



CANOE KAYAK  
**ONTARIO**  
SPRINT

**Canoe Kayak Ontario Sprint  
Annual General Meeting  
Tuesday, November 1, 2022**

**Information Package**

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CANOE KAYAK  
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**Canoe Kayak Ontario Sprint  
Annual General Meeting  
Tuesday, November 1, 2022  
7:30 – 9:30 pm  
Via Teleconference**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of 2021 AGM Minutes
4. Chair's Report
5. Treasurer's Report – Auditor Approval
6. Western Ontario Division Flag Officer Report
7. Eastern Ontario Division Flag Officer Report
8. Northern Ontario Representative Report
9. Technical Director's Report
10. 2023 Directors
11. Other Business



Canoe Kayak Ontario Sprint  
**Minutes of Annual General Meeting**  
Tuesday, November 2, 2021  
Videoconference

**Board of Directors present:** Gilles Cinq-Mars (WOD) - Chair; Paul Vincent (WOD) - Treasurer; Michelle Bishop (EOD)– Secretary; Ed Hong – (EOD); Kerri-Ann Redwood (EOD); Charles Slade (EOD); Ted Roworth (WOD); Rick Mroz (Northern); Rachelle Burkholder (WOD)  
Ryan Blair – Technical Director

**Regrets:** none

**AGM Attendees:**

Aiden Stead	Helen Parfitt*
Alison Darmon*	Ian Ramsay*
Andrew Liew*	Jennifer Tyrell
Andrew Mollard	Joanne Bryant
Anne Collins*	Joel Hazzan
Angie Lafontaine*	Leigh Salter
Bernie Vierich*	Michele Ng
Bevin Schmidt*	Mihail Oghina
Hayley Plante	Tracy Pigeon*
Heather McIntosh	Ydris Hunter

\*Members with club voting rights. Proxy form received from Cobourg.

Quorum being declared, the meeting was called to order by the Chair, Gilles Cinq-Mars at 7:33pm

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Gilles Cinq-Mars, seconded by Paul Vincent. Carried

Approval of Minutes of 2020 AGM: Moved by Paul Vincent, seconded by Ed Hong. Carried

**Reports**

**Chair Report**

Gilles Cinq-Mars referred to his written report in the AGM package. Gilles referred to the great progress made in the division on safety and easing the return to competition in 2021.



Gilles noted that health and well-being of athletes, coaches and volunteers will continue to be our guide. The resiliency of Ontario athletes in the past year has been strong and our support of them will be our continued focus. While limited, divisional, provincial and national competitions were held under challenging circumstances in altered formats.

Gilles also noted the good work done under the Diversity and Inclusion Committee in the past year.

### **Treasurer Report**

Paul Vincent presented financials for March 31, 2021. He noted that the division had a surplus of \$39,000, a result largely due to federal covid funding programs. Paul presented the RLB Engagement Report and reviewed revenue and expenses and the current year budget which forecasts a small deficit.

**Motion:** The Treasurer moved that we accept the Engagement Review report of RLB LLC as the financial statements for OCSRA (CKO Sprint) for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021; seconded by Rick Mroz. Carried.

**Motion:** The Treasurer moved that we appoint RLB LLC of Guelph, On. to conduct our annual Engagement Review for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2021, seconded by Ed Hong. Carried.

### **Division reports**

#### **Western Ontario Division**

Paul Vincent, WOD Flag Officer presented his report which was included in the AGM package. Paul noted how good it was to be back to training and racing in our sport in 2021. Paul recognized WOD athletes for their international results. He noted the rejoining of Sunnyside Paddling Club as an Associate Member this year. Paul noted that next year would be a busy one as WOD was hosting both Ontario Summer Games and Canada Summer Games and would host Nationals again in 2024.

#### **Eastern Ontario Division**

Ed Hong, EOD flag, referred everyone to the EOD Flag Officer's report that was included in the AGM package. He thanked Rideau for stepping up in 2021 to host Nationals and other divisional regattas in difficult times. He noted the strategic planning activities the division was undertaking and expressed appreciation for the CKO Sprint support for that process. Ed informed the AGM that he would be stepping down as EOD Flag and that Sherry Goodyear would be the new Flag and Don Laverette the new Vice Flag.



