



CALC AGM Report 2023

This report was written by Ellen MacNearney who is now the athlete representative of CALC, but she is away on a family trip, so I, Heidi Mallette, am presenting it for her. Here are some highlights that she would like to share with you. Over the past year in our in-person meeting in Toronto we discussed new ways to promote the Tim Hortons Special Olympics donut in Canada and all over the world. We are hoping to use these promotions in years to come.

We are very excited to announce that a new award has been created. This will be for an athlete who is involved in their community and in their sports, but their highest level of achievement is Provincials. This has been created to recognize hard working athletes at the grassroots level who may not otherwise be eligible for a national award consideration. This award will first be presented this year at the Special Olympics Canada National Awards broadcast! It will be called the Sport Excellence Award!

At our last in person meeting, we discussed new ways to include Indigenous people in Special Olympics. We also welcomed three new athletes to the committee along with their mentors and a mentor for our chair Susan! Lastly, we welcomed the new Special Olympics Canada CEO to the national board. We all enjoyed meeting her.

Heidi Mallett and mentor Genna Phelan attended the Global Athlete Congress in Berlin Germany June 12-20, 2023. There was

63 Athlete and 63 Mentor from 7 regions around world. Heidi also presented the opening remarks for the Global Athlete Congress. Heidi was part of the panel for the Global forum for inclusion. During the Global Athlete Congress all 63 Athlete Leaders took part in presenting their project. It was Heidi's honor to be able to attend the Global Athlete Congress as well the opening Ceremony Special Olympics World summer games.

There are 3 athlete and mentor graduates from the Athlete Leadership Academy in 2022-23. They will be recognized at the Special Olympics PEI Awards night on November 9th, 2023. The academy offered a number of electives and courses but saw low interest in some offerings throughout the year. It will be a focus to recruit athletes to the Leadership Academy in 2023-24. Speaker Workshop and Health Messenger courses will start being offered new session in November 2023 and applications to the academy will continue to be reviewed quarterly.

SOPEI had an ongoing focus on athlete engagement in 2022-23. Some of these opportunities included speaking engagements at SOPEI or LETR events, presentations to post-secondary institutions, involvement on advisory committees, showcased in national campaigns, co-facilitation of ALA electives, or Special Olympics promotion on TV/radio.

Ellen and I would like to say congratulations to all the athlete award winners and to all of the athlete academy graduates.

Thank you.

Heidi Mallett on behalf of Ellen MacNearney