



2015|16 ANNUAL REPORT

Special Olympics
Manitoba





Special Olympics Manitoba is dedicated to enriching the lives of Manitobans with an intellectual disability through active participation in sport.

– SPECIAL OLYMPICS MISSION

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MESSAGE FROM SPECIAL OLYMPICS MANITOBA

As this will be my final message, I cannot adequately express how honoured I feel to have worked for such an outstanding organization and the many dedicated people that make it work. There have been great times and challenging times, moments to be cherished and even disappointment along the way. However, it is the athletes that I have served that have shown me the way and influenced me the most.

Special Olympics has never seemed like work to me, it has been my passion, my vocation and my life for the past 28 years. I would have not wanted it any other way. However, there is still a lot to be done as we strive to provide more opportunities for our athletes. Let's take a moment and not think about what needs to be done but celebrate our successes from 2015/16:



- Manitoba was very well represented on Team Canada that participated in the 2015 World Summer Games in Los Angeles. Athletes returned home with 3 gold, 3 silver and a bronze medal.
 - From a financial perspective the organization could not be stronger from the Provincial office to each individual region. From a business perspective this makes logical sense but the challenge is to manage our finances in such a way that the athletes are provided every opportunity to be the best they can be.
 - Athlete numbers grew by 3.8% with our "In the Schools" programs showing an outstanding 20% growth.
 - Overall fund raising grew by over \$100,000.00 from 2014/15. The Winnipeg Wine Festival was by far our best ever netting a whopping \$475,000.00.
- The Law Enforcement Torch Run grossed almost a quarter million dollars, numbers not seen since the early 90's, with the first ever Ultimate Polar Plunge in Churchill being a resounding success.
 - The Provincial Government acclaimed Special Olympics Awareness Week took more of a provincial nature with events held in a variety of communities. The reading of a Private Members Statement in the Manitoba Legislature was new and very much appreciated.

In addition to these major events, hundreds of training sessions and many competitions took place across the province and it couldn't have happened without our dedicated volunteers. Thank you. Thank you also to the Board, who are themselves volunteers and who lead the organization with the support of the very committed and dedicated SOM staff.

My heartfelt gratitude goes to all our partners, sponsors, suppliers and supporters for your time, money and in-kind support. You are each very important members of the Special Olympics Manitoba family. Aside from creating sporting opportunities, this great group of organisations and individuals allow us to support athletes in other areas like our Healthy Athletes Program, Athlete Leadership Programs and SO Fit opportunities.

In closing, the future of the organization is very bright, with a new and concise Special Olympics International Strategic Plan in place. Two simple yet profound goals – improve athlete performance and building positive attitudes toward individuals with an intellectual disability. After all, isn't this what we are supposed to be doing?

Thank you.

Simon Munday
President and CEO
September, 2016

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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ATHLETE: DARREN BORYSKAVICH

On the side of the highway, driving into the town of Russell, Manitoba, is a sign recognizing Olympic athletes Jon Montgomery and Theoren Fleury. Look now and you'll see a new face. Being a hardworking and dedicated Special Olympics athlete, Darren Boryskavich has earned a place on the Olympic board; but it didn't happen overnight.

Residents of the town have long expressed interest in having Darren recognized on the sign. A well-known name around the community, Darren grew up in Russell where he has been a Special Olympics athlete since the age of 10. Darren has competed on a local, provincial, national, and international level, representing both his province, and town, with his passion for sport, his outstanding attitude, and his dedication to Special Olympics.

He has an incredible 30 gold medals, as well as 18 silver medals, and seven bronze medals. His two Order of Sports Excellence medals are very special Darren and another 40 plus trophies for his outstanding athleticism. With Darren's most recent three medal performance in snowshoeing at the 2016 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games, he earned a spot on Team Canada at the 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Graz, Austria.

Local resident and friend of Darren's, Travis Rice, was instrumental in getting Darren recognized.

"I'd like to see Darren get the recognition he deserves. He's such an amazing athlete," Travis said when asked why he took such an active role in making it happen.

Travis, a grade 10 student at Major Pratt High School, set out to find out how to get his friend up there. When Travis contacted the Town of Russell to get the process started, he was informed that the sign was started by the community, and in order to make any additions, he would need to start a petition. That was all he needed to know; in a short period of time, Travis collected 82 signatures - 50 on the first day.

With the outpouring of town support, it was no surprise that Darren finally saw his face among two other Olympic greats.

