



2022-2023

ANNUAL REPORT



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I reflect on the 2022-23 season, I am struck by the positive energy and hard work that drove our sport to new heights. From historical accomplishments by our skaters on the ice, to clubs experiencing reinvigorated membership levels, to the significant progress made to advance our work in the area of safe sport, I am inspired by the forward movement of our speed skating community over this past year.

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of our PTSOs, clubs, athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, partners and staff, I am confident that this trajectory will continue as we look ahead to the goals of our recently adopted 2023-2027 Strategic Plan and beyond. Each of you will help us achieve these objectives in the years to come, and I look forward to strengthening our collaboration and capitalizing on our collective strengths to move speed skating faster forward.

Blair R. Carbert, K.C.
President, Speed Skating Canada

ABOUT US

Speed Skating Canada is the national governing body responsible for the organization, coordination and administration of both short track and long track speed skating in Canada. Founded in 1887, we proudly represent over 13,000 athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers from coast to coast. Our non-profit organization is accountable to our 13 provincial and territorial speed skating organizations (PTSOs) and our national team program. We're here to rally, inspire and lead the charge for our country's most successful Olympic sport.

STRATEGIC PLAN

SPEED SKATING CANADA RECENTLY UNVEILED ITS 2023-2027 STRATEGIC PLAN, AN AMBITIOUS ROADMAP THAT CHARTS EXCITING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR ORGANIZATION AND IDENTIFIES THE OBJECTIVES WE WILL WORK TOWARDS OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

Guided by the voices of dedicated and passionate athletes, coaches, officials, staff, and volunteers from across the country, this plan will positively impact all participants within our sport and ensure that speed skating continues to grow and thrive nationwide.

After in-depth stakeholder consultations, we made some important updates in this Strategic Plan to our organization's Vision, Mission and Values – the core commitments that outline how we imagine our future, what we do to get there, and how we act along the way.

As part of this Strategic Plan, our community helped us identify over a dozen objectives that we will work towards over the next four years, all while detailing how success within each of our four new Priority Areas will be measured.



VISION

WE INSPIRE EXCELLENCE ON AND OFF THE ICE.

MISSION

WE BUILD A FUN, SAFE AND INCLUSIVE SPEED SKATING COMMUNITY ACROSS CANADA THAT EMPOWERS EVERYONE TO GROW STRONG AND HEALTHY.

VALUES

INTEGRITY

We are committed to doing the right thing. We accept our responsibility to be transparent. We are accountable for our actions and acknowledge where we can do better.

EXCELLENCE

We invest in and celebrate our success. We are relentless in the pursuit of our goals. We seek opportunities for continuous improvement and growth.

