



STRATEGIES & NEXT STEPS FOR ADVANCING PARA SPORT IN ALBERTA

May 3rd, 2019



Who are we?

- David Legg, Past President, CPC
- Catherine Gosselin-Desprese, Executive Director, Sport
 - <https://paralympic.ca/games>





An Ongoing Conversation

- 1968 – Edmonton hosted first National Wheelchair Games
- National Leadership
- Jasper Talks, ALA, Vista



THE STEADWARD CENTRE
for Personal & Physical Achievement





The Alberta Movement

THE ISR SUMMIT

CONNECT • COLLABORATE • CHANGE

June 1-2, 2018





ISR Summit #1: Edmonton

- 1) We want to get better at sharing knowledge
- 2) We want to get better at thinking and working across difference, especially in better serving Indigenous and LGBTQ2S folks with disabilities
- 3) We urge funding bodies to recognize and respond to unique barriers within disability context
- 4) We need to better develop and support disability leadership



ISR Summit #2, Red Deer

- 1) Collaboration
- 2) Funding/resources
- 3) Inclusion
- 4) Paraspport Structure and Development
- 5) Recruitment





Provincial Examples

- BC (Victoria): One Ability
- Quebec: Parasport Quebec Strategic Planning Process
- Ontario: Ontario Parasport Collective



ONTARIO PARASPORT COLLECTIVE

OUR VISION:

To create and promote equitable, inclusive and quality physical activity and sport experiences for Ontarians with a disability.

OUR MISSION:

As a united group of committed and engaged partners and individuals, acting as a central hub, we will lead, connect and support the alignment of the parasport system in Ontario.



WE ARE GUIDED BY OUR VALUES:

RESPECT

We invest in our relationships and believe that there is strength in our diversity.

EXCELLENCE

We believe in quality; both of the sport experiences we aim to foster and of our work together; and we leverage the expertise within the Collective to achieve our goals.



TRUST

We are accountable, transparent and open with our engagements.

INCLUSION

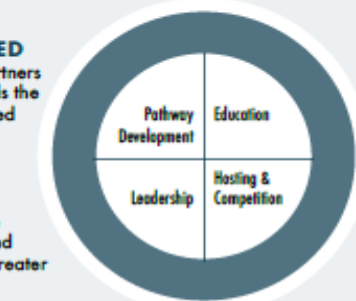
We believe in a parasport system that is open, safe and welcoming to everyone.



WHO WE ARE

SYSTEM FOCUSED
We coordinate sport partners and stakeholders towards the achievement of an aligned parasport system

STRATEGIC
We connect and engage others, are innovative and leverage resources for greater systemic impact



IMPACTFUL
We are informed and guided by research and good practice to validate our collective work

COLLABORATIVE
We harness the power of working together to collectively achieve our vision and mission

INSPIRATIONAL AND INFLUENTIAL
We recognize and celebrate our successes and highlight the excellence that is achieved by our participants and partners through story telling

	Pathway Development	Hosting and Competition	Leadership	Education
GOAL	To develop a clearly defined roadmap to support athletes / participant progression along a pathway	To develop appropriate competition structures and a hosting strategy for parasport in Ontario	To develop the capacity of sport leaders, including the coaches, officials, classifiers, and administrators who lead parasport in Ontario	To develop and leverage partnerships and build capacity for parasport at all levels within the education sector
PRIORITIES	Grassroots Participation Pathway Development and Excellence Pathway	Competition Structure Parasport Hosting Strategy	Resources & Inventory Training & Professional Development	Inclusive Physical Literacy Resource Development, Inventory & Accreditation Research & Knowledge Transfer
KEY SUCCESS FACTORS	More Ontarians are participating and excelling in quality parasport programs at all levels	Increased representation of and success for Ontario para athletes at provincial, national, and international Games	More sport leaders are connecting to a strong network of aligned parasport partners and committing to increased parasport support	More youth are participating in quality parasport programs More teachers, schools and school boards are engaged and supporting parasport involvement





ISR Summit #3, Enoch

- 1) Alberta Sport Connection
- 2) What can we do next?
- 3) ISR #3?





This Morning!