NATIONAL PARTNERS

PLATINUM



Eat better.
Feel better.
Do better.



GOLD



SILVER



RBC Foundation
RBC Fondation



Samuel Family
Foundation



BRONZE



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COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS



NATIONAL PARTNERS



PLATINUM	GOLD	FOUNDATIONS

SILVER



CHANGING MANITOBA THROUGH SPORT

SPORT TRAINING & COMPETITION

In clubs across the seven regions of the province, Special Olympics Manitoba continues to offer programs in 18 official sports to over 1700 athletes; seeing growth in athlete numbers particularly within our In the Schools program. Sport Programming is available at the grassroots level in over 100 programs throughout the province. In communities and schools, our athletes have the opportunity to be involved in invitational competitions, provincial Games, and for some, the opportunity to experience a national and/or world Games.



In the sport and competition cycle, 2015/2016 was year three for summer sports and year one for winter sports – providing opportunities for winter participants to reflect and plan, while summer sport participants prepare for the 2017 Provincial Summer Games. Special Olympics Manitoba was pleased to announce that Brandon will play host for the 2017 Games for the first time since 2005.

Through the support of Government of Canada funding, Special Olympics Manitoba successfully expanded programming into the Parkland and Interlake Regions, offering floor hockey in Dauphin and curling in Stonewall. Athletes received additional training opportunities in the sports of rhythmic gymnastics, golf, swimming, and

basketball. SOFit continues to grow across the province, with more Regions offering the strength & conditioning program to even more athletes. Lastly, with the purchase of iPads, our provincial team head coaches were able to support their athletes using the latest technology.

ATHLETE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM UNIVERSITY

Special Olympics Manitoba's second session of Athlete Leadership workshops was a great success! Athlete ambassadors and mentors from six Manitoba regions (Central, Eastman, Interlake, Norman, Westman, and Winnipeg) came together for the three-day session on March 18-20, 2016 at the Canad Inns Polo Park. The athletes learned about the essential components of a speech and valuable skills associated with public speaking. One of the key goals of the session was to help athletes grow their poise and self-confidence when conversing with others. Jesse Drozd from Special Olympics Saskatchewan led the facilitation of the session. The ability to host the session could not have been possible without the funding support from Special Olympics Canada and Canada Life, Great-West Life, and London Life.



HEALTHY ATHLETES

As a sport organization, we pride ourselves on the delivery of top quality sport opportunities for individuals with an intellectual disability. We understand that proper training must involve more than simply being active. Educating our athletes on healthy lifestyle choices to assist with their sport performances and give them an overall improved wellbeing is imperative.

It's a true win-win scenario: volunteer health care professionals receive training on the health concerns of people with an intellectual disability (patients that they might not ordinarily see in their practice) and athletes are educated on healthy lifestyle choices.

These health areas can include:

- Opening Eyes (vision),
- Fit Feet (podiatry),
- FUNfitness (physical therapy),



- Health Promotion (better health and well-being),
- Healthy Hearing (audiology),
- MedFest (sport physical exam)
- Special Smiles (dentistry).

The event was held on March 20 and had 38 athletes, 24 volunteers, and 2 clinical directors attend the one-day event. Athletes registered for a specific time, which made the day much more manageable, allowing more one on one time with the stations and clinicians. The event had 2 disciplines – Special Smiles and Health Promotion.

The next event is planned for the In the Schools Basketball event in November of 2016.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The 2015/2016 year continued to be a successful year for the youth programs of Special Olympics Manitoba.

Some of the highlights include:

- An overall increase of In the Schools participants from 574 in 2014/2015 to 842 in 2015/2016 (increase of 46%);
- An overall increase in individual schools participating from 33 in 2014/2015 to 36 in 2015/2016 (increase of 9%);
- Four of the seven SOM regions were represented over the course of the 2015/2016 school year.

Some event highlights include:

- The move of several of our High School events to higher profile venues.
 - o Basketball – University of Winnipeg Duckworth Centre
 - o Bocce – University of Winnipeg RecPlex
 - o Soccer – University of Winnipeg RecPlex
- The University of Winnipeg Wesman Basketball and Wrestling programs provided student athlete volunteers for the High School Basketball and Bocce events. They enjoyed themselves so much that they have already committed to volunteer at the 2016/17 event.
- The introduction of the High School Bocce event was a huge success with 11 schools (including one from Kenora,

ON) and 104 athletes taking part. Two teams were selected to represent Manitoba at the 2016 Special Olympics Ontario High School Provincial Championships in Oshawa, ON. Both teams (Portage Collegiate Institute and Elmwood High School) represented Manitoba and their schools extremely well, bringing home a gold and silver medal (respectively) from their divisions.

