Meeting.

NOCA Financial Report – June, 2018

2018-19 Financial Statements:

- The 2017-18 actual year-end figures show a small surplus of \$6,850.00. Although a deficit was projected (\$8,354.00) additional funding was received from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport from the Ontario Amateur Sport Fund.
- Financial pressures continue to be the reality for NOCA and we continue to manage our finances prudently.
- We did utilize some deferred funding previously earmarked for the Amethyst Curling Camp to cover the significant deficit incurred with the 2017 camp. This situation has been addressed going forward with the camp moving to North Bay with a very strict budget.
- We continue to have \$60,000.00 set aside in reserve as a “safety net” fund due to unforeseen financial challenges (this was set up during the 2013-2014 fiscal year).
- Reasonable cash flow was maintained throughout the year to allow us to meet operational requirements.

2018-2019 Projections:

- The draft budget is for the 2018-19 fiscal year is still in process but should be approved by June 30th.
- The completion of the term of two major sponsorship agreements will significantly affect the budget for 2018-19 in the Competitions revenue line of the finances.
- It is still the Board's mandate that Competitions are self supported (at minimum revenue neutral) so the budget is being carefully scrutinized to ensure that principle is adhered to.

Key Budget Factors:

- There are now many curling camps across the country for youth, meaning that Amethyst camper registration numbers are lower than in the past; however, the Amethyst Junior Curling Camp continues to bring value to our youth curlers across the north and is an important program, so it is vital that we work to create long-term stability for this program.
- Sponsorships are no longer available through some of our key historic partners.
- Competitor numbers continue to show downward movement.
- We continue to have additional financial obligations to provide performance training/support. This is required as part of the Ontario Curling Council High Performance Plan, a requirement of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.
- Many cost saving measures were taken this season but there are no further significant cost saving measures available to the organization.
- In order to continue to provide the programs and services to clubs and members, the board approved an increase to the member per capita fee next season.
- The budget next season will reflect an increase in the per capita fee to members of \$2/member raising the per capita fee to \$17/member. This is the first increase in the fee since 2010.
- NOCA will continue to demonstrate its value to member clubs and curlers.

2018-2018 Year-end Equity Position

2017 Net Asset Opening Balance	\$155,288.00
2018 Operating surplus	6,850.00
Net Assets, end year	\$162,138.00

Net assets, end of year includes the following:

• Travelers Wheelchair fund	\$4,464.00
• Travellers CCC reserve fund	\$1,500.00
• Training reserve fund	\$3,246.00
• Curling week reserve fund	\$ 380.00
• Junior Development reserve fund	\$1,700.00
• Operating reserve fund	\$60,000.00

Respectfully Submitted by:

Linda Vellinga, Treasurer

Northern Ontario Curling Association
Financial Statements
For the year ended April 30, 2018
(Unaudited)

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Independent Practitioner's Review Engagement Report

To the members of Northern Ontario Curling Association

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Northern Ontario Curling Association that comprise the statement of financial position as at April 30, 2018, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Northern Ontario Curling Association as at April 30, 2018, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

BDO Canada LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

Thunder Bay, Ontario
June 25, 2018

Northern Ontario Curling Association

Statement of Operations

(Unaudited)

For the year ended April 30	2018	2017
Revenue		
Amethyst camp	\$ 60,327	\$ 94,215
Assessments	-	6,201
Deferred capital contributions (Note 6)	2,856	3,869
Competitions	54,688	62,770
Membership dues	96,240	85,141
Miscellaneous income	13,638	6,018
Operating grants	33,000	36,274
Program funding	22,769	47,740
Travellers CCC	23,281	24,124
	<u>306,799</u>	<u>366,352</u>
Expenditure		
Amethyst camp - program expense	77,418	96,734
Amortization	3,202	4,333
Bank fee	307	358
Competitions	64,516	62,391
Development	980	4,979
Insurance	4,302	4,860
Inventory write-down	594	219
Meetings	7,045	13,841
Marketing	1,184	1,697
Office	7,916	12,776
Other association fees	22,418	27,618
Personnel	61,675	79,860
Professional fees	3,428	3,090
Programs	24,793	45,731
Travellers CCC	20,171	17,593
	<u>299,949</u>	<u>376,080</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditure for the year	\$ 6,850	\$ (9,728)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Northern Ontario Curling Association

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

(Unaudited)

For the year ended April 30

2018

2017

	Internally Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	(Note 7)			
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 78,790	\$ 76,498	\$ 155,288	\$ 165,016
Excess of revenue over expenditure for the year	-	6,850	6,850	\$ (9,728)
Reserve transfer (Note 7)	(7,500)	7,500	-	-
Balance, end of year	\$ 71,290	\$ 90,848	\$ 162,138	\$ 155,288

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Northern Ontario Curling Association

Statement of Cash Flows

(Unaudited)

For the year ended April 30	2018	2017
Cash flows from operating activities		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditure for the year	\$ 6,850	\$ (9,728)
Items not involving cash		
Amortization of equipment	3,202	4,333
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	(2,856)	(3,869)
Unrealized gain on short and long term investments	(639)	(632)
	<u>6,557</u>	<u>(9,896)</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital balances		
Accounts receivable	7,518	43
Government remittances receivable	(1,585)	33
Inventory	(958)	(2,197)
Prepaid expenses	3,628	(2,789)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(3,617)	(5,986)
Deferred revenue	(21,384)	(53,906)
	<u>(9,841)</u>	<u>(74,698)</u>
Investing activities		
Proceeds from sale of investments	-	125,036
	<u>(9,841)</u>	<u>50,338</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash for the year	119,015	68,677
Cash, beginning of year		
	<u>\$ 109,174</u>	<u>\$ 119,015</u>
Cash, end of year		

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Northern Ontario Curling Association

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

April 30, 2018

1. Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. These standards use the accrual basis of accounting. The accrual basis recognizes revenues as they become available and measurable; expenditures are recognized as they are incurred and measurable as a result of receipts of goods or services and the creation of a legal obligation to pay.

Nature and Purpose of Organization

The Northern Ontario Curling Association was incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario on April 26, 2007 without share capital. The Northern Ontario Curling Association is a regional umbrella organization to which Northern Ontario curling clubs belong. Its purpose is to promote and develop the sport of curling in Northern Ontario. The Association is exempt from income tax under section 149 (1) (l) of the Income Tax Act.