### **Northern Representative**

Rick Mroz, the Northern Representative on CKO Sprint, referenced the positive work done by the CKO Sprint sub-committee on COVID funding and the encouraging improvements in communications with and between the clubs.

### **Technical Director Report**

Ryan Blair, CKO Sprint Technical Director presented his 2021 annual review that has been included in the AGM package.

Ryan spoke to CKO Sprint's new mission vision and stakeholder review. He expressed disappointment that funding had been withdrawn for athletes by the Province of Ontario but noted that CKO Sprint had been able to step in with partial direct to athlete assistance. Ryan mentioned the strong grassroots activities in 2021 and noted that plans for winter camps were being finalized and that this year we would have a cap on the number of athletes.

### **2021/2022 Directors**

The 2019/2020 board of directors will continue to serve with two exceptions due to changes in divisional flag officers. Ed Hong who is stepping down as EOD Flag and will be replaced in that capacity by Sherry Goodyear, the newly appointed EOD Flag Officer. Paul Vincent will be stepping down as WOD Flag but will continue on the CKO Sprint Board in the capacity of Treasurer. Ted Roworth will be stepping down from the CKO Sprint Board and the new WOD Flag will be added to the Board once appointed.

### **Other Business**

It was noted that the CKO Sprint nominees to the CKO Board for the coming year would be Ted Roworth and Paul Vincent representing WOD and Aiden Stead and Joanne Arthurs representing EOD. Gilles thanked Bo Fejes and Marry Ellen Bench for their service on the CKO Board.

Gilles moved at 9 pm that the AGM be adjourned.  
Charles seconded. Carried.



## **Chair's Report**

What a year! After suffering through the last two years of cancelled training opportunities and competitions, this has been a year to celebrate. With a full slate of training camps and competitions, this past year has allowed our athletes, coaches and officials to shine and show that they have managed to persevere through the most difficult of circumstances. I say, Well Done!

The summer of 2022 was a busy one, with Ontario athletes competing at all of our regular competitions, as well as the Ontario Summer Games and the Canada Summer Games which were both held in Welland. Ontario athletes experienced great success at all levels of competition this summer.

The Rideau Canoe Club was again the National Champion, with another two Ontario clubs ranking in the top ten. Ontario had just under 60 athletes represent Canada at the 2022 Sprint World Championships, Junior & U23 World Championships and Olympic Hopes Regatta, including fifteen athletes competing in the PaddleAll exhibition events. An additional nine athletes from Ontario competed at the University World Championships and Marathon World Championships.

We have continued to improve our processes and our efforts to create a safe environment for our athletes while we try to address many issues that affect their development and well being, including mental health, equity, diversity, and inclusion. These issues will continue to be at the forefront of our thoughts and strategies as we plan for next year. CKO Sprint has also made efforts to support club and coach development by providing administrative and equipment support to clubs and the Divisions.

As we make our preparations for 2023, much still remains up in the air, and much of it is beyond our community's control. COVID 19 seems to be something that we assume is behind us, but it is an ever-changing landscape so we will change and adapt as needed. Administratively, we are planning our training and competitive calendar, and we will adjust it as necessary throughout the winter and into the spring. It will be a busy year, helping our athletes continue to move ahead with this year's successes. Again, our primary concern is going to be the health and wellbeing of our athletes, to maintain their motivation and love of the sport. I am so very proud to be part of this great community, everyone has done an amazing job this year, and I would like to thank you for your ongoing commitment and support of Sprint Paddling in Ontario.

## **Training and Competition**



## CANOE KAYAK ONTARIO SPRINT

As was the case 2021 we continued to see large numbers of Canadians getting vaccinated and receiving booster shots for the different strains of COVID 19. While it continues to be a concern, there has been a measurable reduction of new COVID cases and the severity of those cases seems to be trending down. I am grateful for all of the efforts by our technical director and coaches for all of the work that they put into ensuring that our athletes were able to train and compete this year at pre-COVID levels.