- Track & Field was once again the largest event with over 230 athletes from 32 schools participating. Thank you once again to the Year 11 students from Balmoral Hall for volunteering and being great ambassadors of their school.
- Every event participant was provided with an In the Schools branded gift;
 - o Basketball – Scarf & Water Bottle
 - o Snowshoe – Toque
 - o Bocce – Lunch Bag
 - o Track & Field – T-shirt
 - o Soccer – Flying Disc

For the 2016/17 year we will continue to focus on increasing participant numbers and school involvement, as well as attempting to increase the number of regions that are involved in the In the Schools program.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS AWARENESS WEEK

SATURDAY, June 11

- Soccer / Softball Competition – Little Mountain Sportsplex

SUNDAY, June 12

- Air Miles Campaign in Liquor Marts stores in Manitoba
- *Accept with no Exception* – Bonivital / Special O Soccer Camp

MONDAY, June 13

- Special Olympics Manitoba Flag Raising – City Hall
- Law Enforcement Torch Run from City Hall to the Legislative Grounds
- Media Conference – Legislative Grounds
- Bocce game – SOM Bocce athletes and Members of Legislative Assembly
- *Accept with no Exception* – Reception in the Golden Boy room

TUESDAY, June 14

- Morden Law Enforcement Torch Run
- Portage la Prairie Law Enforcement Torch Run

WEDNESDAY, June 15

- Steinbach Law Enforcement Torch Run – In the Schools, Elmdale School

THURSDAY, June 16

- Westman Media Conference – Brandon University, Active Living Centre
- Parkland Region – Volunteer Reception





CEPT
NO
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LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN® FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS MANITOBA

Manitoba LETR had another successful year: learning from and building on previous years, refining the strategic plan, and putting operational objectives into place. A solid profile was maintained through increased committee membership from agencies across all regions of the Province. In the spring, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Brosseau of RCMP "D" Division, renewed the RCMP commitment to the program. Asst. Deputy Commissioner Brosseau received a promotion and departed Manitoba in June of 2016 and handed the reins over to the newly appointed Asst. Deputy Commissioner Scott Kolody. He has been very supportive and committed to strengthening the RCMP involvement with LETR.

Strengthening relationships with the presenting sponsors of all of our major events was once again a primary focus. LETR continues to receive outstanding support, both from Scotiabank in our "Toonies for Torches" campaign, as well as the Manitoba Trucking Association for the "World's Largest Truck Convoy". The 2015 World's Largest Truck Convoy set a new Canadian record and was the second largest in North America, with 202 trucks participating and raising over \$58,000 for Special Olympics MB (SOM).

The three Polar Plunges in Winnipeg, Brandon, and Morden were a huge success, and led us towards a brand new initiative: the Ultimate Polar Plunge in Churchill, Manitoba. There were 62 participants who raised a combined \$58,000 to take a plunge into the frigid Hudson's Bay on Canada Day. This was an incredible, once in a lifetime trip that is sure to be unforgettable for all attendees.

In total, 2015/2016 revenues were \$246,211.24; an increase of 24% from the year prior.



Looking toward 2016/2017, the LETR committee is actively planning events, new and returning, to increase awareness and funds for SOM.

From Polar Plunges, to a Torch Run that will occur at the start of the 2017 Summer Games in Brandon, and a possible 2017 Ultimate Polar Plunge, the future looks bright for LETR initiatives.

The Manitoba LETR wishes to thank both Mr. Simon Munday and Mr. Terry Hopkinson for all of their support and dedication. At the same time, a big welcome to Ms. Jennifer Campbell and Mr. Darren Anderson who will be taking over the responsibilities of their departing colleagues.