Financial Instruments

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. All investments have been designated to be in the fair value category, with gains and losses reported in operations. All other financial instruments are reported at cost or amortized cost less impairment, if applicable. Financial assets are tested for impairment when changes in circumstances indicate the asset could be impaired. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale or issue of financial instruments are expensed for those items remeasured at fair value at each balance sheet date and charged to the financial instrument for those measured at amortized cost.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and bank balances with a maturity of three months or less.

Equipment

Equipment is initially recorded at cost. Amortization is provided as follows:

Office equipment	- 20% declining balance
Computer equipment	- 33% declining balance
General equipment	- 20% declining balance
Banners	- 20% declining balance

Northern Ontario Curling Association

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

April 30, 2018

1. Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)

Deferred Capital Contribution	<p>The Association is the recipient of certain approved capital grants which specify purpose and maximum allowable contributions.</p> <p>Funds received are included on the statement of financial position as equipment and deferred capital contributions and are amortized to income on the declining balance method at the rate consistent with the method used to record the amortization on the related equipment.</p>
Revenue Recognition	<p>The Northern Ontario Curling Association follows the deferral method of accounting for government grants and program contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenditures are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.</p>
Contributed Services	<p>Members contribute approximately 1,200 hours per year to assist the Association in carrying out its operating activities. Due to the difficulty in determining the fair market value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.</p>
Contributed Materials	<p>Contributed materials which are used in the normal course of the organization's operations and would otherwise have been purchased are recorded at their fair value at the date of contribution if fair value can be reasonably estimated.</p>
Use of Estimates	<p>The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. The principal estimates used in the preparation of these financial statements are the accruals and estimated useful life of equipment. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.</p>

Northern Ontario Curling Association

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

April 30, 2018

1. Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)

Amethyst Reserve Fund	The reserve fund consists of internally restricted funds to provide working capital for the Amethyst camp during fluctuating periods when operating expenditures exceed program funding or if equipment is needed.
Travellers Wheelchair Reserve Fund	The Association has an agreement with a sponsor whereby 10% of the entry fees for certain events is set aside in a reserve fund for future wheelchair curling development.
Travellers CCC Reserve Fund	The reserve fund consists of internally restricted funds to provide working capital for the Travellers competitions during fluctuating periods when operating expenditures exceed program funding or if equipment is needed.
Operating Reserve Fund	The operating reserve fund consists of internally restricted funds to provide working capital during fluctuating periods when operating expenditures exceed revenues.
Other Reserve Funds	The training and curling week reserve funds consist of internally restricted funds to provide working capital during fluctuating periods when operating expenditures exceed revenues.

2. Investments

The guaranteed investment certificate carries an interest rate of 1.00% and a maturity date of August 2018. \$60,000 of the guaranteed investment certificate is set-aside to cover the Association's operating reserve fund.

Northern Ontario Curling Association

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

April 30, 2018

3. Equipment

	2018		2017	
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Cost	Accumulated Amortization
Office equipment	\$ 4,030	\$ 3,386	\$ 4,030	\$ 3,225
Computer equipment	20,687	17,922	20,687	16,561
General equipment	20,504	13,996	20,504	12,369
Banners	1,515	1,304	1,515	1,251
	<u>\$ 46,736</u>	<u>\$ 36,608</u>	<u>\$ 46,736</u>	<u>\$ 33,406</u>
Net book value		\$ 10,128		\$ 13,330

4. Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities

	2018	2017
Trade	\$ 643	\$ 4,260
Accrued liabilities	3,000	3,000
	<u>\$ 3,643</u>	<u>\$ 7,260</u>

5. Deferred Revenue

	2018	2017
Amethyst - busing	\$ 2,300	\$ 2,550
Amethyst - registration	26,466	44,775
Amethyst - sponsorship	-	1,000
Course registration - miscellaneous	1,175	-
Royal Bank of Canada grant	-	3,000
	<u>\$ 29,941</u>	<u>\$ 51,325</u>

Northern Ontario Curling Association

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

April 30, 2018

6. Deferred Capital Contributions

	2018	2017
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 11,861	\$ 15,730
Amortization	(2,856)	(3,869)
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 9,005</u>	<u>\$ 11,861</u>

7. Internally Restricted Net Assets

Internally restricted net assets are funds committed for specific purposes as follows:

	2018	2017
Amethyst reserve fund	\$ -	\$ 7,500
Travellers wheelchair reserve fund	4,464	4,464
Travellers CCC reserve fund	1,500	1,500
Operating reserve fund	60,000	60,000
Training reserve fund	3,246	3,246
Curling week reserve fund	380	380
Junior development reserve	1,700	1,700
	<u>\$ 71,290</u>	<u>\$ 78,790</u>

Northern Ontario Curling Association Notes to Financial Statements (Unaudited)

April 30, 2018

8. Financial Instruments

Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Association is not exposed to significant currency or market risk arising from financial instruments.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Association is exposed to interest rate risk arising from the possibility that changes in interest rates will affect the value of fixed income denominated GIC investments.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Association if a customer or counter-party to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations, and arises principally from the Association's receivables. The Association does not believe it is subject to any significant concentrations of credit risk related to accounts receivable.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Association encounters difficulty in meeting its obligations associated with financial liabilities. Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of operational liquidity requirements, the Association will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction on the due date; will be forced to sell financial assets at a value, which is less than what they are worth; or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset. Liquidity risk arises from accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Management believes they are not exposed to significant liquidity risk.

9. Comparative Figures

Certain comparative figures have been restated in order to comply with the current year financial statement presentation.

President's Report for 2018 Annual General Meeting

The 2017-2018 curling season was an eventful one on the ice for the Northern Ontario Curling Association. Our athletes competed at the highest levels on the national stage accumulating several top four championships and playoff appearances.

While there are many successes to celebrate, our Association is not without challenges. At our Board Meeting on January 31, the Board unanimously approved a \$2 increase in Membership Fees. Effective for the 2018/2019 curling season the per member assessment will be \$17. This is the first increase in the fee since 2010.

I want to assure you that a great deal of thought and deliberation went into this decision. Unfortunately, the reality is we have been facing significant revenue challenges for the last several years from:

- Reduction in sponsorship. Sponsorship support has become extremely difficult to acquire and maintain. Organizations are centering more dollars on larger events as a way of maximizing their return on investment.
- Increased cost of program delivery to our members
- Increased cost of day to day operations

Over the last few years, the Staff and Board have worked extremely hard on your behalf to find ways to reduce costs in an effort to maintain the \$15 fee. These efforts include but are not limited to:

- Closing of the physical office
- Reduction in staff hours
- Adoption of technological solution for meetings
- Consolidation of services and programs with the Ontario Curling Council and CurlON to eliminate duplication and reduce costs

As part of our annual planning in December, we determined that there are no significant cost-cutting initiatives remaining. Further, we came to the realization that, in order to maintain a fiscally sound organization for our membership, we have to increase revenue. This will also enable us to offer or enhance programs and/or services to our clubs such as Business of Curling workshops, webinars, and programs to recruit and retain members.

