

Cross Country Ski Ontario

Executive Director's Report

By Liz Inkila



2022 Successes & Opportunities

- Interpreting Ontario government regulations
- Working towards adapting camps, competitions during COVID
- Reviewing our PN program and setting a new direction
- Continued resilience and adapting our way of thinking to 'what we can do'
 - Continued success at adapting programming to engage athletes, clubs, officials and coaching
- Gender Equity project with support from CAWS

New Staffing Structure

- District Development Coordinators Katherine Hall, Katherine Denis, Bryan Dubeau & Peter Wiltmann
- Hiring PN Lead Jennifer Nieson
- New Technical Director Bryan Dubeau

2021/2022 Challenges

- Interpreting evolving government regulations & regional restrictions amid an ever changing environment
- Cancellation of 2 ON Cup races & managing disappointment for clubs and athletes
- Transitioning scope of work from traditionally volunteer roles to staff

Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism & Culture Industries

Ontario Amateur Sport Fund (OASF) \$200K for each of 2017 - 2021

- COVID specific Funding
- Q4G funding for direct to athlete support (not available in 2020-2021)
- MHSTCI funding for amateur sport clubs via application



Canadian Sport Institute Ontario (CSIO)

Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative (OHPSI)

- Successful sport for 2021-2023 \$67.5K for 2 years
- Remote Integrated Support Team
- Focus on Sport Science / Sport Medicine
 - S & C for NTDC/OST
 - Physiology (CSIO practitioner)
 - Nutrition (CSIO practitioner)
 - Mental Performance (CSIO practitioner)
 - IST Lead, Thunder Bay and Remote

Para-Nordic

- ON ParaSport Collective
 - \$7500 in 2020/2021 & 2021/2022
- Canadian Paralympic Committee Extended Grant \$10K
- PWAD from Nordiq Canada
 - \$7500 for PN Lead
- Successful funding from Canadian Tire Jumpstart Program
- Development of new coaches 4 AWAD coaches trained
- <u>Program Review and Development Report</u> by Bruce Deacon, Run Fast Consulting
- Implementation of action plan underway with hiring of PN Lead, Jen Nieson

Quest for Gold (Q4G)

- Ontario Athlete Assistance Program Sport Canada AAP top-up continued
- Direct to Athlete funding provided by MHSTCI ongoing process
- Mentorship program through the Coaches Association of Ontario \$5K per year

Ontario Clubs & Community

- 76 clubs with 20743 members
 - several clubs were not operational due to COVID or had to discontinue operations due to COVID
- Provincial funding support for clubs
- Community Updates
- Ongoing communication with clubs to manage COVID protocols, vaccination mandates
- <u>Video series</u> launched more to come in the fall
- OLLI the Ontario Otter mascot joined the ski family



Policy Updates

- Continued engagement in Return to Sport Protocols
- Policy review underway by Sport Law Group
- <u>Membership policy</u> revised to include a defined membership year
- Strategic planning process returns in 2022



Ongoing Activities

- Continued programming pivot due to COVID
- Social media @xcskiontario.ca, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter
- Community/club engagement
- Coaching development, Official development, Para-Nordic, and ON programming support
- Board of Directors, High Performance Committee meetings, Para-Nordic Committee meetings
- Liaison with MHSTCI, CSIO, Ontario ParaSport Collective, NTDC Thunder Bay
- Level 3 Officials course
- Competition support

Looking Forward

- Fund Development
 - Continues to need work
- Sponsorship package paused (needs a champion)
- Strategic Plan planning for fall workshop
- Ambassador Program continue to be developed
- Video series continued

Thank you to Victor for his commitment to making ON a great place to ski, train & play. Thank you to Katja – for everything!

It is a pleasure to work with Board, Committee members, NTDC, ON coaches and clubs!