2015-2016 FUNDRAISING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

CWS GOLF TOURNAMENT: July 22, 2015

STARS FORE GOLF TOURNAMENT: August 24, 2015

WORLD'S LARGEST TRUCK CONVOY: September 12, 2015

MOTIONBALL: September 20, 2015

SPECIAL OLYMPICS FESTIVAL DINNER: September 19, 2015

EKS DAY: September 26, 2015

CF24: October 24, 2015

MUSIC THAT MATTERS, MORDEN: November 13, 2015

LETR POLAR PLUNGE, WINNIPEG: January 30, 2016

LETR POLAR PLUNGE, MORDEN: February 13, 2016

BINGO BOWL: February 14, 2016

LETR POLAR PLUNGE, BRANDON: February 20, 2016

WINNIPEG WINE FESTIVAL: April 24 to April 30, 2016

STAPLES CAMPAIGN: May 7 to June 5, 2016

SCOTIABANK TOONIES FOR TORCHES: May 18 to June 3, 2016

BUD, SPUD, & BOOGIE: May 18, 2016

LARRY MAGUIRE, MP CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT, SHILO:
June 10, 2016

SOM AWARENESS WEEK: June 12-18, 2016

LETR RUN, WINNIPEG: June 13, 2016

**CENTRAL MANITOBA LETR RUN,
MORDEN, WINKLER, PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE:** June 14, 2016

LETR RUN, YELLOWHEAD: June 15, 2016

WOLSELEY GOLF TOURNAMENT: June 21, 2016

LETR ULTIMATE POLAR PLUNGE, CHURCHILL: June 30 - July 1, 2016

ROAD TO THE GAMES

2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games – Los Angeles, California

It was a long road to the 2015 World Summer Games for our three Manitoban athletes. Beginning at the 2013 Special Olympics Manitoba Summer Provincial Games in Winnipeg, then the 2014 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games in Vancouver, to finally reaching the 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Los Angeles. Ashley Wilwand, Danny Peaslee and Ryan Kneisz trained very hard to reach their goals and all showed great courage on the path to the podium.

ASHLEY WILWAND – 20 years old from Winnipeg, Manitoba
Sport: Rhythmic Gymnastics

Ashley won a gold medal in Rhythmic Ribbon, a silver medal in Rhythmic Clubs, a bronze medal in Rhythmic Rope, a silver medal in Group Ball, a silver medal in Rhythmic All Around, and finished 4th in Rhythmic Ball. In total she won 5 medals and achieved a personal best by breaking 8 points.

DANNY PEASLEE – 19 years old from Souris, Manitoba Sport: Golf
Danny golfed neck and neck the whole four rounds with Andrew White of Special Olympics South Africa. In the last round, Danny outshot his competition by just one stroke to win the Special Olympics Summer Games gold medal.

RYAN KNEISZ – 25 years old from Winnipeg, Manitoba
Sport: Track & Field (Pentathlon and 4x100m relay)
Ryan Kneisz battled hard to win a gold medal in the pentathlon event. Ryan achieved three personal best efforts in three of the five events.

Special Olympics Manitoba also had two mission staff members on Team Canada: Colleen Lowden-Bula for rhythmic gymnastics and Joanne Zahaiko for basketball.



Left to right: Colleen Lowdon Bula, Danny Peaslee, Ashley Wilwand, Ryan Kneisz, Joanne Zahaiko.

2016 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games - Corner Brook, Newfoundland

Manitoba was well represented at this year's National Winter Games, with 39 athletes and 19 mission staff and coaches from across all 7 regions of the province. Together, the team brought home a total of 36 medals.

Over the course of five days, Team Manitoba competed alongside teams from coast to coast, in the sports of floor hockey, curling, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, alpine skiing, figure skating and speed skating. As a result of great performances, Michael Milani (Winnipeg athlete – alpine skiing), Darren Boryskavich (Parkland athlete – snowshoeing), Chrissy Peters and Valerie Delorme (Central athletes – snowshoeing), and Adam Lloyd, EJ Ilag and Elijah Wood (Winnipeg athletes – floor hockey) were selected to Team Canada competing at the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Austria, in March of 2017. These athletes will be joined by snowshoe coaches, Joanne Zahaiko and Sabrina Klassen, and alpine skiing coach Ron Struch.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE ATHLETES ON THEIR GAMES PERFORMANCES.