This season saw the completion of three-year terms by Glen Poirier and Joan Sheppard. On behalf of the board, I extend my sincerest gratitude to Glen and Joan for their significant contributions during their tenure. We welcome Candice Sharpe and Jim Turner to the Board for new three-year terms.

In closing, I would to recognize the efforts of Leslie Kerr and her staff. We are fortunate to have a talented operations group that are fully dedicated to our Board, Clubs and Members. Your work does not go unnoticed.

Michael Szajewski
President, Northern Ontario Curling Association

Executive Director Report

NOCA 2018 Annual General Meeting

Finances:

- The finances of the NOCA are monitored very closely on an ongoing basis. This year a financial review was again conducted by BDO.
- A deficit budget was approved for the 2018 fiscal year but extra funding through the Ministry was received so a small surplus occurred.
- Cost saving ventures are considered whenever possible.

Communications:

- NOCA Notes is distributed bi-weekly, and weekly in busy times, to approximately 650 people.
- Bobby Ray has been contracted to handle social media for NOCA. He's done, and will continue to do a superb job. See the Social Media Report for more information.
- Region meetings were held either in person or via web-conference in the fall and spring.
- A Communications Committee has now been struck and they will be creating a Communications Plan which will include more contact with clubs and members.

Club Development:

- The Club Development committee created a "Benefits of Membership for Curling Clubs and Curlers" presentation which was presented to many clubs this season. It was well received by the boards it was presented to.
- Two free webinars for clubs were held this season: "Hot Legal Topics – Update"; and "Strategic Planning 101 and Social Media Strategies". We will continue this practice annually.
- Through the OCC and the National Sports Trust Fund, a Charitable Donations Program has been created: This program provides an avenue for clubs to register a program (ie. purchase of a new chiller, renovations, ...) and have people donate to the program. Once the donation is made, the donor receives a charitable donation receipt. Only a few clubs have registered so we will encourage more clubs to take advantage of this opportunity.

Competitions:

- Once again it was a very busy season for the office staff, Board, Competitions Cmte, and Chief Umpires.
- Northern Ontario teams fared very well at the national level and we should be very proud of them.
- Thank you to the numerous host clubs and their extensive work to provide great events for all teams. Hosting a competition is a huge undertaking and the Board and staff truly appreciate this contribution to curling by our clubs and volunteers.
- Thanks to Karen Saarimaki for her diligence as Competitions Chair!

Sponsors/Partners:

- Thank you to:
 - Travelers (Men's Provincial, Curling Club Championships)
 - Best Western (U21 Competitions)
 - BrokerLink Insurance (Mixed Provincials and Provincial Curling Insurance Program)
 - Brent Belzile (Mid Canada Asset Group), Jake Wiebe, Team McCarville, Team Jacobs (Amethyst Bursaries)
 - Bearskin Airlines (Curling Week)
 - Rock Clock (timing program)
 - Jet Ice (Curling Club Ice Logo contest and support for Ice Technician courses)
 - Goldline (gift cards for Curling Week), Avis, and Budget.
 - Sport Law and Strategy Group
 - Dynasty Curling (FearTheMoose) campaign

Technical Development:

- Andrea Ronnebeck is now employed by the Ontario Curling Council as the Education Manager North. Her report is within the Technical Development report.
- The 2017 Amethyst Camp ran at large deficit. A committee was struck to review the camp and determine its viability. Thanks to the hard work of the committee, we are pleased to announce that the 2018 Amethyst Camp has been relocated to North Bay. The structure of the camp has changed with all classes and ice time being held at the North Bay Granite Club. The staff of the camp are really excited about the new look and location of the camp.
- The number of Youth Challenges held this year decreased but participation continues to grow at the events that were held. Several are already scheduled for next year.
- Through the OCC, the Next Generation program provided training assistance to 4 NOCA teams, and the Quest for Gold program serviced 4 NOCA athletes.
- Two Talent ID/Training camps were held in Northern Ontario this spring: Sudbury and Thunder Bay were the locations.

Ontario Curling Council:

- The OCC, NOCA and OCA senior staff work together on many projects. The three staff meet weekly to plan, decide which funding programs to apply for, and discuss implementation of programs.
- Thanks to Jennifer Ferris, Manager Programs and Operations. Jen provides a wealth of knowledge and an abundance of energy which can be seen through the variety of programs and funding that has been received through the Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport.

Marketing:

- Curling Week, presented by Bearskin Airlines was held November 18-26, 2017. Only 20 clubs participated this year. The event has reached its life expectancy so a new event is in the planning stages to bring NOCA curlers together in a celebration of curling in the 2018-19 season. Stay tuned!!

Curling Canada:

- I continue to work closely with Curling Canada staff. The Operations Advisory Council (all of the 14 Executive Directors or appointed representatives from the Member Associations in Canada, and the Senior Staff of Curling Canada) meet twice a year in person, and monthly between those meetings.
- The main functions of the Council are to discuss curling operations across the country, to share ideas and program initiatives, to advise and consult with CC Senior Staff, and to review current and future operational items at the provincial/territorial and national levels.
- The Curling I/O Member Registration and Event Management program was launched last spring. We will continue to work with our clubs to register with this program which will help with online member registration and league/event management.

This summer will be spent catching up and preparing for the fall.

Thank you to our Sponsors and Partners, the Board of Directors, Staff, our Curling Clubs and curlers, and the countless Volunteers for making this association so successful.

