

## November Office Report – Athletics Manitoba

Donna Harris, Executive Director

- The Officials Committee has had two meetings and things have gone very well. We have drafted a Terms of Reference, created a pathway for officials training and a schedule for officiating courses, identified an officials' coordinator (Kathy Kelly and Scott Murray will share this job). Communication to all officials and members was drafted and sent out last week alerting officials about the changes in structure as well as upcoming meets. Information on how to request officials for meets was drafted and has been shared with all meet directors. A social evening for officials is being planned for Monday, November 23, 2015. We will have a conference call in November to discuss a specific recruitment strategy. Jane Edstrom will continue as the officials' liaison to the board.
- 2016 is a Manitoba Games year. Alanna has been doing a lot of work with the host society and the Sport Manitoba Games Unit around preparations for this event. Coach training was held in September and the coaches made some final revisions to the events for the games. As was decided last year there will be a mix of individual events and relays (field and track relays). The change in format has resulted in a significant increase in the need for medals (an increase of 200 to 600). For 2016 only Athletics Manitoba will cover the cost of half of the medals and by 2020 the budget for Manitoba Games will be adjusted so we will not have to do that. The upcoming summer will be quite busy with outreach programming and qualifier meets related to Manitoba Games.
- On the Canada Games front there were technical meetings in September for the sports with Canada Games and the 2017 Host Society. A press conference was held to celebrate phase 1 completion of the track. We are in good shape. An RFP for photo timing is being finalized and will go to market in the next week. Early in the New Year an RFP will be created for field of play equipment. Phase 2 of construction is scheduled to begin in early August so the track at the stadium will be unavailable for August and September 2016.
- The Canada Games coaching staff met at the end of October to develop the plan for athlete preparation leading into 2017. The plan will be presented to Sport Manitoba at the end of November and funding will be provided in this fiscal year. The first element to be provided is a speaker series for athletes. The coaching staff is also looking at planning a warm weather training camp in the spring.
- We have been working on Track Attack planning for 2016. There have been some minor changes to the schedule and we will have three staff on site for all meets to assist with smoother implementation. A teacher training night will be held in January to train teachers to run specific events at track attack and provide additional training to students/teachers in the area of photo timing and hitek.
- Due to missed bingos in September we were suspended for two bingos in October. We have switched to using Sign-Up Genius with the clubs to aid with reminders. Chris is also following up directly with clubs that are scheduled to work bingos and he will attend each bingo sign in to make sure clubs show up and to work the bingo in cases where a volunteer does not show up. We have also asked clubs to send 3 volunteers each (only 2 are required to work) so there is an additional back-up system in place. The extra volunteer is sent home if everyone shows up. We have lost \$14,000 in revenue in the few years due to missed bingos.
- There has been discussion and feedback around the Athletics Manitoba Performance Pathway Funding because so many athletes achieved a standard this year. We will be collecting feedback from the athletes via an online survey and holding a face to face meeting to collect

feedback from athletes and coaches. After consulting with experienced coaches, AM staff and AM treasurer we have decided to keep the funding program the same for 2016 because we don't have enough data to make an informed decision at this time. We cannot know if the number of athletes with standards represent a spike in performance or if the number of athletes represents a standard level of performance. In addition to the feedback meetings, Athletics Manitoba has also hosted two follow up meetings for athletes and coaches who are part of the pathway. The focus of these meetings is the daily training environment and elements athletes and coaches should be considering in order to continue to improve their performance.

- The MRA has approached AM regarding sharing office space. A response was requested by the end of October but I wanted to bring this to the board for review. The letter to AM and an overview of MRA expenses has been included in the board documents. I will lead a discussion around this topic at the board meeting.
- In 2015 Sport Manitoba required AM to complete a 4 year plan as part of our integrated funding framework submission (IFF). In 2016 we will need to report on what we delivered. The report has two parts: 1) a written submission and 2) a face to face meeting attended by the AM President, ED and technical staff (Alanna) with key Sport Manitoba staff. The submission is due mid-January and the meeting must be completed by the end of February.
- A fixtures meeting was held November 7. Athletes, coaches and an officials representative attended.
- The award banquet will be held November 10. We expect about 100 people to be in attendance.
- The executive has approved that the AM office will be closed December 24 through January 3.