2015-2016 REACH REPORT SUMMARY

ATHLETES SERVED

1719



1687 TRAINING & COMPETITION
32 TRAINING

Decrease/Percentage change from 2014-2015: **+78 athletes | 3.8%**

GENDER

MALE: **1036 athletes | 60.3%**
FEMALE: **683 athletes | 39.7%**



AGE

12 years & under: 183	13-17 years: 285	18-29 years: 518
30-40 years: 255	41-54 years: 285	55+ years: 193

ATHLETE LEADERSHIP

ATHLETE ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS: **1**



ATHLETES ON REGIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAMS: **5** OUT OF 7

ATHLETES PARTICIPATED IN ALP's (Athlete Leadership Program): **8**



COMPETITIONS:
18

VOLUNTEERS: **1603**

COACHES: **618**

Increase/Percentage change from 2014-15:
-22 coaches | -3.4%

EVENT / ADMINISTRATION: **1010**

Increase/Percentage change from 2014-15:
-122 | -10.8%

FUNDRAISING ACTIVATION:

\$1,867,983

TOTAL REVENUE: **\$2,329,155.**

REGIONAL REVENUE: **\$177,510.**

2015-2016 REACH BY REGIONS

Special Olympics Manitoba is proud to serve athletes throughout our entire province. Here are some highlights from our regions:

NORMAN

The Sealed Bid auction has been well received by the community. A Bocce challenge was held in Flin Flon to engage the community with our athletes during Awareness Week and it was a hit.

- **40** Athletes • **14** Coaches
- **4** Sports Offered • Revenue **\$11,999.17**



PARKLAND

Parkland is very proud to have Darren Boryskavich from Russell represent Canada on the National Team going to the 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Austria in the sport of snowshoe. Dauphin has a brand new Floor Hockey Team, the Riding Mountain Rebels.

- **62** Athletes • **20** Coaches
- **7** Sports Offered
- Revenue **\$35,245.46**





INTERLAKE

The region hosted two open house events to highlight Special Olympics and encourage volunteers and community support. Both Gimli and Selkirk events were well attended and proved that the community support is very strong. The region participated in Bowling, Track, Snowshoe, Golf, and Skating. All programs were out of Selkirk but saw athletes coming from Gimli, Stonewall, and Birds Hill.

• 139 Athletes • 35 Coaches • 5 Sports Offered • Revenue \$12,011.03



NORMAN

EASTMAN

Steinbach had the honor of hosting the Manitoba Summer Games in August 2016 and Golf was the chosen sport for Special Olympics. The athletes and coaches enjoyed three days in Steinbach and it was a very positive experience for our athletes. This past year, the region was once again able to have a charity barbeque, as well as a Law Enforcement Run in Steinbach during Awareness Week. There had not been a run in the previous 15 years and it was good to engage the police force once again in the community.

• 111 Athletes • 18 Coaches • 7 Sports Offered • Revenue \$16,448.68

WINNIPEG

The Winnipeg Region is very proud to acknowledge the four athletes and one coach from Winnipeg that will be representing Team Canada in the 2017 World Winter Games in Austria. Adam Lloyd, Elijah Ilag, and Elijah Wood are participating in the sport of floor hockey; Michael Milani for alpine ski; and Ron Struch is the assistant coach for Alpine Ski. The Athlete Leadership Program (ALPs) was held on March 18-20th, 2016. Eleven athletes and eight mentors attended the weekend seminar; participating in fun activities geared towards encouraging social interaction and gain confidence in public speaking.

• 965 Athletes • 410 Coaches • 18 Sports Offered • Revenue \$11,296.50



WESTMAN

Four coaches and twelve athletes went to Roanoke, Virginia to a Special Olympics North America Baseball tournament in August, and returned with a silver medal in their division. Westman had the opportunity to host the UFC in Brandon in 2015.