I am looking forward to another challenging season as the NOCA continues to evolve and improve operations and services to members and member clubs in the goal of promoting and developing the sport in Northern Ontario.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Kerr
NOCA Executive Director

2018 COMPETITIONS REPORT

Competitions Committee:

Karen Saarimaki, Glen Poirier, Linda Vellinga, Patti McKnight, Marion Clark

Officiating Committee:

Karen Saarimaki, Claude Peloquin, Kim Beaudry

HIGHLIGHTS:

- National Championships – 3 podium finishes - Tanner Horgan team won silver at the U21 Men's Championship - Jacob Horgan team won bronze at the U18 Boy's Championship, Al Hackner team won bronze at Senior Men's event
- Brad Jacobs' and Tracy Fleury's teams both made the playoffs at the Brier and the Scotties respectively, but both lost out in the three vs four page playoff game
- Northern Ontario teams got to the championship pool in U21 Women's, Senior Women's, U18 Girls and the Women's Masters events.
- In the MA cup Northern Ontario finished in 7th place.
- Ontario Winter Games – Jacob Horgan/Kira Brunton won gold at the Ontario Winter Games Mixed Doubles event, with Maxime Blais winning silver with his S. Ontario partner - Bella Croisier's team and Myles Harding's teams both won bronze at the OWG U17 championship, while the Dean team won gold in the OWG wheelchair event.
- Fort Frances Curling Club hosted the OFSAA curling championships with the local Fort Frances High School team winning gold in the boys division, while the girls team finished fourth
- North Bay hosted the World Women's Curling Championship and did a superb job!

Participation

	2007-08	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Net change	Since 07/08
U18	25	29	33	36	34	33	32	30	-2	+5
U21	35	32	29	19	22	27	12	9	-3	-26
Seniors	37	26	23	21	16	18	13	14	+1	-23
Masters	8	5	8	4	2	4	6	4	-2	-4
Women	15	7	5	5	5	4	4	3	-1	-12
Men	52	23	12	18	15	17	15	12	-3	-40
Mixed	15	9	13	8	7	4	6	10	+4	-5
Mixed Dbl	xx	xx	4	5	5	4	9	5	-4	+5
Wheelchair	1	4	4	3	2	2	2	2	0	+1
Travelers	33	44	38	37	37	24	31	30	-1	-3
Overall	221	179	169	156	145	137	130	119	-11	-102

Entries continue to drop with Mixed showing the biggest increase this past season.

COMPETITIONS

a) Overall

The majority of our provincial competitions consist of an eight team round robin followed by a semi-final between the 2nd and 3rd place teams, with the winner to play the 1st place team in a one game final.

NOCA hosted two Ontario Winter Games qualifiers for both mixed doubles, and U17 boys/girls, which were under the Ontario Curling Council's umbrella. Next season is a Canada Winter Games year and NOCA will host two of the six qualifiers. There were some issues with the

rules/details of these events that hopefully will be rectified next year. The CWG Provincial event will be hosted in Sault Ste. Marie.

Host sites have been determined for nearly all other events for next season. Thanks to all of the Region Directors for obtaining sites early this year! For the first time we will be holding the Men's and Women's provincials together (in Nipigon, in an arena). If this is successful we will try to continue this which means some possible revisions to the hosting rotation.

b) U21/U18/Senior

U21-This year the plan was to hold two qualifiers as entries had been dropping – one east and one west with 8 teams advancing to the provincial. However there were only 5 Boys and 4 Girls teams that entered altogether so the qualifiers were cancelled and all advanced to the Provincial.

U18 -Entries were similar to 16-17 in the U18 so we continued with the Region events followed by the East and West qualifiers. We changed the U18 dates for Regions, Qualifiers and Provincials and held them each 3 weeks later in the year, which gave teams more time to prepare and a longer competitive season. However because of OWG and Highschool events, teams had to make choices as to which events they played in, even though we let the Highschool associations know about the NOCA dates before they set theirs. The Provincial Boys/Girls U18 was combined and held on a six sheet club for the first time which was very successful, even though there were numerous tiebreakers that had to be held (5 way tie for 3rd in girls, 3 way tie for 3rd in boys) which resulted in some scheduling issues.

Senior - This year we held two qualifiers on the same weekend with allocation of number of qualifying teams determined based on the number of entries in each qualifiers. This worked out very well and will be continued. This year there was only one Senior Women's team that entered so they advanced directly to the Canadian championship.

c) Masters, Wheelchair, Mixed Doubles, Mixed - Provincial Championships for Masters, Wheelchair and Mixed Doubles all continued to be Open competitions (no qualification).

Masters – there was a decrease in the number of men's entries (5 to 3) and only one Women's team again entered.

Mixed Doubles – There were 5 teams that entered this event. It was held in the west so most competitors were from the west.

Wheelchair – This year again there were only two teams competing in a best 2 out of 3 competition.

Mixed – There was a substantial increase in Mixed entries this season from 6 the previous season to 10.

d) Women

There were only 3 Women's teams that competed (including one U18 team), a drop of one from last season. This coming season the Men's and Women's provincial will be a combined event in an arena

e) Men

Because the Men's and Women's Provincial will be combined, the Men's Provincial will be one week earlier, which has resulted in the Qualifiers being moved up, with one now in December (because of Christmas). As a result the deadline date for determining which teams qualify off the CTRS points list has been moved up to Dec. 11th.

f) Travelers

Twenty clubs entered the Travelers (8 entered men's, 2 entered women's, 10 entered both)

A total of 48 teams (32 men's and 16 women's) actually competed at the club level. It appears that Travelers will no longer be sponsoring the event, but that Curling Canada will continue to have some sort of Club Championship event, hopefully with a new sponsor. NOCA's plans right now are to run the Region competitions as open events, more than one team may enter from a club, with the six Region winners for both men and women continuing to advance to the provincial championship.

4. Fees for Competitors and Competitions

All players in competitions leading to a National championship have to now pay a competitor's fee (except for U18, Masters and Travelers). The CCA fee is increasing to \$45 so our fee will increase to \$51.

5. Officiating

A teleconference was held in December as an information session on Mixed Doubles because we were hosting OWG Mixed Doubles qualifiers in addition to our own provincial championship.

We will attempt to address concerns expressed by our Chief Umpires at Provincial championships about the need for assistance especially at the larger events. The current officiating courses that Curling Canada offers don't exactly suit our current needs. We don't use hogline officials any longer and most of the people doing timing now do not want to take courses or become certified. We can offer a course consisting of information from the current Level 1, along with information on how to be a game umpire that will provide local volunteers with enough knowledge to fill these positions as game umpires. After getting some experience hopefully some will consider moving on to be Chief Umpires at region events, and then with some mentorship be willing to take on the Chief Umpire's role at Provincial Championships.

6. Competitor Guides/rules

Competitor Guides continue to evolve – there were very few changes this past season. A new Rulebook is coming out this Fall. The five rock rule will be implemented.