### **CKO Website and Communications**

The CKO Website has various resources listed on it including Rowan's Law and Safe Sport and remains the primary resource for all things paddling. We look forward to redesigning the website to improve both content and accessibility.

The efforts that have been made to improve our Social Media content and penetration have had great success with the following improvements year over year since July of 2021:

- 50% increase in facebook page likes
- 35% increase in instagram page followers
- 45% increase in facebook page visits
- 136% increase in instagram page visits
- 171% increase in facebook page reach
- 747% increase in instagram page reach

This is an important aspect of our communications strategy that we will continue to put more effort into as it is increasing our visibility everywhere.

### **Funding**

The programs and competitions run by CKO Sprint are heavily reliant on the financial support of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) either directly or in partnership with the Canadian Sport Institute – Ontario (CSIO); other government grants; membership fees and entry fees.

### **Special Olympics**

The summer of 2022 saw fantastic results from our Special Olympic athletes at the Division Championships as well as Ontario and National Champs. We are looking forward to continued development from this group of amazing athletes.

### **Camps**

Although there is still some uncertainty with respect to the COVID pandemic, we continue to make plans for Ontario Team training camps for the fall and winter, which will be published as they are ready.



## HPC

At this time, the HPC is planning on meeting to develop their submission of the different Ontario High Performance teams. As soon as they have the National Team submissions, the HPC will be able to complete their recommendations for Ontario's teams. They have done a great job and I look forward to the announcements for our new Teams in the near future.

## 2023 Schedule:

The 2023 Competitive Schedule is in the draft stages and will ultimately be dependant on the COVID 19 situation and what restrictions are being placed on us from the various levels of government. Changes can be expected as the situation evolves.

## Thank you

I would like to thank our Technical Director, Ryan Blair, the members of the CKO Sprint Board and the High Performance Committee for all of the work they have done throughout this amazing comeback year.

I would also like to congratulate Joanne Bryant who was awarded CKC's R. Edgar Gilbert Award in the Builder and Officials Category based on her significant contributions to our sport at the provincial, divisional, and club level.

Congratulations as well to Leigh Salter who was successful in receiving her International Canoe Federation Technical Official accreditation at the World Championships. Leigh is now able to officiate at all level of competition, from grass roots to the Olympics.

## 2022 CKO Sprint Board:

Chair	Gilles Cinq-Mars (WOD)
Secretary	Michelle Bishop (EOD)
Treasurer	Paul Vincent (WOD)
Flag Officer	Rob Stott (Acting Flag Officer)(WOD)
Northern Representative	Rick Mroz (WOD)
Director	Charles Slade (EOD)
Director/EOD Flag Officer	Sherry Goodyear (EOD)
Director	Kerri-Ann Redwood (EOD)
Director	Rachelle Chesire (WOD)

## High Performance Committee:

Chair	Dana Morgoch
WOD Representative	Bill Trayling





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EOD Representative

Coaches Representative

Athlete's Representative

CKC Liaison

CKO Sprint Technical Director

CKO Sprint Chair

Nancy Olmstead

Pat Lester

Hayley Plante

Marc Creamer

Ryan Blair

Gilles Cinq-Mars (ex-officio)

Respectfully submitted,

Gilles Cinq-Mars

Chair, CKO Sprint



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## **Treasurer's Report**

The *Engagement Review* for F2022 has been completed, and accepted by the Board of Directors, and is presented today for review and ratification by our member clubs.

Financial results:

### **P&L**

We ended the year with a modest surplus of \$1.5k.

This was due entirely to the federal emergency loan program, which provided at \$10k windfall within the fiscal year. Absent this windfall, we would have incurred a deficit of \$8.5k.

Revenues were returned to a more normal level of \$521k, but this still reflected 'one-time' provincial grants of \$118k to support various initiatives, including the Florida Camp, which incurred a deficit of \$18.9k

On the cost side, our G&A was up by \$33k. This largely traces to the Canoe Kayak Ontario funding (\$18.9k), legal fees (\$3.7k) asset write-down's of \$4.7k. Other cost areas increased primarily due to the return to activity.