• 230 Athletes • 78 Coaches • 12 Sports Offered
• Revenue \$58,085.31

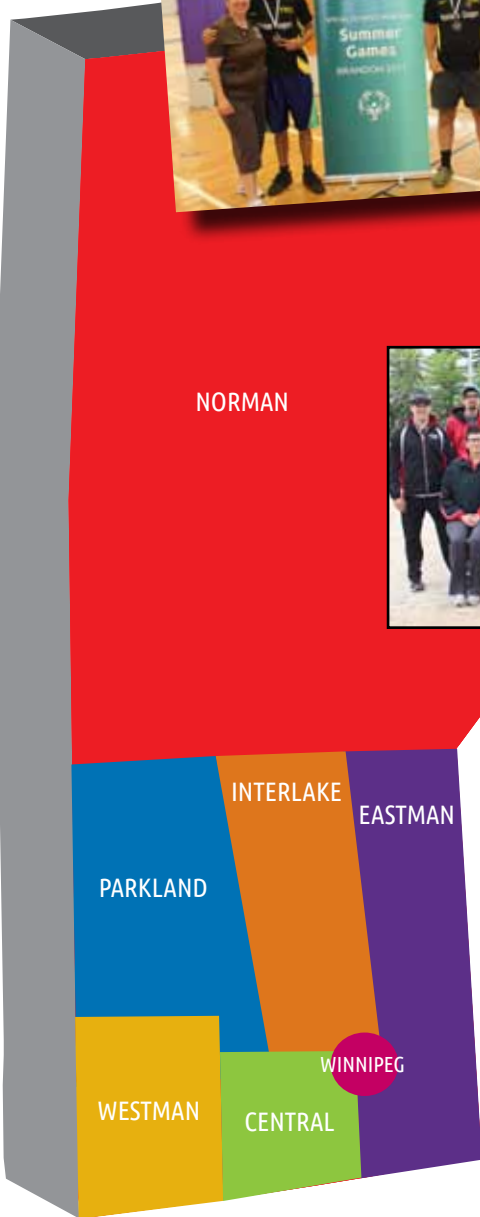
CENTRAL

The 1st Polar Plunge in Morden was a success. It raised a significant amount of money and had a great attendance. Val Delorme (athlete), Chrissy Peters (athlete) and Joanne Zahaiko (coach) were chosen to represent Team Canada at the 2017 World Winter Games in Austria.

• 172 Athletes • 43 Coaches • 9 Sports Offered
• Revenue \$32,454.21

TOP SPORTS

5 PIN: 695
ATHLETICS: 642
BASKETBALL: 435
SNOWSHOEING: 369
SOCCER: 310



Each year, the athletes, coaches, and volunteers of Special Olympics (in their own way) experience successes and triumphs. In 2015-2016, these individuals have demonstrated the true spirit of Special Olympics through their commitment to sportsmanship, leadership, and personal development.

NATASHA VOKEY – Female Athlete

Natasha made a commitment to the sport of curling; gaining experience in several positions, finally advancing to play skip (which had been her goal for some time).

In the sport of swimming, Natasha is highly motivated. She has a good understanding of the sport and strives to learn new skills; especially ones that prove challenging. She is always ready to learn and is motivated to improve. Over the course of 2 years, she advanced from the 25m to the 100m.

When Natasha came to curling with Special Olympics, she had already participated in a Junior Curling program in Edmonton; which gave her a great foundation and understanding. Since coming to Manitoba to curl, she consistently improved and consequently was advanced to the Skip position.

In the sport of swimming, it has been much the same. As Natasha committed to learning new techniques and as such competed in more advanced events; for example, in March 2012 she competed in the 25m & 50m backstroke...in March 2014 she moved up to the 100m free & 100m backstroke.

In addition to curling with her Special Olympics club, Natasha also belonged to a local club which helped her tremendously in her personal growth as an athlete. Self-discipline was evident by her choice to remove other personal activities (swimming) to focus on improving her curling skills and becoming a better Skip...she wanted to be as prepared as possible for the 2016 National Winter Games. She took on fitness training, and extra practices whenever there was ice time available. Natasha has developed her independence as shown by her choices to focus on curling; her fellow athletes, parents and coaches saw that in action. Natasha also volunteers in the community on her own, and works hard to get the job done.



DARREN BORYSKAVICH – Male Athlete

Darren has competed in almost every Regional and Provincial Games in Manitoba; including Sport Manitoba's Manitoba Games. Darren also has competed with success at National Games in the 1990's as well as the 2014 National Summer Games for 5 pin bowling in Vancouver where he won a gold in the team event and silver in the individual.

Despite some lingering health issues, Darren persevered and pushed himself to succeed at the 2016 National Winter Games. His inspirational dedication, true grit and determination resulted in placing in each of the events he was entered in. He is a dedicated athlete that works hard during training and takes pride in representing his town, province and country. Darren was also determined to reach a lifetime goal of representing Canada at a Special Olympics World Games; he is very excited and is already working hard in his preparations. He is training at a gym and at home, maintaining a coachable attitude and enthusiasm to compete.



SHARON SMITH – Female Coach

Sharon was instrumental in securing a bowling venue when the original location was shut down and in the making of a virtual bowling competition happen for her team, the Thompson Stars.

Sharon has had several of her athletes qualify for Team Manitoba in the past 10 years. Peter Sumas started bowling in 2008 and qualified for Team Manitoba in 2013 for the 2014 National Summer Games.