7. Hosting Guides

To be added next season - basic Ice Maintenance procedures for NOCA events as well as details and requirements regarding streaming of games, which need to be ironed out well in advance of competitions so that the draw doesn't end up having to be changed numerous times just before the competition.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Saarimaki
Competitions Committee Chair

2018 Technical Report

Club Coach Youth, Club Coach and Competition Coach (with MED) were facilitated in the North with the number of participants in each venue as follows:

Club Coach Youth

Iroquois Falls - 4

Kirkland Lake - 4

Club Coach

Iroquois Falls - 3

Competition Coach with MED

Englehart - 8

Idylwyld - 7

Port Arthur - 6

I have already received 2 inquiries for workshops for next season and am working on setting dates.

The RBC Learn to Play Rocks & Rings program grant wrapped up last fall with the final report submitted at the end of October. We had hoped to reach 1800 children and actually 2149 children participate. The target for parent contact was 2000 and we reached 3223. As an extension of the Rocks & Rings program was Curling 101 which was offered in Kenora, Keewatin, Sudbury, North Bay and Kirkland Lake. 240 children and adults participated in Curling 101 in the 5 communities.

Two coaches were successful in completing their evaluations as Competition Coaches and are now newly certified. There should be several more considering the number of participants in Competition Coach workshops this year.

There was a Wheelchair Doubles Development Event held at the Fort William Curling Club the weekend of March 16. There were 19 athletes registered and unfortunately because of illness, 4 had to drop out. The 15 remaining participants seemed completely engaged in the event. Sessions were provided on mental toughness, nutrition, strategy and playbook development. Two specialists from CSIO (Canadian Sport Institute of Ontario) attended and there were 4 guest coaches - Heather Houston, Krista Scharf, Lorraine and Rick Lang who worked on the ice with the athletes as well as in the classroom. There were 5 athletes from Northern Ontario and 10 from Southern Ontario participating. Funding for the event was provided through a grant from Parasport Ontario.

Please spread the word and encourage clubs to start thinking about workshops for next year.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Ronnebeck

Education Manager - North

Ontario Curling Council/Northern Ontario Curling Association

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[807-466-8351](tel:807-466-8351)

2018 Club Development Committee Report

Club Development Committee Members:

Steve Meunier, Ken Stewart, Gordon Williams, Candace Sharpe, Leslie Kerr

Snapshot of what the NOCA offers to affiliate curling clubs and members:

- Training
- Discounts
- Business of Curling
- Awards
- Bringing clubs together
- Hosting opportunities
- Amethyst Curling Camp
- Adult Learn to Curl
- Talent Identification Camps
- Competitions
- Webinars
- Youth Challenges
- Youth Skills Competition
- Rocks & Rings
- Curling 101
- Jet Ice Logo Contest
- Hit Draw & Tap Championship

The committee created a presentation called “Benefits of Membership for Clubs and Curlers”. Our goal was to present to 75% of the 40 NOCA affiliated curling clubs in our six Regions by 31 December 2017. We reached 15 of 40 Clubs or 38%

NOCA Clubs who received presentation:

- Fort William
- Cochrane
- Port Arthur
- McIntyre
- Geraldton
- Horne Granite
- Sioux Lookout
- Smooth Rock Falls
- Keewatin
- Blind River
- Kenora
- Longlac
- Fort Frances
- Red Lake
- Nipigon
- Espanola

NOCA Clubs who did not receive presentation:

- Atikokan
- Englehart
- North Bay Granite
- Idylwylde
- Stratton
- Hearst
- Providence Bay
- Sturgeon Falls
- Capreol
- Iroquois Falls
- Tarentorus
- Cobalt-Haileybury
- Kakabeka Falls
- Thessalon
- Community First
- Kapuskasing
- Voyageur
- Coniston
- Kirkland Lake
- Copper Cliff
- Little Current
- Deer Trail

Awards:

We are pleased to announce that there were more nominations for Awards this year than ever before. Congratulations to all of the Nominees and a big Thank You for their contribution to curling in Northern Ontario.

Following are the Award recipients for this year:

2018 NOCA Volunteer:

Darrell Sarrasin
McIntyre Curling Club

Brent Taylor
Kenora Curling Club

Christine Denby
Fort Frances Curling Club

2018 NOCA Coach Award

Lori Hoppe
Kenora Curling Club

Robin Francoeur
Kapuskasing Curling Club

2018 Honorary Life Members:

Bill Charlebois
Fort William Curling Club

Hugh Campbell
Kapuskasing Curling Club

Committee goals for upcoming Season

- Reach out to those clubs who have not received the Benefits of Membership Presentation. 100% compliance over next two seasons.
- Determine if there are any other priorities the committee wishes to identify via upcoming meetings.
- Curling week to be ceased and replaced with Family Day Activity supported by NOCA.
- Identify shortcomings and successes (Awards for last season).
- Develop a plan to reach out to unaffiliated clubs.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Meunier
Club Development Committee Chair

2018 Social Media Report

FACEBOOK:

- Likes (the number of people who follow our page) increased from 542 to 1591
- Reach (the number of people who had any content from our Page or about our Page enter their screen) increased from average of 182 to average of 9
- Reaction (likes and other ways people react to our Page posts) increased from average of 4 to average of 49

WEBSITE:

- The NOCA's website has been greatly improved over the past couple of seasons and needs to continue taking on new life.
- We added a database of provincial champions this season which has been well received and I believe to be a wonderful new feature
- Suggest improvements to "Curling Club Contact List" by making it more easy to find (on home page somewhere), add photo of club and email address. Long-term goal should be to have member clubs marked on a geolocation map so visitors to the website can find a facility near to them
- Suggest creating a listing of all Adult Learn to Curl programs in Northern Ontario ("Find an Adult Learn to Curl Program Near You!")
- Suggest encouraging member clubs to submit news stories to be featured on our website. Perhaps there are volunteers out there that would be willing to write a weekly/bi-weekly/monthly article about curling in their region, a competitive curler who would be willing to write about playdowns (there are behind the scenes stories we are missing out on), someone who can write informative articles about ice making, business of curling, etc.

