



ALUMNI COMMUNIQUE

Issue 7 - May 2020

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR FRONT-LINE WORKERS DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

Commonwealth Sport Canada would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to all those who are working at the front lines in dealing with the Coronavirus pandemic. We are extremely grateful to the doctors, nurses, hospital workers, first responders, those working at essential retail stores and many others for all that they are doing. Included in that group will undoubtedly be some of our CSC alumni. Thank You!



Just like most other sectors, sport has been greatly affected by the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. A huge number of sport facilities, leagues and events have suspended operations at both the grass roots and elite levels. The effects are being felt not just by those working in the sport community but also by millions of Canadians across the country. While we may continue to feel the impact for some time, all of us here at Commonwealth Sport Canada are confident that sport will be back strong and helping with the rebuilding!

Please note: The CSC office will remain closed until further notice. Employees are working from home and can still be contacted by email and through the main CSC phone number.

Stay safe. Let's all make sure we're doing everything we can to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES CANADA HAS A NEW BRAND IDENTITY!

Introducing Commonwealth Sport Canada

The brand identity of the Commonwealth Games Federation has been transformed to ensure it better aligns with the strategic direction of the Movement. Commonwealth Sport Canada has updated its brand in line with this new brand ecosystem that forms our global movement.

Much more than a logo or corporate identity, the new brand comprises a new narrative, positioning and visuals to truly reflect the vision and ambition and diverse membership of our movement. It also performs much more impactfully in the physical and digital worlds, including at Games time, when Commonwealth Sport has the potential to deliver truly global reach.



Our formal identity

Our formal identity is made up of 'The Goose' and our logotype lockup. The symbol of the goose in flight captures the spirit of Canadians. The merging of the maple leaf and the goose with outstretched wings signify the bond between individual and country, team and nation. Our logotype is completed with the 'Celebration Device' set in the style of the wider Commonwealth Games Federation brand.



Our Team Canada program identity

The secondary, bilingual identity will be used in conjunction with CSC's Team Canada program - starting with the Commonwealth Youth Games in Trinidad & Tobago and the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.

Through conversations across the Commonwealth Sport Movement it became clear there was a desire to put the emphasis back on our vision, our values and our Commonwealth family. We are known for the Commonwealth Games, but now, more than ever, we seek to develop and champion the work that is done and the impact that is achieved, every day, right across the Commonwealth through sport.

UPDATE ON THE PROCESS TO SELECT CANADA'S CANDIDATE CITY FOR THE 2026 OR 2030 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Hamilton has been selected as Canada's preferred Candidate City!



For the past year and a half Commonwealth Sport Canada (CSC) has conducted an open, transparent, and fair process to select Canada's next Candidate City to host the Commonwealth

Games. In March 2020, CSC named Hamilton as Canada's Candidate City for the 2030 Commonwealth Games.

Despite submitting a strong and innovative Hosting Plan of their own, the Calgary 2026 Community Bid Group were not able to secure the support of their municipal & provincial governments.

Shortly after this selection, the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) offered Hamilton an unprecedented and exclusive offer to host a smaller, less expensive 2026 Commonwealth Games outright - with no international bid competition required. Hosting a smaller 2026 Commonwealth Games reduces the overall public investment compared to a 2030 Commonwealth Games, and it realizes games related sustainable benefits and legacies much sooner.

Currently 6 countries have expressed interest in hosting the 2030 Commonwealth Games. A less expensive, and guaranteed 2026 Commonwealth Games, is a better opportunity than a more expensive 2030 Commonwealth Games that Hamilton may or may not win the right to host.

On the surface, this possible pivot to a 2026 Commonwealth Games may seem to come across as a bit "tone deaf" in these unprecedented times. However, as sure as summer follows winter, recovery follows calamity. Wars, depressions, pandemics are followed by historic recovery and renewal, nations coming back stronger than ever. In the wake of the Great Depression, the city of Hamilton rose to the occasion and hosted a unifying and successful 1930 Commonwealth Games. Hamilton has an opportunity to do so again. Sport unifies a country in a way nothing else can and recent polls attest sport will have a significant role to play in Canada's recovery from COVID-19. What better way to support Canada's recovery and renewal than a 5-year, nation building project with Canadians coming together to create jobs, build "shovel ready" community infrastructure, stage an inspiring games and showcase Canada's resilience to the world.

The Hamilton Bid Group and Commonwealth Sport Canada are not asking the Government of Canada for money at this point in time but are requesting the Government's support-in-principle to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games. This support-in-principle is contingent upon the signing of a Multi-party Agreement by all order of governments.