INCLUSION

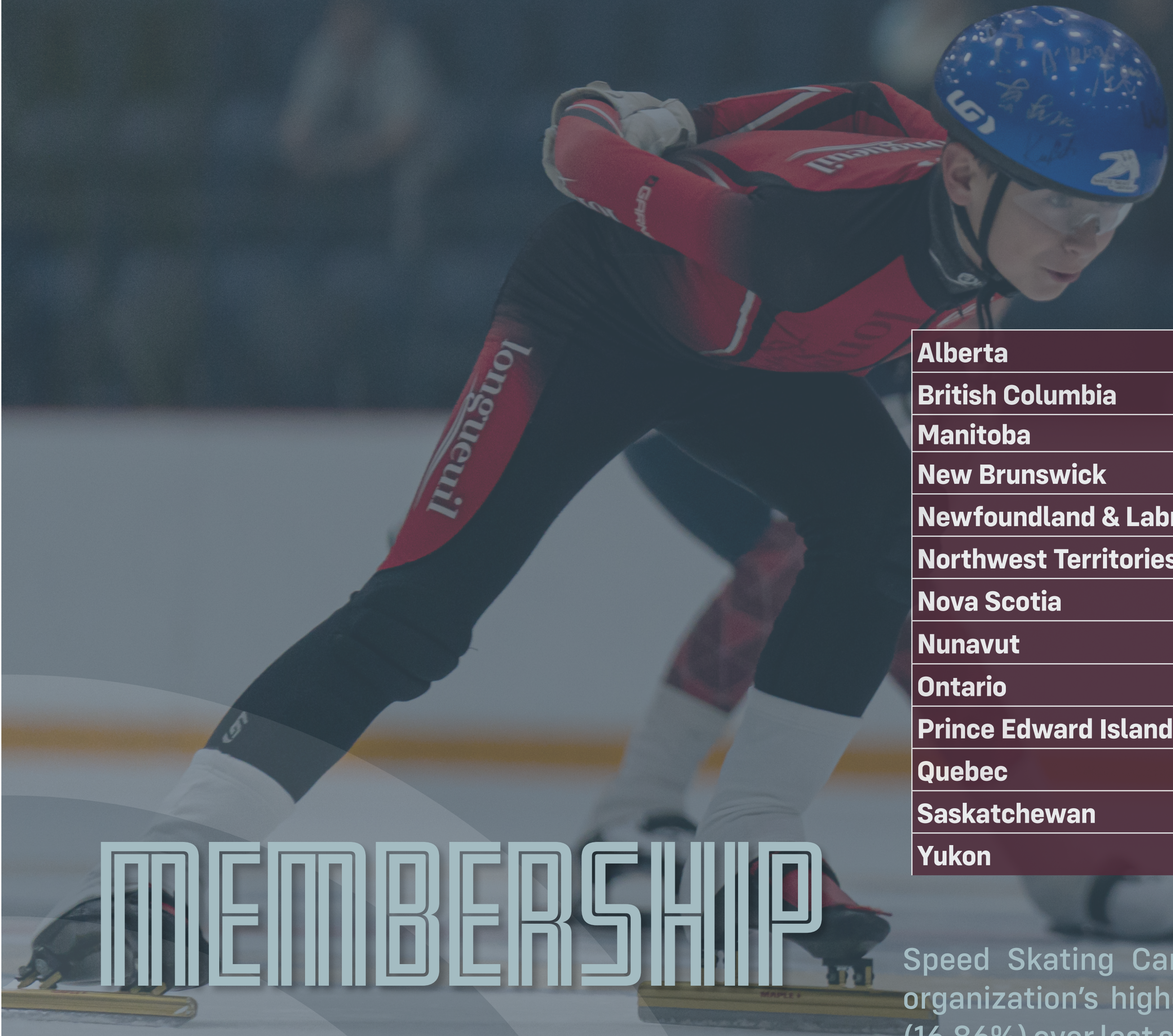
We welcome everyone into the speed skating community. We respect and embrace differences. We create positive environments for all.

EMPOWERMENT

We encourage, energize and enable others. We collaborate with people who share our passion. We strive to go further as a team.

LEADERSHIP

We set a clear and bold direction. We act with purpose. We make tough decisions and stand up for what we believe in.



	Skaters	Coaches	Officials	Volunteers	Total
Alberta	965	42	71	282	1,360
British Columbia	1,063	57	87	434	1,641
Manitoba	446	10	6	78	540
New Brunswick	406	2	1	18	427
Newfoundland & Labrador	4	1	0	5	10
Northwest Territories	142	9	2	4	157
Nova Scotia	527	1	3	35	566
Nunavut	54	4	0	1	59
Ontario	1,406	64	34	266	1,770
Prince Edward Island	85	0	0	3	88
Quebec	5,623	161	36	310	6,130
Saskatchewan	259	21	6	112	398
Yukon	30	1	2	10	43
	11,010	373	248	1,558	13,189

MEMBERSHIP

Speed Skating Canada's national membership during the 2022-23 season was the organization's highest total since the 2017-18 season. Membership increased by 1,903 (16.86%) over last season, a jump that can be attributed to a post-Olympic spike in interest in our sport following Beijing 2022, as well as a continued return to normalcy following the COVID-19 pandemic.

SPORT DEVELOPMENT

ATHLETES

Four athletes were successfully selected following the RBC Training Ground National Final 2022 to be part of the 2023 program. Speed Skating Canada currently has 8 athletes enrolled in the program.

COACHES

Over 200 speed skating coaches from across the country participated in training clinics and earned a new National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) level.

- 138 Trained FUNdamental Leaders
- 40 Certified FUNdamental Coaches
- 12 Certified Competition Introduction
- 13 Certified Competition Development

OFFICIALS

20 officials were upgraded ahead of the 2022-23 season, with two officials being accepted to the ISU's International List. Over 70 National Officials received assignments to national competitions during the season, across the 130+ positions available.

Canada hosted four international competitions during the 2022-23 season, which resulted in greater mentorship and development opportunities for Canadian officials to experience this highest level of competition.

SAFE SPORT



SAFE SPORT SPEAK UP LINE

As part of our continued commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive sport environment, Speed Skating Canada launched its Safe Sport Speak Up Line, a new independent reporting mechanism that supports the intake and management of complaints from all participants within the Canadian speed skating community.

ABUSE-FREE SPORT PROGRAM

Speed Skating Canada became a program signatory of the national Abuse-Free Sport Program through the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (OSIC), Canada's independent system to prevent and address maltreatment in sport. Designated OSIC participants have now been fully onboarded and are subject to the UCCMS and OSIC policies and processes.