GOING FORWARD:

- Explore the benefits of joining Instagram and/or Snapchat. Fastest growing social media platforms globally (besides Facebook). In America, 71% of 18-24 year olds use Instagram compared to 45% on Twitter. 78% use Snapchat.
- Continue building database of Facebook events happening at Curling Clubs across Northern Ontario. Will be a great tool to have all of our bonspiels, Try Curling events, etc. in one spot that we can in turn promote in our Facebook posts.
- Suggest making addition to competition guidelines for NOCA sanctioned events that asks host committees to ensure a certain level of photography that we can use to promote Northern Ontario Curling on social media (they can pay a photographer, but don't have to, anyone with a phone can take a few action shots, a few social shots, and team photos should be a must).
- Should competition guidelines also be updated to motivate playdown hosts to create Facebook events, an event hashtag, and perhaps even suggest that there be a social media coordinator on their committee?
- Perhaps a webinar, conference call, etc. is required among club social media coordinators to discuss how we can best work together to engage more followers in our online curling community

I look forward to engaging with the NOCA's communication committee in planning for next season.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobby Ray
Social Media Administrator



Ontario Curling Council

2017-2018 Annual General Meeting Report

Message from the Manager, Programs and Operations

Just four short years ago, a small group of dedicated board members, and the membership of the Ontario Curling Council (OCC)—CurlON and the Northern Ontario Curling Association (NOCA)—had a vision to grow and truly develop the OCC into a Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) with a purpose. A PSO with a vision to serve its members and Ontario's Clubs and Curlers through delivery of programming that was aligned to Long Term Athlete Development Principles, one that would help grow participation, develop youth curlers, help put Ontario and Northern Ontario Teams on podiums more often. An organization that would be as efficient as possible, engage its members, be seen as a best practice both within the curling world and the provincial/national multi-sport landscape. Through aligned strategic plans, the three curling delivery partners would be able to do more together and move curling in Ontario forward... those visions have been achieved and so much more.

It's been exciting to be part of it. It has been very rewarding to be part of an organization who is now able to focus on external program delivery. It's been fun to see the programs we've created come to life, the development of the athletes, the podium finishes and the smiles of someone trying curling for the first time. We've had proud moments sharing our successes with other sports and other curling associations.

The highlights of our 2017-2018 season are included in this report. These successes are the results of many—in particular our operations team of Andrea Ronnebeck, Perry Marshall, Byron Scott and Terri Collicott, I'm appreciative of their daily efforts in operationalizing our strategic plan. We've had great leadership with an engaged board of directors this season—thank you to Rick Meraska (Chair), Rick Helm (Secretary/Treasurer), Mike Szajewski, Steve Meunier, Heather Houston, Grant Allman/Jane Hooper-Perroud, and Robin Guy. We continue to collaborate and work closely with CurlON and NOCA staff and their Executive Directors—Thank you to Leslie Kerr and Steve Chenier for your continued contributions to OCC projects and programs. We work with a countless number of coaches, facilitators, ice technicians, officials, clubs, instructors, volunteers and athletes—thank you for engaging in our programming, providing feedback and helping us to continually improve. The OCC has been well supported through our funding partners and their representatives/consultants. We appreciate the guidance provided by: Marie Dannhaeuser (Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport), Murray McCullough (Canadian Sport Institute of Ontario), Gerry Peckham and Helen Radford (Curling Canada).

The OCC is excited for the 2018-2019 season—a revamped Next Gen/High Performance Program, the delivery of Officials Training, the Canada Winter Games Playdowns, the execution of the "Ontario Kids Curl" grant, Strategic Planning for the next three years and so much more. In the meantime, take time to soak up the sun and enjoy the off-season.

Jennifer Ferris—Manager Programs and Operations
jennifer@ontcurl.com | 289-527-0352



Strategic Priorities

Participation

Development

Excellence

Operations

Engagement



Other Ontario Curling
Council Activities:

We've been proudly

ALTC METRICS:

44 Clubs Participated

17 ALTC Train the Trainer
Events Hosted

234 ALTC Trainers Trained

1400+ new curlers partici-
pating in ALTC program



Club Development
Adult Learn to Curl Program
Ontario Curling Council

The OCC was a recipient of a two year Ontario Sport Community Recreation Fund (OSRCF) Grant for the revision and expansion of Curling Canada's Adult Learn to Curl (ALTC) Program.

The program involved updating the 20 week ALTC to be a 6-8 week program, including complete curriculum, business model, promotional materials and ALTC Trainer Training materials. Social Media Resource and audits were done at 25 member clubs.

The program is delivered through ALTC Train the Trainer events hosted by curling clubs. An experienced instructor trains the participants from the Clubs who become ALTC Trainers. The clubs are presented with business models

on how to make their Membership Recruitment Events successful—including how to run a TryCurlingNow event. Instruction is streamlined with everyone teaching the same way providing a better user experience for the participants. A Women 55+ version was also created.

All program materials will be available to CurlION or NOCA member clubs in the Fall 2018. Also, the ALTC program will continue to be delivered through the Ontario Curling Council's Coach training system.

Thanks to Byron Scott, who was our staff person responsible for the execution of this grant.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

PARTICIPATION



The Great Ontario Bonspiel

November 18, 2017 was a great day in Ontario!!! We had much fun celebrating Ontario's Contribution to curling and Curling's contribution to Ontario at 17 one-day bonspiels hosted all across the province. This event was generously supported by an Ontario 150 Celebrate Ontario Grant.

The "Great Ontario Bonspiel" - saw 17 curling clubs networked together all celebrating curling! Each club created a promotional video which shared their "story." There was Ontario themed decorations, costumes, food, prizes and tonnes of fun! Each club was unique in their format—from 150 ends of curling to Mixed Doubles to Competitive Formats. Check out the numbers: 17 Clubs, 1467 People participated in the event, 182 Volunteers, 26 Youth volunteers trained to run future events, 16 Curling club promotional videos created—100% Ontarian!!

The Promotional Videos are available on the OCC [Youtube Channel](#)—check them out!

ONTARIO 150



The CurlON created program of Hit Draw Tap—is going National! OCC has been working with Curling Canada to share this incredible program with other Member Associations

“Ontario Kids Curl”

The Ontario Curling Council has received an OSRCF Grant and support from Curling Canada for a project focused on Youth Curling in Canada. Curling Canada has established the “Youth Feeder System” - a system focused on creating Youth curling programming, which is aligned with the Long Term Curler Development Model. The Ontario Curling Council has been a key member of team creating and piloting these programs over the 2017-2018 Season. These programs include:

- Re-writing the Long Term Athlete/Curler Development Model—developing a complete Athlete Development Matrix
- Nationalizing Hit Draw Tap—Youth Skills Competition
- Creating and Piloting a U18 Learn to Curl Program
- Piloting U12 Learn to Curl Program
- Piloting a 20 Week Junior Curling Program
- Developing a Canadian Junior Tour Ranking System (Pilot year 2018-2019)
- Developing and Piloting a “Leaders in Training Program” - Youth teaching Youth
- Creating and Piloting a U15 Youth Challenge Competition and U15, U18, U21 Singles Competition/Training tools.