### **Cash Flow**

Our cash position increased by \$98k, tracing to the CEBA loan (\$40k), and deferred revenue (Florida and Welland camps - \$82k); absent these items – our cash position would have been down \$24k, mostly related to prepaid camp expenses, and shifts in payables & receivables.

### **Balance Sheet**

Our Unrestricted Net Assets (Equity) was flat vs. 2021, and sits at \$245.7k.



### **Outlook for F2023**

Our mid-year budget update is pointing to a deficit of \$8.8k.

On major unplanned activity was the inclusion of 15 Special Olympics athletes in the Senior World Championships. We were recipients of a \$13k grant from Special O - Ontario, but incurred expenses of \$21k, for a (very worthwhile) net loss of \$8k.

There may be some additional margin upside as well, with the Florida camp being expanded with addition of an 8 week program, in addition to the 2,3 & 4 week programs.

In addition – we made a significant investment in modernizing our racing fleet, with the purchase of 4 new shells (2 x K2, 2 x C2).

### **Motion #1:**

That we accept the Engagement Review report of RLB LLC as the final financial statements for OCSRA (dba CKO Sprint) for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2022.

### **Motion #2:**

That we appoint RLB LLC to conduct the Engagement Review for the F2023 financial year.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Vincent

Treasurer



## Western Ontario Division Flag Officer's Report

Interesting and different perspective for me on the sport from this position. Certainly have gained greater appreciation for the amount of volunteer work that goes on behind the scenes especially with respect to organizing competitions.

With that said, I'd like to acknowledge the key players on our team that made the division run in 2022:

Paul Vincent, Past Flag  
Leigh Roworth, Director of Officials  
Alison Darmon, Registrar  
Elsa Mihotic, Secretary  
Al Potts, Treasurer  
Tristan Forgie, summer intern

### Highlights:

Collingwood hosted their first regatta and filled a need by running a long distance spring race: 4 km in singles, tandems. Their group was super enthusiastic; they had music playing – it was a rock n roll regatta!

Congratulations to our WODs on a fine showing at Nationals:

MCC – 5th, BURL – 7th, BBCC – 11th, RHCC – 16th, PRCC – 23rd, SNCC – 24th and Collingwood earning their first ever points!

The following divisional athletes made the following teams:

#### CAN GAMES:

Sarah Nagy (RHCC -Flag bearer for closing ceremonies), Katy Stewart (RHCC), Brooklyn Wodehouse (RHCC), Zach Kralik (MCC), Nick Shirkov (MCC) Lucas Stein (BBCC), Cam Low (BBCC), Eva Looper (Burl), Jason Burkholder (Burl),  
Coaching: Chris Mehak (BBCC)

#### Jr/U23 Worlds:

Zach Kralik (Silver medalist – MCC), Carson Corey (Burl), Auston Pigeon (SNCC), Eva Looper (Burl), Sarah Nagy (RHCC), Cam Low (BBCC)

#### Olympic Hopes:

Adam Jonson (BBCC), Chloe Bryer (Burl), Jack Chambers (MCC), Nick Shirokov (MCC), Carson Corey (Burl)

#### Senior Worlds:

Courtney Stott (BBCC), Cam Low (BBCC), Nick Matveev (BBCC), Erica Scarff (MCC), Katie Vincent (MCC), Simon Mcintosh (MCC), Annie Leonard (Burl), Rachel Cohen (PRCC), Abigail Latour



(PRCC), Nathan Gillen (PRCC), Quinn Martin (PRCC), Gohulan Rajalingam (BBCC), Jeffrey Campbell (BBCC), Stefan Samoila (BBCC), Miquel Garcia Sanchez (BBCC)