Sharon spent extra days practicing with Team Manitoba athletes. She travelled with them to events hosted outside of Thompson.

Sharon attended the athlete leadership training with our regions representatives. She also works at Juniper Centre, where a majority of athletes are employed. She has a good rapport with her athletes and is respected by them. She encourages her athletes to be the best that they can be. She allows all of her athletes to have the experience of travelling as a team.



DAVID KINDRAT – Male Coach



Dave has been a great coach, leader, and mentor for his athletes, assistant coaches, and program volunteers. He is currently a member of the Westman Regional Leadership Team, a position he first took on over four years ago. He takes the lead on fundraisers in the Region, such as “chuck a puck”, for the last two years. Dave doesn’t hesitate to help out in any area, anytime; he truly makes a difference within his club, his Region, and Manitoba as a responsible and passionate advocate/leader for the movement.

Dave is a head coach that includes and involves everyone in his program; he is personable, open, has a great sense of humour that instantly makes those around him comfortable. Dave knows and believes that together people can achieve more than when they’re on their own. Dave works hard and wants the best for his athletes; he inspires and leads by example, demonstrating to parents and assistant coaches that he wouldn’t ask of them anything he wasn’t prepared to do himself. He has a love for golf and is committed to being the best coach he can be....to Dave, that means supporting and encouraging others to do the same.

As a former athlete himself who has competed at local through National levels, Dave understands the emotions and anxieties that athletes may experience in competition and in their training; he fully supports the idea of living a balanced life and developing as a person, not only an athlete.

JENNIFER MILTON – Lifetime Achievement Award

Jennifer attended the National Summer Games in Halifax in 1994; she achieved several medals at this event. She was seconds away from a gold medal on her 100m backstroke. Twelve years later, she had her eyes set on that gold medal and achieved that in front of the home town crowd in Brandon.



Jennifer is a dedicated athlete. She could be found at the pool at least 3 extra times per week on her own time practicing her skills and building her endurance. She continues that work ethic to this day. Jennifer demonstrates self-discipline and independence by going to the pool on her own. She is motivated to do this without supervision and has a strong drive to continue to improve.

Jennifer is not only an athlete, she also acts as a volunteer for Special Olympics Manitoba fundraising activities. She sat at Walmart selling tickets, stood on the street accepting donations from community members, as well as selling many calendars. Jennifer is an active member of the Flin Flon community and that can be attributed in part of her participation in Special Olympics.

Jennifer is always the first one to cheer on her team mates as well as any other athlete that she has met at competitions. She is friendly and respectful toward the officials and always shows appreciate for any help that she receives. She is patient and kind to all who she meets. We were at the

2015 John Lauder swim meet in Winnipeg where she had just met swimmers from another club...she cheered them on as if she had known them for years.

When traveling to competitions, Jennifer is always mindful of everyone’s comfort. She would offer to share her snacks with all in the van. When she was asked to get ready to go somewhere, she would never complain and was always ready and prepared with all of the needed equipment. I have only seen respect for all officials from Jennifer...she is a kind and gentle soul.

SANDY SKIBO – Builder

Sandy has participated in all areas of Special Olympics in Manitoba. She has recruited volunteers who are able to function in administrative roles, coach roles, financial roles, volunteering recruitment & in training roles and advocacy/mentoring roles for athletes. She actually fills all these roles on an ongoing basis herself. She is the backbone of the Westman Region and the “go to” person for anything related to Special Olympics.

Since Sandy has become Regional Leader for Westman, there has been a substantial increase in registration of new athletes into our programs. Our visibility in the community has been heightened by actively participating in events such as the Children’s Country Fair where a group of athletes are on hand to interact with the general public; our rhythmic gymnastics program performs on stage. We also participate in the annual Traveller’s Day Parade with a float of athletes outlining our programs. Through this exposure, we have increased awareness of Special Olympics which has resulted in more athletes in our programs and increased volunteer and family participation.

When one of our programs was without a coach, Sandy stepped up and took that on as well. Our Region has also sent athletes to SONA competitions, both in golf and softball (the summer of 2016 the Westman softball team will compete in Virginia), under the guidance and encouragement of Sandy.

Aside from Sandy’s family, Special Olympics is her greatest passion. Whether it’s coaching softball, floor hockey or bowling; meeting with athletes to resolve differences; knocking on doors to ensure we have the funds to be effective; sitting at the Regional Council table representing the athletes and values of Westman, Sandy has committed herself fully to the movement. She lives and breathes Special Olympics which is evident in her relationships with the athletes, coaches and volunteers....we are lucky to have her.



Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2016, with comparative information for 2015

	2016	2015
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 878,269	\$ 477,862
Short-term investment	893,448	530,240
Accounts receivable	74,511	172,608
Prepaid expenses	18,493	18,308
	1,864,721	1,199,018
Investments	–	356,691
Capital assets	30,173	23,572
Deferred gifts	401,409	401,409
	\$ 2,296,303	\$ 1,980,690
Liabilities, Deferred Contributions and Net Assets		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 136,768	\$ 78,487
Deferred contributions:		
Related to capital assets	88	124
Expenses related to future periods	201,231	61,884
Deferred gifts	401,409	401,409
	602,728	463,417
Net assets:		
Invested in capital assets	30,085	23,448
Internally restricted	157,306	156,307
Unrestricted	1,369,416	1,259,031
	1,556,807	1,438,786
Commitments		
	\$ 2,296,303	\$ 1,980,690

Report from the Finance, Audit & Risk (Far) Committee

The committee met seven times over the fiscal year and held a meeting on September 7/16 to review the financial statements with our auditor for the year ended June 30, 2016. SOM's financial position continues to be healthy. Our \$2.3 million in revenues were sourced 80% from fundraising (up from 76% last year), with the balance (20%) from grants, donations and other sources. Eighty-two percent of our expenses were driven by the activities we provide for our athletes, and the balance supported general and administrative expenses. We ended the 2015-16 year with a surplus of about \$120,000 thanks to exceeding expectations on the Winnipeg Wine Festival and the Ultimate Polar Plunge.

At each meeting we discussed the current financial statements and actual expenditures versus the budget. As per normal process, we provided oversight for the annual budget process and reviewed the committee's terms of reference in 2015-16.

Other special topics covered during the year included:

- Winnipeg Foundation – The committee reviewed the current account with the Winnipeg Foundation (~\$50,000) and negotiated additional flexibility, together with management, to be able to access capital in the event of an emergency.
- Risk management and financial policies – The committee continued to document and evaluate the risks of the organization in a risk register, in line with the approach suggested at national planning meetings. Further work will be completed in 2017. In addition, the committee reviewed and updated the Bid Procurement Policy and will continue to review and update financial policies in the coming year.
- Investment review – The committee completed a review of the investment policy and approach for the organization and have recommended that the board make some modest adjustments to policy to enhance our investment return potential. Discussions were held with various professional external advisors as part of the decision making process. In 2017, the committee plans to seek formal policy approval and implement the changes.

Statement of Operations

Year ended June 30, 2016, with comparative information for 2015

	2016	2015
Revenue:		
Grants and donations:		
Sport Manitoba:		
Program	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000
Integrated Funding Framework	21,000	23,000
Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries - Bingo	36,300	33,600
Manitoba Games	2,729	-
Special Olympics International - Healthy Athletes	3,137	10,195
Special Olympics Canada:		
Youth Development Grant		49,394
Public Health Agency of Canada		8,293
Community Development		38,250
Sport Development Project		31,883
Volunteer Development		-
Healthy Athletes		5,000
Athlete Leadership Program		4,250
Travel grant		48,560
Other donations		89,471
		431,896
Fundraising activities	1,867,983	1,751,923
Amortization of deferred contributions related to capital assets	36	53
Other income:		
Investment income	9,684	11,298
National Games/Program of Excellence	25,400	74,220
Provincial Games	-	21,340
Program activities	-	1,734
Other	35,856	35,878
	70,940	144,470
	2,329,155	2,328,342
Expenses:		
Activities (schedule)	1,810,864	1,854,433
General and administration (schedule)	400,270	414,552
	2,211,134	2,268,985
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 118,021	\$ 59,357

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended June 30, 2015, with comparative information for 2014

				2016	2015
	Unrestricted	Internally restricted	Invested in capital assets	Total	Total
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 1,259,031	\$ 156,307	\$ 23,448	\$ 1,438,786	\$ 1,379,429
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	123,038	999	(6,016)	118,021	59,357
Transfer to fund capital asset additions	(12,653)	-	12,653	-	-
Net assets, end of year	\$ 1,369,416	\$ 157,306	\$ 30,085	\$ 1,556,807	\$ 1,438,786

*Let me win. But if I cannot win,
let me be brave in the attempt.*

– SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETE OATH