With all programs now created and piloted—the focus will shift to rolling out these programs to future leaders and current coaches/club program leaders. This will happen through a series of “Youth Curling Summits” to be held in the Fall of 2018.

TryWheelchairCurlingNow

The Ontario Curling Council received a ParaSport Strong Grant from the Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport. We worked with Chris Bowden at the Ilderton Curling Club and used CurlON’s proven TryCurlingNow.ca marketing platform and to attract Wheelchair Participants to try curling on February 24, 2018. Participants were provided transportation (if needed), instruction, some snacks and a chance to meet Paralympian Mark Ideson. We had **24** wheelchair participants attend—ranging in age from age 7 to 96. The event was an extraordinary success! (There are only approximately 40 active wheelchair curlers in the entire province).

We look forward to using the Trycurlingnow.ca platform to promote Visual Impaired Curling and Wheelchair Curling next season!



Ontario Winter Games

The 2017-2018 Season saw us pilot a new qualification system for the Ontario Winter Games held in Orillia.

We held six open qualifiers for Boys, Girls and Mixed Doubles to qualify a total of 18 teams, in addition we invited five wheelchair teams to participate in the games.

We had a great Ontario Winter Games experience! Our closing ceremonies were extra special as we hosted the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario - Elizabeth Dowdeswell—who helped present the winners with their medals.

The top two teams in the Boys and Girls disciplines have qualified for the 2019 Canada Winter Games Trials. And the winners of each of the Boys and Girls disciplines won a Next Gen spot for 2018-2019.



Congratulations to all our Medalists!

Mixed Doubles:

Gold—Brunton/Horgan

Silver—Denyer/Blais

Bronze—Wallace/Steffler

Wheelchair:

Gold—Team Dean

Silver—Team Joseph

Bronze—Team Bax

Girls:

Gold—Team Steel

Silver—Team Deschenes

Bronze—Team Croisier

Boys:

Gold—Team Leung

Silver—Team DelConte

Bronze—Team Harding

Transition of Coach Development Programming to the Ontario Curling Council

In an effort to ensure organizational efficiencies and to standardize coach development in the province, the Ontario Curling Council assumed delivery responsibility of all coach development programming, inclusive of National Coaching Certification Programs (NCCP) and coach Professional Development from its members—CurlION and NOCA.

The transition went really well and we're pleased to report that we were able to offer MORE training workshops to more areas of the province than in year's past.

We will continue to provide an extensive offering of Coach Training Programs in 2018-2019, our "course" [calendar](#) is active now.

Event Name	# of Events	# of Participants
Club Coach Youth	4	30
Club Coach	9	115
Competition Coach	7	68
Make Ethical Decisions	4	21
Competition Coach Evaluations	-	20
Coach PD Webinars	13	243
PD Events (Next Gen, Talent Development Camps, U15 Challenge Cups)	3	79

Talent Development Camps

The Ontario Curling Council hosted seven (7) Talent Development Camps this past spring in London, Thunder Bay, Sudbury, Waterloo, Toronto, Belleville, and Ottawa. The focus of these events was TRAINING. Competition has become a bigger priority for many young curlers—and Competition does not serve as the best means of improvement—These Talent development Camps—taught 156+ Youth Curlers and 30+Coaches how to practice using resources like a Singles Skills Competition/Practice Drill, and Triples. We reinforced the need that no matter what you do in curling—throwing the rock well will always serve you best.



Curling Canada's U15 Challenge Cup(s)

Over Easter Weekend, the Ontario Curling Council hosted three (3) - Curling Canada U15 Challenge Cup Competitions—24 teams participated in this inaugural event which saw Club teams participate in Triples, Singles and Fours Competitions—Teams competed for "aggregate points" while improving all of their skills at the same time. "Triples" is a new discipline which develops all members of the team so everyone becomes comfortable calling line/strategy, throwing last rock, sweeping by themselves. Triples games were "coachable" meaning coaches were on the ice coaching their teams. "Singles" are age/stage appropriate curling shots—scored to measure improvement—the discipline reinforces fundamental curling shots (with both turns, across all areas of the sheet, with a variety of weights) that every U15 curler should be able to execute. Teams were treated to pizza parties, received prizes, medals and got some cool Curling Canada swag!

This event was so popular that the Ontario Curling Council will host six (6) - events in 2019!

ParaSport Strong

The Ontario Curling Council was a recipient of an Ontario ParaSport Strong Grant—as a result of this grant, we were able to host some additional ParaSport activities for Wheelchair and Visual Impaired Curlers in Ontario.

We hosted 16 wheelchair curlers and 8 coaches in Thunder Bay to work on strategy and last rock throwing skills at a Wheelchair Doubles Training Event.

We hosted 12 Visual Impaired Curlers/Coaches/Guides to collaborate and determine ways to promote the discipline and develop a coaching resource to help new coaches get started in Coaching VI Curling.

We developed new promotional brochures for Wheelchair Curling.

We supported four competitions for Wheelchair curling this year—Ontario Winter Games, Cathy Kerr International Wheelchair Bonspiel and member association provincial playdowns.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY: *DEVELOPMENT*

Ice Technician Development Program

In addition to Coach Programming, the Ontario Curling Council assumed responsibility for the delivery of Ice Technician Training Programs.

We hosted five workshops this past season.

Level 1 (3 workshops) - 33 Ice Techs Trained

Level 2 (1 workshop) - 6 Ice Techs Trained

Facility Operator Assistant (Pilot) - 7 volunteers trained.

The Ontario Curling Council developed the content and piloted the new “Facility Operator Assistant/Rink Rat” workshop—this NEW one day workshop provided the club volunteer with everything they need to ASSIST a certified Ice Technician with the daily maintenance of ice.

Participants of this new workshop can expect to learn:

- Safety
- Opening Procedures
- Scraping
- Pebbling
- Nipping
- Cleaning
- Temperature Monitoring
- Closing Procedures
- Draw Change Procedures



[Registrations](#) for 2018-2019 Ice Technician Training Events are now being accepted.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY: *EXCELLENCE*

OCC ACCEPTED INTO OHPSI

In 2017-2018 The Ontario Curling Council was accepted in the prestigious [Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative](#) operated by the [Canadian Sport Institute of Ontario](#).