### **Progressive moves and steps forward:**

- Identifying and meeting with volunteer coordinators to enlist volunteers for our key Welland races
- Raising the race fee to \$40 for our Divisional 'All Ages' regatta mid-July. This ensured that we did not lose money
- Working with CKO in a job share with summer intern Tristan Forgie – he was a great asset
- Working with coaches to bring back youth races to DDRA
- Adding a long distance race for U14 and U16 at Divisional regatta
- Having 6 km at WOD trials raced on the Friday afternoon
- While a CKO initiative we had strong participation in the spring development camp along with the LD youth races and the HP sprint distances. This was key for HP and will be better next year as it will be held in early May which means the course will be in!
- Solid work by the nominating committee to find 1st & 2nd Flags and other names to pursue for other key roles such as Flag, Safety & Nationals Chair
- Town Hall style meeting; great idea. Solid participation despite short notice- should be an annual event.
- Solid work from our paddler rep. Interesting survey results. Need to ensure more respondents next year.

### **Nationals 2024:**

As mentioned at our last meeting we need to do a brief presentation of our proposal which Kenna is re-working by adding some small details. Below is an excerpt from a recent email from Kenna at CKC:

I am including the updated Technical package that we have been working on. As I mentioned this has another review to be done before we are happy with it as a final version. Draft Agreement for you to take a look at.

### **Action items:**

- Kenna to get back to you on the presentation suggested updates for the Nov 19th meeting.
- We will need either the Chair of the HOC or someone to represent WOD to present the proposal presentation to the membership at the meeting on the 19th. I don't see the presentation lasting more than 5-10 minutes max.
- We will send you the updated Technical package when we have it.
- We can start meeting regularly with your HOC Chair/committee when they are ready.



**2024 CHAIR:**

Most importantly we may have a Chair for Welland 2024. They are hoping to have a Flag Officer in place so there is someone to report to. We hope to announce something shortly; hopefully prior to the critical November 19 date where we will present to the membership.

## Eastern Ontario Division Flag Officer's Report

### Flag Officer's Report – Sherry Goodyear-Stein.

I started the year working with Ryan Blair and WOD to develop guidelines for the Ministry Schedule G funding. It was a lot of work and a swift turnaround, but it allowed us to give out \$266,344.18 between all Ontario Clubs. I received positive feedback from Clubs about what they did with the money. I hope to hear more at the AGM and how the funds helped each club.

We planned the year with no significant pandemic restrictions, but inside, I was holding my breath. It was not until I saw the first war canoe race on the start line that I believed it would be a great summer. But it was a super busy season, with seven EOD events, four Ontario regattas, five CKC plus Ontario Summer Games, Canada Summer Games, and many international events. On top of all that, there were spring camps and winter training season.

There were a few issues with volunteers at the beginning of the summer; people were uncomfortable being around each other. However, as the summer progressed, more were willing to come out and help. I know EOD will spend the next few years getting our volunteer list back up to pre-COVID numbers, but we are working on it.

I want to thank Gary Quartermain for being the EOD Treasurer for the past four years. Half the year, being treasurer is a tranquil job, but in summer, it becomes a frantic position. We still, as a board, need to find an Athletes Representative. I request that everyone reach out to your athletes and try to fill this position this year.

#### **2022 Executive Committee:**

Flag Office – Sherry Goodyear-Stein

Vice Flag Office – Aiden Stead

Secretary – Joanne Diggles

Treasurer – Gary Quartermain



Registrar – Elizabeth Elton  
Past Flag Office – Heather MacIntosh  
Division Officials Coordinator – Andre Berube  
Divisional Coach – Aiden Stead  
Athletes Rep – TBA  
CKO Sprint Reps  
Charles Slade  
Kerri Anne Redwood  
Michelle Bishop  
Sherry Goodyear-Stein  
High-Performance Rep – Nancy Olmsted  
CKO Reps  
Joanne Arthurs  
Aiden Stead

To the executive committee and all club representatives, thank you for all your help and effort in making the 2022 summer a great season. As the summer went on, we were doing more regattas. The number of times I heard, “It is great to be back.” Yes, it was great to be back and to see everyone again. As the flag officer, I get the credit, but I know I cannot happen without all of you. Thanks for making me look good and for all your help. I’m looking forward to 2023 and another great year.