Stay tuned for further updates!

BIRMINGHAM 2022 COMMONWEALTH GAMES UPDATE



A Commonwealth Archery and Shooting Championships is set to take place in India in 2022 after a proposal to stage the event was approved by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) Executive Board.

The event will be held in Chandigarh, the capital of the northern Indian states of Punjab and Haryana, and is scheduled to be staged in January 2022.

The decision confirmed that Chandigarh 2022 and Birmingham 2022 will be two separately organised and funded Commonwealth Sport events.

One week following the Closing Ceremony of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, the CGF shall issue a medal table that includes results from the Chandigarh 2022 Commonwealth Archery and Shooting Championships, as a further and final legitimate ranking of competing nations and territories from the respective competitions.

The proposal from Commonwealth Games India (CGI), which was supported by the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), the Government of India, the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) and World Archery, was also considered and discussed with Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Partners prior to the CGF Executive Board decision.

There are currently no plans to change the dates for the 2022 Commonwealth Games because of the COVID-19 crisis.

Source: Commonwealth Games Federation

Sport WORKS



Sport for Newcomers Project - Learning to Skate

JANUARY 2020 - Another month has passed and things are picking up here in Edmonton! We are just about reaching the halfway point of the pilot project. We are happy with what has been accomplished so far, and are looking forward to all that is planned in the near future.

An exciting event that took place this month was a session with the settlement staff here at Action for Healthy Communities (A4HC). I was able to present to the staff an introduction to sport in Canada, and specifically in Edmonton. We discussed the barriers that newcomer youth face, and also a lot of the resources that exist to help remove those barriers. We talked about how we can work together to educate and inform newcomer families about the sport system in Edmonton and how to access it. We held this session as a way of building capacity at A4HC so that their staff could become more educated in sport and so that they could have access to resources that

will help newcomers access sport now and in the future. As we continue to work together with the staff here, we hope to help them become advocates for sport and the positive impact it can make in the lives of their clients.

Things are continuing to go well for the A4HC Newcomer Youth soccer team as they compete in their indoor season. The boys have had a lot of success, including an impressive 12-1 win in one of their recent games. The feedback from these boys is always positive and they tell us how they just want more opportunities to play. As the registration deadline quickly approaches for the outdoor season, we have been working towards getting each player registered so that they can have another season to play. A goal of the pilot is to assist with building relationships between the Newcomer Service Organization (A4HC) and sport community organizations, with funding now from KidSport and Jumpstart charities we are able to register the team without the significant financial burden falling on the players and their families. We look forward to the last few games of the indoor season, and hope for a successful playoff run!



One of the highlights this month was helping some of the newcomer youth attend the Learn to Skate program! This is a free drop-in program being run by the City of Edmonton where kids in the community can come to their local outdoor ice rink to receive skating instruction and learn how to have fun on the ice.

The weather in Edmonton was a little unpredictable in January, so the first two weeks of the program were cancelled due to the severe cold weather (-25 and colder!). Thankfully, it eventually warmed up and we were able to help around 40 newcomer youth participate in the program at 3 different locations. It was a great experience for the participants to come out to their community rink and receive instruction from trained coaches. For many of these youth, it was their first time putting on a pair of skates and their first experience on ice. The youth were brave and eager to keep trying, even after having a few falls. A lot of fun and learning took place! Through the partnership we've created between our host organization Action for Healthy Communities (A4HC) and Sport Central, we were able to outfit around 45 youth with hockey skates and helmets so that they could participate in the program! The youth were so happy to have the opportunity to try a new sport, especially one that is authentically Canadian!

Once the youth participate in the program for a couple of weeks, our hope is that they'll be able to go skate with their friends and families at their community rinks whenever they want. Learn to Skate is a program that runs annually and we hope that the youth will be able to participate for years to come. Sport Central allows clients to trade in their equipment for bigger sizes as the kids grow, so we hope that even next year they will have access to a pair of well-fitting skates. One of our main objectives of this pilot project is to create connections and programs that are sustainable once the pilot completes. Our partnerships with Sport Central and the City of Edmonton are helping to ensure that these opportunities will also be available next year. The connection between A4HC and Sport Central is valuable because it opens up the opportunity for A4HC to refer youth to Sport Central in the future so that they can have access to free sporting equipment.

That's all for now!

Kirstina Turner

ALUMNI PROFILE



Chantal Petitclerc

Para-Athletics

Manchester 2002 Commonwealth Games - Gold Medallist

Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games - Flag Bearer and Gold Medallist

Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games - Team Canada Chef de Mission

Chantal Petitclerc is a record-breaking Canadian wheelchair racer who has inspired people across the globe with her passion, dedication and extraordinary athletic performances.