The CSIO provides financial support towards high performance programming and sport expertise from integrated support professionals towards identified athletes. The OCC worked closely with Curling Canada and the CSIO to identify the best process to identify athletes. For the first year, admission into the OHPSI supported OCC program was done through an application form—Team Julie Tippin, Team Dayna Deurelle, Team Greg Balsdon, Team Krista McCarville and Team Westlund Stewart/Stewart all received support of Strength and condition coaches, sport psychologists, nutritionists, sport specific coaches, access to high performance equipment, training camps, support during competition and practice.



What is OHPSI?

The Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative, or OHPSI program was designed to support a comprehensive provincial high performance sport system that allows for sustained success of athletes and coaches at the very highest levels of international sport. The goal of the OHPSI program is to identify and support Ontario athletes who are best capable of achieving future international success on senior national teams in targeted winter and summer Olympic/Paralympic and Pan/Para Pan Am Games sports.

Through the OHPSI program, CSIO provides leadership, coaching support, sport science and sport medicine services, equipment and technology, competition and training camp enhancements, and facility access to create optimal daily training environments for Ontario athletes and coaches.

The program also aims for CSIO to build stronger relationships with Provincial and National Sport Organizations (PSOs and NSOs) while providing support to targeted athletes that are demonstrating they are on the pathway towards future international success. This approach is intimately tied and aligned to Own the Podium's vision and strategy to optimize a targeted approach to increasing Canada's potential for future international podium performances.



MORE CURLON AND NOCA PODIUM FINISHES

The OCC's High Performance Program is committed to developing more champions for both CurlON and NOCA.

Congratulations to CurlON who for the second consecutive year is the winner of the [MA Cup](#)—a Curling Canada competition among Member Associations—an aggregate score of the national finishes for all discipline and age categories.

NEXT GEN PROGRAM

A National Best Practice, the Ontario Curling Council supported 13 Teams through its season long Next Gen Program in 2017-2018. Eight U21/U18 Teams, 1 Mixed Doubles Team, Four (4) adult teams, representing both CurlON and Northern Ontario Curling Association. This was the third season the OCC operated the program.

Teams were invited to attend camps, worked with sport specific mentor coaches and experts, had access to high performance equipment, were supported through sport psychologists, nutritionists and strength and conditioning coaches. Coaches of program teams earned valuable Professional development through training events, competitions and webinars. Teams worked with Mentor coaches at competitions, camps and within their daily training environment.

Adult Next Gen teams were supported through the CSIO's OHPSI program. Our [2018-2019 Program](#) will support both teams and individuals and has been revised to reflect feedback received from a variety of stakeholders.

Congratulations to our 2017-2018 Next Gen Program Teams

Team Tanner/Jacob Horgan: Silver U21 Nationals/Bronze U18 Nationals & Gold—Ontario Winter Games Mixed Doubles, CTRS = 17th

Team Matthew Hall: 4th U21 Nationals

Team Emma Wallingford: 4th U21 Nationals

Team Josh Leung: Gold—Ontario Winter Games, Winner CurlON U18 Provincials

Team Bella Croisier: Bronze Ontario Winter Games, Winner NOCA U18 Provincials

Team Daniel Del Conte: Silver—Ontario Winter Games

Team Kayla Gray: 11th OJCT

Team Julie Tippin: Qualified for Olympic Trials, CTRS = 12th

Team Dayna Deruelle: Olympic Pre-trials, member of team won Canadian Mixed

Team Greg Balsdon: Olympic Pre-trials, CTRS = 14th

Team Westlund Stewart/Stewart: Qualified for Mixed Doubles Olympic Trials.

Team Kira Brunton: Runner up—NOCA U21 Provincials

Team Krista McCarville: Runner up—NOCA Women's Provincials, CTRS = 13th

We were there, representing the OCC....

- Canadian Sport Institute of Ontario's High Performance Conference
- Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport's—Provincial Sport Organization Day (Presenter)
- Coaching Association of Canada's—Partner's Day
- Coaching Association of Canada's—E-learning conference
- Canadian Sport Institute of Ontario's—ParaSport High Performance Program Planning Session
- Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport's—Quest for Gold Modernization Meetings
- Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport's—Rowan's Law Education Sessions



ParaSport Collective

The Ontario Curling Council has been proudly sitting at the table since the inception of the ParaSport Collective—who will receive a \$2.4-million grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for the Ontario Parasport Strategy.

This strategy is a first of its kind for parasport in Canada, and the largest grant the Ontario Trillium Foundation has ever awarded.

Led by the Canadian Paralympic Committee, the Ontario Parasport Collective brings together 24 partner organizations, and more than 20 supporting organizations, including government and the private sector, who will deliver the Ontario Parasport Strategy. The strategy is designed around four pillars that consider the critical physical, psychological, and social wellbeing of children, youth and adults, particularly so for the 1.85 million Ontarians living with a physical disability.

Read the full announcement [here](#).

What will this mean for Paracurling in Ontario? We'll be sure to keep the membership informed as more details become available.

NATIONAL SPORT TRUST FUND

The Ontario Curling Council and its members CurlON and NOCA—fully endorse the fundraising Charitable tax Receipting Program, the [National Sport Trust Fund](#), operated by Sport4Ontario. The OCC is the curling administer for the fund.

Curling Clubs can raise funds for infrastructure/equipment and even programs—donors receive receipts and the whole program costs 4% of the donation + a \$2 tax receipt fee.

There are 16+ clubs who have subscribed to the program.

The Lakefield Curling Club has raised in excess of \$30k through the program towards their building renovations!

HUMAN RESOURCES

Education Managers

In 2017-2018 the OCC welcomed Perry Marshall and Andrea Ronnebeck to our team as Education Managers for both the South and North areas respectively.

Perry and Andrea did a great job coordinating all of our coach training and certification, ice technician training events, U15 Challenge Cups, Talent Development Camps and many other programs and projects.





Project Coordinator

Thanks also to Byron Scott who completed his OCC contract in March 2018, Byron was instrumental in the execution of the Adult Learn to Curl Program, The Great Ontario Bonspiel and the Ontario Winter Games.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY: OPERATIONS

BUILDING THE BRAND



Platform	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
	3400 hits/ month	6000 hits/ month	9500 hits/ month
	298 followers	598 followers	781 followers
	Launched	253 followers	439 followers
	N/A	6400 views of 10 videos	12660 views of 27 videos

STRATEGIC PRIORITY: *ENGAGEMENT*

