

A Better Way: Own The Podium – Alberta

The legacy of 1988 and 2010 have provided unprecedented public support for sport and recreation. An overwhelming majority of Albertans see the investment in provincial sport programming as both possible and desirable.

This is our opportunity to establish "a new way", a better way, to invest in our athletes, our communities and our future.

Active Living must be a priority for all Albertans and Alberta's sport community stands ready and willing to work with our partners. The provincial sport community has the capacity to lead if provided with the financial resources, framework, accountability and leadership.

Critical to achieving any goal, is to establish a clear vision. This was the genius of Own The Podium 2010. We can learn from this success story and build post-2010 to ensure we can and will support our athletes, coaches, parents, volunteers and administrators who form a critical backbone of the enormous amateur sport community of our province.

Vision

To establish Alberta as the leader in sport through directing the human, technical and financial resources necessary to maximize opportunity for athletes through programming, events, venues and human resources.

Guiding Principles

- The commitment to maximizing the potential for Alberta athletes to win medals;
- Performance centered decision making in all things relating to athletes, coaches, officials and programming;
- The PSO's are the leaders in developing their respective sports in Alberta and are accountable for their respective sport results;
- There must be cooperation and open dealings amongst the PSO's, Canadian and Regional Sport Centres and Olympic sport funding partners in order to collectively advance sport in Alberta;
- In collaboration with the Olympic funding partners, the PSO's will mutually establish and monitor an agreed upon set of benchmarks and measures of future success and they will be held accountable for these measures;
- The funding partners will commit to funding the PSO's to support these measures of success;
- PSO's will establish summer and winter sport caucuses which shall be recognized by the Olympic funding partners;
- Annual preparation seminars for athletes and PSO professionals, organized through Summer and Winter Sport Caucuses;
- Hiring of a professional to further develop the "Own the Podium - Alberta" Plan;
- Commitment by the PSO's to meet once annually to collaborate and share information;
- Establish provincial athlete carding program.

Objective:

“Alberta will provide the best environment for sport in Canada”

Next steps:

1. Solicit input prior to April 20, 2010
2. Working Group meeting in Red Deer April 30, 2010
3. Meeting with the Minister and Premier with a leadership group from Alberta Sport, to agree to principles;
4. confirm a meeting of key partners including:
 - Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks & Wildlife Foundation
 - Canadian Sport Centre Calgary
 - Alberta Sport Development Centres
 - WinSport Canada
 - Select leaders from the summer and winter PSO caucuses

Discussion Paper