She has been part of some of the most memorable moments in Commonwealth Games history, including carrying the flag at opening ceremonies and winning medals for Canada in a fully-integrated Games.

In 2002, she was the first athlete with a disability to register a result for her country's team when she won a gold medal in the 800-metres at the Games in Manchester, England. That was the first year the Commonwealth Games started including fully-integrated events for elite athletes with a disability, meaning any medals won by athletes with a disability counted toward their team's final medal total.

"It meant so much to me that the Commonwealth Games (Federation) decided that a performance is a performance – and it doesn't matter if you accomplish it in a wheelchair," says Petitclerc. "That was one of the best medals of my life."

Born on December 15, 1969 in Saint-Marc-des-Carières, Quebec, Petitclerc lost the use of her legs following an accident when she was 13-years-old. It was her high school phys-ed teacher, Gaston Jacques, who convinced her to take up swimming to develop her strength and stamina. When she was 18, Pierre Pomerleau, a trainer at Université Laval in Quebec City, introduced her to wheelchair athletics.

Petitclerc has since become the only Canadian competitor who has won medals at the Olympics, Paralympics and the Commonwealth Games.

She says her experiences at the Commonwealth Games played a significant role in her development as a high-performance athlete.

“The Commonwealth Games are more important than they receive credit for,” says Petitclerc. “They are a very important step in building strong athletes – the Games really are an amazing test. The Commonwealth Games are always a great sport experience, but beyond that, they are a great human experience. It has its own special vibe and soul. Everyone will tell you that when they get there, there is this very special vibe of being part of a larger family.”

At the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, Australia, Petitclerc was chosen to lead Team Canada and carry the Canadian flag in to the opening ceremonies – the first athlete with a disability to do so.

“When they announced that it would be me carrying the flag, I really wondered how the other athletes would react,” says Petitclerc, adding that, at the time, it was still very new for Paralympic sports to be fully integrated into the Games. “But so many athletes congratulated me and were so excited for me. It meant a lot,” Petitclerc says. “I thought it was a very strong decision from Canada. They weren’t really putting a Paralympic athlete there to carry the flag; they were putting a gold medalist and a gold contender. It was a very emotional moment for me. I had been fighting for years saying, ‘I’m not just a person in a wheelchair, I am an athlete,’ and this was proof that the message had finally gone through.”

Petitclerc has long been a strong advocate for universal access to sport.

“Everyone who gets in to sport is not going to make it to a podium,” says Petitclerc. “But no matter what, they will learn values of discipline, hard work, friendship, and they will keep those values in their life long after training.

Petitclerc was the Chef de Mission for Canada's Commonwealth Games team at the Glasgow 2014 Games.

On March 18, 2016, Chantal was named to the Senate of Canada on the advice of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

BY THE NUMBERS

- 5 Paralympic Games (Barcelona, Atlanta, Sydney, Athens, Beijing)
- 2 Commonwealth Games gold medals (2002 and 2006)
- 21 Paralympic Games medals (including 14 gold medals)
- 5 World records (100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and 1500m)
- 5 Paralympic records (100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and 1500m)
- 1 Olympic gold medal in the 800m (demonstration event) in the 2004 Athens Olympics
-

SCOTT STEVENSON RETURNS TO COMMONWEALTH SPORT CANADA



Photo: Dan Galbait

Commonwealth Sport Canada (CSC) is proud to announce the return of a respected senior sport management professional to its staff team. Scott Stevenson, CSC's Director of Sport for CSC from 2007 to 2014, will be returning to the organization to lead Team Canada's preparations for the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, England. His main responsibilities will be to work with the Canadian sport community in leading Team Canada's participation in the 2022 Games, to liaise with the Birmingham Organizing Committee as well as work with games partners such as the Government of Canada and Canadian and international sport organizations.

As Director of Sport in his former role at CSC, Stevenson was responsible for developing comprehensive plans for Team Canada's participation at Commonwealth and Commonwealth Youth Games. During his tenure at CSC, he not only developed strong relationships with games partners, he launched groundbreaking initiatives. For example, Stevenson was the first in Canadian sport to develop a multi-layered, consolidated planning document for Commonwealth Games missions.

