

## Athletics Manitoba

### March 2019 President Report

As I approach the end of my last term as AM president, I have been reflecting on all the events that AM has been involved in over the past 5 years. It has been a privilege to serve as your President through these years, which I view as successful. We have hosted some major events, built a solid office staff, completed one strategic planning process and started another, maintained our financial stability, supported some terrific young athletes, played a significant part in the work of Athletics Canada and its Branch Council, maintained our good standing with Sport Manitoba, developed our web presence, achieved progress in officials development and coach development and done our best to maintain a positive relationship with the Clubs that develop our athletes. There is always more that could be done, and the brainstorming we have been doing to launch our strategic planning has identified many areas where we can initiate or improve programs and ideas, but overall, I am proud of the achievements of AM during the time of my involvement. I should be quick to say that our staff and volunteers have done the lion's share of the work that has produced those successes, and I have just done my small part in them. A particular shout out to Alanna, Noelle and Shirley who have been doing outstanding work during a hectic season, and throughout the past year.

I believe that I will be leaving AM in a strong position with excellent people in place to continue the work of our board and executive. I will serve a year as past-president before severing my ties with the board.

AC has a new executive director, only recently started. David Bedford has almost 40 years of experience in the sport and entertainment business and should have the right experience to help him lead our national organization. I expect to meet him at the AGM in Ottawa near the end of May. David served as the Executive Director of Team Canada for the 2018 Commonwealth Games and worked previously for the Canadian Olympic Committee. Importantly, he also has past experience with the Canadian Paralympic Committee.

Since January, we have had a successful IFF meeting with Sport Manitoba, a good meeting with the MRA on January 24 and have been involved with many events in the indoor season, including the hosting of the USport national championships, in which the U of MB did very well. I worked an elementary relays event as part of the Boeing meet, and later brought greetings on your behalf at the ceremonies for the 38<sup>th</sup> Boeing Classic.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our March 26, 2019 Board meeting.

Grant Mitchell, AM Board president