UPDATED POLICIES

To support the launch of these new Safe Sport reporting mechanisms, Speed Skating Canada released updated versions of its Code of Conduct, Complaints & Discipline Policy and Safe Sport Policy Manual. We have also officially adopted the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS) as a standalone policy.



SHORT TRACK

WORLD CUPS

Canada finished the 2022-23 World Cup campaign with a total of 37 medals (15 gold, 15 silver, 7 bronze). It was the team's highest total since the 2015-16 season, when they earned 44 medals.

Courtney Sarault (2nd), Steven Dubois (3rd) and Pascal Dion (4th) each finished the season ranked in the top-5 overall. The men's and women's relay teams also captured the overall World Cup titles, winning a combined 10 medals, including four gold.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Florence Brunelle captured three medals at the 2023 ISU World Junior Short Track Championships in Dresden, becoming only the second Canadian to reach the podium in all three individual distances at a single event. Ann-Sophie Bachand also brought home 500m silver for the second consecutive year.

Canada earned 10 medals at the 2023 ISU Four Continents Short Track Championships in Salt Lake City. Courtney Sarault, Steven Dubois, Pascal Dion, Claudia Gagnon, Rikki Doak and William Dandjinou all reached the individual distance podium, while the mixed and women's relays also medalled.

Canada won six medals at the 2023 ISU World Short Track Championships in Seoul. Steven Dubois (2), Courtney Sarault, Pascal Dion and Kim Boutin all earned individual distance medals, while the women's relay team of Boutin, Sarault, Rikki Doak, Claudia Gagnon and Renee Steenge finished their season on the podium as well.



LONG TRACK

WORLD CUPS

The Canadian team had one of its most successful World Cup seasons of the past decade, bringing home an impressive 30 medals (8 gold, 14 silver, 8 bronze) across six events.

Laurent Dubreuil (500m), Ivanie Blondin (Mass Start) and the women's Team Pursuit were crowned World Cup champions, while Dubreuil (1000m), Isabelle Weidemann (3000m/5000m) and Connor Howe (1500m) finished second overall in their distances.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Daniel Hall won Canada's lone medal at the 2023 ISU World Junior Speed Skating Championships in Inzell, bringing home silver in the men's Mass Start.

Canada captured 14 medals on home ice at the 2023 ISU Four Continents Speed Skating Championships in Quebec City. Laurent Dubreuil, Antoine Gélinas-Beaulieu, Valérie Maltais, Béatrice Lamarche, Jordan Belchos, Alison Desmarais and Jake Weidemann all won individual distance medals, while both Team Pursuit and Team Sprint squads also reached the podium.

Canada won seven medals at the 2023 ISU World Speed Skating Championships in Heerenveen, including gold in the women's Team Pursuit, women's Team Sprint and men's Team Sprint; silver in the women's Mass Start (Ivanie Blondin), men's 500m (Laurent Dubreuil) and men's Team Pursuit; and bronze in the men's 10,000m (Ted-Jan Bloemen).

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

DOMESTIC EVENTS

A total of 17 domestic competitions were hosted during the 2022-23 season, including 9 in short track and 8 in long track.

Experienced host communities such as Montreal, Calgary, Sherbrooke and Quebec City were joined by newcomers Saskatoon, Oakville and Laval.

In October 2022, the Centre de glaces Intact Assurance hosted the first-ever joint Canadian Speed Skating Championships, a historic event combining the senior national championships in both short track and long track.

CANADA WINTER GAMES

In February 2023, over 200 speed skating athletes, coaches and officials took part in the 2023 Canada Winter Games in Prince Edward Island. The short track competition was hosted in North Rustico, while long track races took place off-island in Halifax.

PTSO MEDAL COUNT

- Quebec: 10 gold, 8 silver, 9 bronze
- Alberta: 6 gold, 5 silver, 6 bronze
- Saskatchewan: 1 gold, 3 silver, 4 bronze
- Ontario: 2 gold, 4 silver, 1 bronze
- Manitoba: 3 gold, 2 silver
- New Brunswick: 2 bronze

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

SHORT TRACK

Coming off a successfully hosted ISU World Short Track Championships in April 2022, the Maurice-Richard Arena in Montreal welcomed back the world's best skaters for the first stage of the ISU World Cup Short Track circuit, which took place from October 28-30, 2022. Canadian skaters won an impressive 6 medals on home ice, including 2 gold, 3 silver and 1 bronze.

