



## STATEMENT ON THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

**Jennifer Campbell, CEO**  
**April 27, 2020**

First, and most importantly, I hope you are safe and healthy, and adjusting to this unprecedented time of staying at home and physical distancing. Our Special Olympics movement is in it together!

A few weeks ago, Special Olympics Manitoba suspended all community activities, across the province until further notice. Based on new information from our provincial government, and decisions of community partners, **Special Olympics Manitoba is now officially cancelling all community weekly training and competitions, as well as fundraising events for the remainder of the year, through June 30<sup>th</sup>.** Summer programming is suspended as well until we know more.

We have been adapting, creating and expanding our virtual program offerings to combat social isolation and foster community engagement among our athletes and volunteers. I hope you are visiting our website for the latest on activities and tips for staying healthy at home.

The cancellation of our fundraising events this spring translates into a significant loss of revenue. It is critical for us to do everything possible to manage expenses and seek opportunities for funding in order to maintain current operations, provide unique programming during the crisis and be positioned to support our communities when we have the all clear to once again run our grassroots programs.

Although our provincial office remains closed, all staff are working remotely and are accessible by both email and cell phone. I can assure you that business continues, planning is underway for next year and for what comes next.

As long as activities must be suspended, our efforts are focused on keeping our athletes active and connected to one another; it is not just about sport, staying fit and healthy, but also about providing a social network.

For more information on how you can support Special Olympics Manitoba, visit our website [www.specialolympics.mb.ca](http://www.specialolympics.mb.ca) as well as our social media platforms. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me [jcampbell@specialolympics.mb.ca](mailto:jcampbell@specialolympics.mb.ca) or 204-781-6404. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Campbell".

**Special Olympics Manitoba**

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