"We are absolutely thrilled to see Scott return to the CSC," said Brian MacPherson, CEO of CSC. "He was a key leader of Team Canada's participation at the Delhi 2010 and Glasgow 2014 Games, and he set the bar high for detailed and thorough preparation. As a respected professional within the Canadian sports community, he is the right person to lead our preparations for Birmingham 2022 and I very much look forward to working with him again."

Stevenson has held several senior leadership positions in Canadian sport – such as Director of Strategic Alliances for Diving Plongeon Canada, where he leads a number of programs within the high performance and National Team areas. He has previously been the organization's Executive Director for a five-year period in the late 1990's and early 2000's and before that, their Athlete/Coach Development Manager. He also served as the CEO of Synchro Canada and has held many volunteer roles within the Canadian sport community.

"My previous Commonwealth Games' experiences were incredibly positive," said Stevenson. "I am very excited to be back with CSC and working on the Birmingham project. I will do everything I can to ensure that we provide a great multisport games opportunity for our Canadian athletes, coaches and other team members."

The 2022 Commonwealth Games will take place in Birmingham, England, July 27th – August 7th, 2022, and will involve 72 nations competing in 21 sports.

REMEMBERING CLAUDE BENNETT



Photos: Dan Galbraith

Commonwealth Sport Canada was sad to learn of the passing of Claude Bennett on March 20, 2020, aged 83.

Claude served as President of CSC from 2003 to 2006. Before that he served as President of the Commonwealth Games Foundation of Canada from 1998 to 2003, while also holding the positions of Chair of the Ottawa Transition Board and Chair of the Ottawa Airport Authority. From 1990 to 1995, he was chairman of the board of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

Claude was elected six times as a municipal councilor for the City of Ottawa. He was elected five times as the Member of the Provincial Parliament for Ottawa South and held senior cabinet portfolios for 14 years, 1971 to 1985 including Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, Industry and Tourism, and Culture and Recreation. He was also Chairman of the Cabinet. Before commencing his political career he enjoyed successful careers in insurance and in sport as President of the Ottawa Sooners Junior Football Club and Part owner of the OHA Junior Hockey Team, London Knights.

Claude served on numerous associations and boards including: Secretary of the Ottawa Boys & Girls Club, President of the Ottawa Sports Hall of Fame, Life Director of the Central Canada Exhibition Association, Life Trustee of Ashbury College (Ottawa), Past President of the Canadian Safety Council, and Member of the Board of Directors Boy Scouts Foundation of Canada.

REMEMBERING RAYMOND CLARK



Commonwealth Sport Canada (CSC) was saddened to hear of Raymond Clark's passing at his home in St. Mary's, Ontario last month. Raymond was a good friend of many at CSC through his work as a facilitator of SportWORKS Officer trainer sessions. "Raymond was impactful in the lives of our SportWORKS Officers," said Ryan Pelley, Program Manager of SportWORKS. "This

was because of his genuine interest in developing all of us not just as professionals, but also as individuals.” Raymond was a long-time supporter and mentor of the SportWORKS program, leading the way through his creative facilitation skills.

Raymond was a dedicated teacher, working 20 years with C.U.S.O. International from 1969 to 1989, where he worked as Field Staff and Regional Director in Caribbean, East and West Africa and the South Pacific as well as CUSO Headquarters in Ottawa. He spent time in Toronto working with homeless who suffered from mental illness, and in the early 90s was a consultant with the International Centre for Ocean Development in Halifax NS and was a facilitator with People Development. He retired in 1998, but continued consulting with the United Nations Development Program, carrying out intercultural training.

Colin Whitmee, former SportWORKS Program Manager worked closely with Raymond during his years at CSC (then Commonwealth Games Canada). “Raymond often said that his ambition in life was to change the world,” he said, “and his means of doing that was by influencing young people and empowering them to make a difference. Raymond had a profound impact on my life, and I know that is the case for countless others who worked in CGC’s international programs over the years. Raymond had an ability to read and connect with people like no one I’ve ever met. I first met Raymond as a participant in one of his workshops, which later evolved into co-facilitator, mentor and above all else a friend. His wisdom, caring and sense of humour will be greatly missed.”

Commonwealth Sport Canada expresses its condolences to Raymond’s family, friends and colleagues.

GREAT MOMENTS IN COMMONWEALTH SPORT

GRAHAM SMITH SETS A COMMONWEALTH GAMES RECORD BY WINNING SIX GOLD MEDALS AT THE 1978 GAMES IN EDMONTON



1978 Commonwealth Games, Edmonton Swimming

In August of 1978, Graham Smith made Commonwealth Games history by winning a total of 6 gold medals at the XI Commonwealth Games in his hometown of Edmonton, Alberta. The six gold medals set a Games record that has never been surpassed.