Best Regards,

Sherry Goodyear-Stein  
Eastern Ontario  
Flag Officer



## **Northern Representative's Report**

This year was relatively frustrating for the position. Last winter I sent emails to the northern clubs to see if we could discuss common problems like lack of coaching resources but did not have any response. I did send communications about the upcoming covid 19 emergency fund and how important it was to maintain memberships with CKC. In the spring I did assist the committee in determining fair distribution of the emergency relief funds. Last spring I discovered that the Thunder Bay Club was working on getting restarted again. I attempted to contact them several times to see if they required any assistance but did not have any response. At my own club, Muskoka Paddle Club we have lost more directors due to illness and personal family issues. This added a lot of extra work onto me. I was certainly feeling burnt out by the end of the summer. I have decided to leave the CKO Sprint Board of Directors so I can concentrate on recruiting more directors for MPC and hopefully developing a proper sprint racing club rather than the recreational club that is now in place but certainly allowed us to survive through Covid, etc. Last winter I retook the Officials course as I had really enjoyed officiating back from 2001 to 2006 but there wasn't time this year to get involved. Hopefully within the next few years I can start being an official again and perhaps rejoin the CKO board if they need me.

Respectfully submitted, Rick Mroz, Northern Rep CKO-Sprint & Commodore Muskoka Paddle Club.

## **Technical Director's Report**

Thank You! Thank you to the clubs for providing their leadership to help their members reach their goals. Thank you to the coaches and technical leaders for sharing their knowledge, experience, and passion with their paddlers. Thank you to the Officials for providing quality, safe, and fair competitions. Thank you to the event volunteers who dedicate countless hours in support of our sport. Thank you to the CKO Sprint team, including the Board of Directors, Committees, and staff that develop and implement Ontario programming and services. Thank you to our partners who support our community, and thank you to the athletes whose motivation, commitment, and persistence inspire us daily.

2022 featured many memorable moments, including hosting our Florida Training Camp after a two year hiatus, hosting a new Development Training Camp in Welland, participating at the Mississauga 2022 Ontario Summer Games, Canada's top U22 athletes competing at Niagara 2022 Canada Summer Games where RHCC's Sarah Nagy was the Closing Ceremonies flag bearer for Team Ontario, and the world coming to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia for the Canoe'22 ICF Sprint World Championships.

Whether you were on the water participating, supporting from the shoreline, cheering from the stands or at home from your computer, you all play an important role in our team and community.

Finally, I would like to recognize the contributions of four (4) key individuals. As a long-time leader in our sport, Joanne Bryant was awarded CKC's R. Edgar Gilbert Award in the Builder and Officials Category based on her significant contributions to our sport at the provincial, divisional, and club level. Congratulations to RCC's Reid Farquharson and Aiden Stead who are moving on from their coaching roles. Both Aiden and Reid have made a significant impact on the lives of the athletes, coaches, and volunteers who have been fortunate enough to work with them. Also, congratulations to RCC's Olivia Pucci for being the first female to cox a Junior women's C-15 to the championship title.

### **Athlete Development**

Congratulations to Rideau Canoe Club for being the reigning National Champions since 2018. Six additional clubs were ranked in the Top 20 at the National Championships, including Mississauga Canoe Club (5<sup>th</sup>), Burloak Canoe Club (7<sup>th</sup>), Balmy Beach Canoe Club (11<sup>th</sup>), Richmond Hill Canoe Club (16<sup>th</sup>), Carleton Place Canoe Club (17<sup>th</sup>), and Ottawa River Canoe Club (18<sup>th</sup>).

Fifty-seven (57) athletes from Ontario represented Canada at the 2022 Sprint World Championships, Junior & U23 World Championships and Olympic Hopes Regatta, including fifteen (15) athletes competing in the PaddleAll exhibition events. An additional nine (9)



athletes from Ontario competed at the University World Championships and Marathon World Championships.

Congratulations to our World Championships medal winners.

