

Athletics Manitoba

November 2018 President Report

The autumn is a slower time at AM, with the main activity being cross country events. This year I attended races at Roseisle and Harbour View, two excellent venues for cross country meets. It was my first visit to Roseisle and I was impressed with the beauty of this area (and the steep hills!). There were many impressive performances at both events.

We have been beginning the planning of our strategic planning and have engaged Carolyn Trono to lead us through this process. We will assess how well we have followed the plan from 2014 and work on where our emphasis should be in the next 4 year cycle. Expect to be asked your opinions in early 2019. Stakeholder input is crucial to this process.

I will be attending the SAGM in Vancouver on November 29 – December 1, likely my last SAGM. There are a number of interesting issues that we are considering, including national programming for under 12 athletes, frequency of interprovincial competitions and how best to deal with the issue of transgender athletes. I continue to serve on the AC Governance Committee.

I was involved in the interviews of candidates for deputy commissioner at AC. Michele Krech and John Reid were selected to share this role, and both are stellar candidates for the position. Commissioners decide disputes over carding, selection, discipline and respect in the field of play issues. Dr. Frank Fowlie is the commissioner, succeeding the first commissioner, Hugh Fraser. Having a commissioner to decide these issues was a first in Sport Canada and the experiment has proved to be a great success.

On November 16, we held the AM awards night at the Beach Volleyball Centre in East St. Paul. Analyzing the year's performances was a time-consuming but exhilarating experience, as there were so many deserving candidates. Thanks so much to Noelle and Alanna for their tremendous work in organizing and putting on this important year-end event!

Grant Mitchell, AM Board president