His medals came in the men's 100m Breaststroke, 200m Breaststroke, 200m Individual Medley, 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay, 4 x 100m Medley Relay, and 400m Individual Medley. In the course of winning those six events, Graham set five Commonwealth Games and three commonwealth records.

There was a very strong family connection for Graham at the 1978 Games. The swimming pool used in the competition was named after his father, Dr. Donald F. Smith. In addition, one of his gold medals was presented to him by his older brother, George, who was also a swimmer and Commonwealth Games medal winner. At the 1970 Games in Edinburgh, George Smith won two gold medals and two silver medals.

Graham's sister Becky also competed in swimming at the 1978 Commonwealth Games, winning a silver and bronze medal.

In recognition of his accomplishments that year, Graham Smith was awarded the Lou Marsh Trophy as Canada's outstanding athlete in 1978. He also received the Lionel Conacher Award as the Canadian Press Athlete of the Year and was given the Order of Canada. In 1986, he was inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame and the Canadian Aquatic Hall of Fame.

Although the record of 6 Gold Medals at a commonwealth Games has never been broken, it has since been equaled. One of the athletes who also accomplished that feat was fellow Canadian, Alexandra Orlando, who won 6 Gold medals in Rhythmic Gymnastics at the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games.

Graham Smith is currently a member of the Commonwealth Sport Canada Board of Directors.

HAVE YOU JOINED COMMONWEALTH SPORT CANADA'S ALUMNI PROGRAM YET?



To date, approximately 3,000 Canadian athletes have competed in the Commonwealth Games. Thousands more have attended the Games as officials or given their time as volunteers. Over 200 CSC SportWORKS Officers have taken part in sport development initiatives in Canada and throughout the Commonwealth. CSC is proud to have been a part of so many lives and we would cherish the opportunity to continue our relationship through the CSC Alumni Program!

Why should you become a CSC Alumni Program member?

Being a CSC Alumni Program member allows you to:

- Stay in touch with other CSC alumni.
- Receive regular CSC Alumni Newsletters containing news & information about the Commonwealth sport movement in Canada and abroad.
- Become a mentor and contribute to the success of current and future CSC alumni.
- Receive invitations to CSC Alumni events happening in your area.
- Receive exclusive access and offers on CSC/Team Canada clothing, Commonwealth sport events tickets and packages, etc.
- Have a chance to win an all-inclusive, VIP trip for two to the next Commonwealth Games!
- Receive exclusive CSC Alumni discounts!

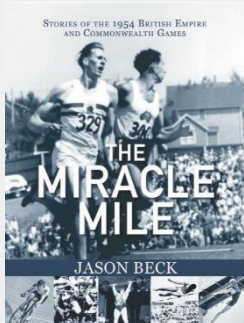
As a Commonwealth Games Canada Alumni Program member, you are entitled to the following discounts:



20% DISCOUNT AT ALL RUNNING ROOM STORES

REMINDER: If you are a CSC Alumni Program member and have not yet received your Running Room discount card, please confirm your mailing address so we can send it to you. Email your details

to [Chris Taylor](#)



10% DISCOUNT ON PURCHASE OF "THE MIRACLE MILE: Stories of the 1954 British Empire and Commonwealth Games"

By: Jason Beck

CSC Alumni price **\$26.95** plus tax & shipping
(Regular price \$29.95)

To order a copy of this book, please call Jennifer at the BC Sports Hall of Fame: 604-687-5520 or email sportsinfo@bcsportshalloffame.com

CSC is working to identify further benefits for Alumni Program members. Stay tuned!

if you are a CSC Alumnus from Ontario, British Columbia or any other Canadian province or territories and are interested in starting an Alumni Program Chapter in your province, please contact [Kelly Laframboise](mailto:kelly.laframboise@commonwealthsport.ca) or phone 613-244-6868 x 2.
CSC has financial support for Alumni activities!

GET IN TOUCH. PASS IT ON!

We would love to hear your story. Don't be shy, drop us a note
at: alumni@commonwealthsport.ca if you would like your profile published!

Please feel free to pass this newsletter on to any other Commonwealth Sport Canada Alumni who may not have already received it – and please encourage them to get in touch with CSC to become an Alumni Program Member!

To become a CSC Alumni Program Member simply email
to: alumni@commonwealthsport.ca with the subject line "Count Me In". Visit our website for complete details on the [Alumni Program](#).



Sport with *Social Purpose* | *Sport à* vocation sociale

Canada



KUKRI