Senior World Championships	Brianna Hennessy – ORCC Toshka Besharah-Hrebacka - RCC Katie Vincent – MCC Darryl Clark - CPCC Gohulan Rajalingam – BBCC Rachel Cohen - PRCC Samuel Galazka - RCC Nathan Gillen - PRCC
Junior (U18) & U23 World Championships	Peter Bradley – RCC Zach Kralik – MCC Mila Souilliere – RCC Zoe Wojtyk - RCC
University World Championships	Evie McDonald – RCC Amelia Wojtyk - RCC

We continue to develop our training and competition opportunities for Ontario athletes throughout the year while expanding upon the support provided to athletes to assist them in reaching their performance goals. A highlight this year was our Ontario Team Crew Boat Training Camp which was organized and led by National Team athletes.

In partnership with the Canadian Sport Institute Ontario (CSIO), we have established an Athlete & Performance Services Coordinator position. The pilot contract position will enhance our current athlete services and develop new initiatives to better support our athletes as they progress along the athlete pathway.

**Organizational Excellence**

Currently, we are undergoing a programs, services and events review via our online [survey](#), ending November 15, 2022. The review is critical for us to better understand how best to support the paddling community, and how to align that support with our strategic goals.

Our efforts in creating positive spaces in sport focused around promoting allyship and providing resources that impact and address issues of mental health, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Our Leading the Way Spotlight campaign highlights leaders within our community who share their stories in sport. The campaign’s goal is to amplify the voices of minorities in the paddling community and inspire our next generation of paddlers.

We continue to maintain and develop partnerships with organizations that support our strategic objectives, including the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS), the Canadian Sport Institute of Ontario (CSIO), Coaches Association of Ontario (CAO), the Canadian Woman &



Sport, You Can Play Project, Ontario Parasport Collective (OPC), Special Olympics Ontario (SOO), as well as our partners in sport, Canoe Kayak Canada (CKC), Canoe Kayak Ontario (CKO), Eastern Ontario Division (EOD), and Western Ontario Division (WOD).

### **Grassroots & Growth Development**

To assist clubs in their programming, we provided our Club & Coach Development Program (CCDP) to nine (9) Ontario clubs who received equipment support, as well as eight (8) coaches who participated in our seasonal Development Coach Mentoring Program.

New this year, CKO Sprint partnered with both Divisions to create two (2) Sport Manager positions to provide event management support for Ontario and Divisional events. We will expand the positions next year to include additional support in areas of grassroots and growth development.

In alignment with our strategy to provide training opportunities to athletes in the development stage, we created our U14 Academy Team and Special Olympics Team. Team members participated in Ontario Team training camps and monthly virtual learning/training sessions throughout the non-competitive season.

With the development of our communication strategy, our communication team has done a fantastic job of keeping us informed about what is happening in the paddling community through our social media platforms and newsletters. Look for a website redesign soon with improved accessibility and content.

In addition, over the next couple of months we will be launching our CKO Sprint Summit Series. This year's theme will be Reflect, Reconnect & Reimagine.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Target Audience</b>
NOV 24, 2022	Reflect	Programming & Competition Review	Coaches & Technical Leaders
JAN 26, 2023	Reconnect	Round table sharing of Best Practices & Networking	Club Administrators
APR 27, 2023	Reimagine	Person-Athlete-Performance Pillars	Paddling Community

### **Technical Leadership**

CKO Sprint continues to be a national leader in coach development. Our innovative coach education framework, coach mentoring programs (Apprentice Coach Program & Development Coach Mentoring Program), and professional development via our CKO Sprint Webinar Series, provides our coaches and technical leaders the opportunity to increase their knowledge through a continuous learning approach.



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Our coach and technical leader resource development has been growing and will have an increased presence on our updated website. The section will include a video library, tools, and suggestions for ongoing learning in the areas of technical development, training, competition support, and sports science.

We would like to congratulate WOD's Leigh Salter on obtaining her International Technical Official (ITO) certification.

Moving forward, we need to create a systematic approach to the recruitment and retention of coaches, technical leaders, officials, and volunteers to ensure excellence at each stage of development.

Ryan Blair  
Technical Director, Canoe Kayak Ontario (CKO) Sprint  
#1Community1Team