LONG TRACK

The world's top long track skaters made their debut at Quebec City's new Centre de glaces Intact Assurance during the ISU Four Continents Speed Skating Championships, which took place from December 2-4, 2022. It marked the city's first international speed skating competition in 30 years. Canadian skaters stole the show at this historic event, winning 7 gold, 1 silver and 6 bronze.

The Olympic Oval in Calgary would then host back-to-back ISU World Cup Speed Skating stops, from December 9-11, 2022 and December 16-18, 2022. Canada won a combined 12 medals across both events, including 2 gold, 5 silver and 5 bronze.

EVENT HOSTING

Thanks to active efforts from Speed Skating Canada, the ISU recently adopted a long-term event hosting plan. Canada is on track to host 14 international competitions through the 2026-27 season, including the ISU World Short Track Championships to be held in Montreal following the 2026 Olympic Games.

MEDALS ON TOUR

SPEED SKATING CANADA AND INTACT INSURANCE PARTNERED ON THIS ALL-NEW CROSS-COUNTRY TOUR THAT SAW CANADA'S TOP SHORT TRACK AND LONG TRACK SPEED SKATERS VISIT SIX COMMUNITIES NATIONWIDE TO SHOWCASE THE SPORT.

The inaugural Medals on Tour featured stops in six different provinces – Trois-Rivières, QC; Kamloops, BC; Saskatoon, SK; Winnipeg, MB; Toronto, ON and Dartmouth, NS – and offered members of the speed skating community and general public a unique opportunity to interact with Canadian national team athletes. On-ice and off-ice activities included public skating sessions, school visits, and events with local charities and community groups.

This initiative was possible thanks to the generous financial support of long-standing partner Intact Insurance and the collaboration of Olympians Antoine Gélinas-Beaulieu, Florence Brunelle, Tyson Langelaar, Gilmore Junio, Brooklyn McDougall, Marsha Hudey, Heather McLean, Danaé Blais, Ivania Blondin, Jordan Pierre-Gilles, Valérie Maltais and Jordan Belchos.



SOCIAL MEDIA

	Followers	Posts	Reach	Engagement
TikTok	14,784	69	118,416	6,734
Instagram	13,753	347	1,557,230	79,017
Facebook	9,330	310	949,251	198,673
Twitter	5,094	302	347,829	4,905
YouTube	2,624	53	1,195,166	174,301
LinkedIn	1,107	29	26,385	1,070
	46,692	1,110	4,194,277	464,700

Speed Skating Canada's social media follower count increased by a combined 11% across all channels, with YouTube (65%) and LinkedIn (21%) leading the charge. More than 1,100 pieces of content were posted, reaching over 4.1 million people and generating close to 465,000 interactions.

ENGAGEMENT

WEBSITE

Speed Skating Canada's new and improved website – which was launched ahead of Beijing 2022 last winter - welcomed 147,000 unique users and generated 679,000 page views in its first full season of operation.

MERCHANDISE

Canadian speed skating fans purchased 685 pieces of branded clothing online and on-site at domestic and international competitions during the 2022-23 season, marking a 70% increase over last season's sales numbers.

VIEWERSHIP

The four International Skating Union events hosted in Canada during the 2022-23 season were watched by over 800,000 people on CBC and Radio-Canada television and streaming platforms.

Speed Skating Canada's domestic competitions were all live streamed on YouTube, resulting in 142,000 views, 37,000 hours of watch time, and reaching over 800,000 people.



OUR TEAM

STAFF

With the support and direction of a collaborative Leadership Team – comprised of Terry Lockhart, Nicole Espenant, Mark Wild and Marc Schryburt – a total of 15 staff members (*as of March 31, 2023*) worked to drive the sport forward at a national level. Fourteen coaches and technical staff delivered the training and support that helped our national program athletes achieve success.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eight Board members, under the guidance of President Blair Carbert, provided the organization with strong governance and critical support during a transition in staff leadership.

PARTNERS

Generous financial contributions, in-kind support and leadership from our sponsors and partners played a critical role in ensuring our success.



DESCENTE



FINANCIALS

	REVENUE \$6,866,641	EXPENSES \$6,875,609	
Excellence and NextGen Funding	40.0%	49.7%	High Performance Programs
Sport Canada (Sport Support Program)	22.6%		
International Hosting	21.6%	17.5%	Domestic Programs and Sport Development
Sponsorship	4.3%	15.5%	Administration, Governance and Operations
Other	3.9%		
Sport Canada (COVID-19 Recovery Funding)	2.9%	13.5%	International Hosting
Membership and Affiliation	2.5%		
ISU Grants	2.2%	3.8%	Marketing and Sponsorship

Excellence Funding includes funds from Sport Canada, the Canadian Olympic Committee, and the Canadian Olympic Foundation, as recommended by Own the Podium.