- Para Sport Structure
- Canadian Landscape and Realities
- Medal Trends and Future Games

- Strengths and Weaknesses
- Gaps and Opportunities





Canadian Paralympic HP System

STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES



Canada's Strengths

- Sport technical leaders nationally who value both Olympic and Paralympic
- Great facilities across the majority of sports (although access is sometimes a challenge)
- A small pool of athletes that can win in Tokyo
- A history of multi-medallists
- A small pool of emerging new athletes for upcoming / subsequent Games
- Some sports that are actively developing their Podium Pathways, including a robust system and specific event gap analysis and mitigation strategies

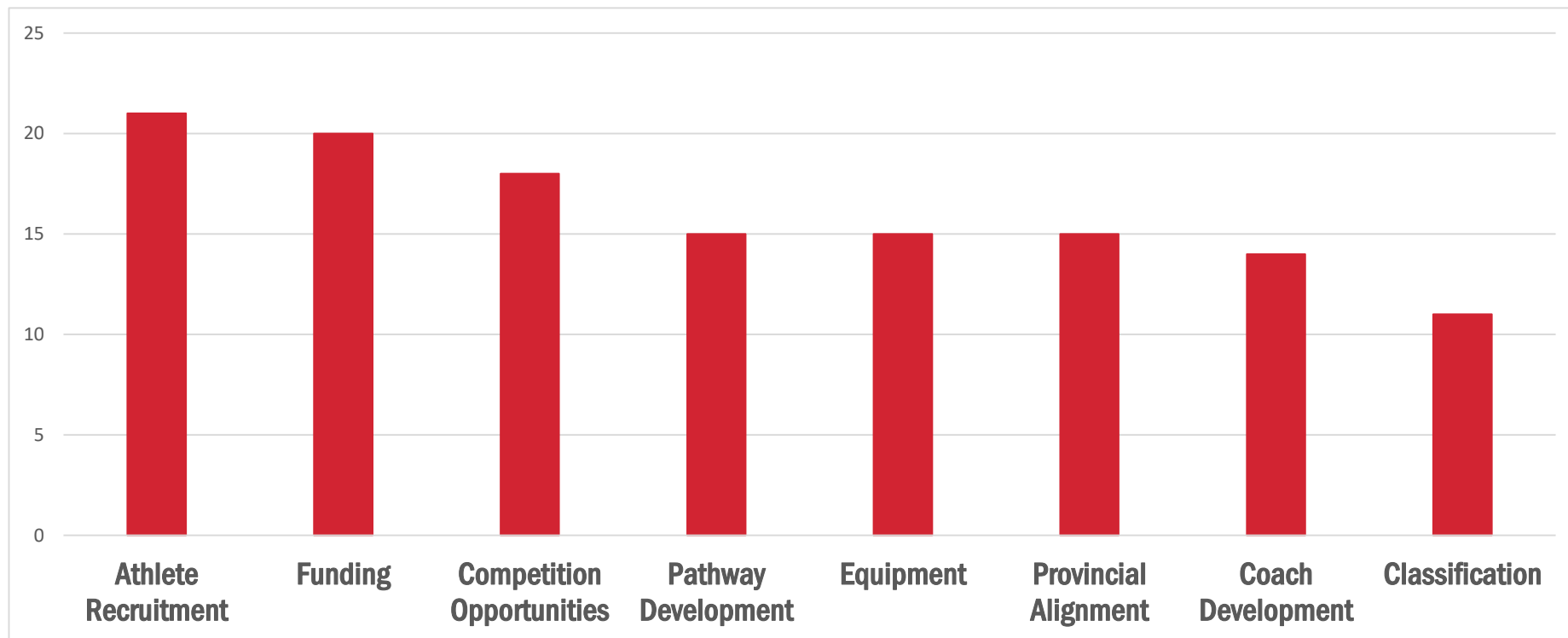


Canada's Strengths

- COPSI Network that is ready to engage and enhance SSSM delivery
- Next Generation Investment Strategy
- Increase alignment between the partners
- Coach Development opportunities (Olympic <-->Paralympic)
- Recent enhanced focus on Paralympic Sport for BODs within integrated NSOs.



Development Gaps Identified by NSOs





Gaps and Opportunities

- Leadership
- Coaching
- Sport Science / Sport Medicine
- DTE / Monitoring
- Athlete Pools / Podium Pathways





Canada's Gaps and Opportunities for Improvement

LEADERSHIP

- Hoping 'the same' will produce different results
- Allowing Para-Sports to be a lower priority in integrated sports...changing but still need to improve.
- Lack of NSO ongoing discretionary investment in Paralympic sports
- Requirement for more integration and alignment between PSO & PDSO < -- > NSO work.



Canada's Gaps and Opportunities for Improvement

COACHING / TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP

- Quality / Quantity of coaches (pool) to achieve world class results.
- Limited Coaching/Technical Leadership in the daily training environment (non-supervised training regimes)
- Copying the Olympic Plan to Paralympic Plans and assuming that this will address the system and individual gaps.
- Holding Paralympic athletes to a lower accountability standard compared to Olympic athletes.



Canada's Gaps and Opportunities for Improvement

SPORT SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

- Lack of para specific research in the World to help support SSSM Strategy in Canada.
- New trends in SSSM have not been always prioritized (motor learning / skill acquisition specialist, increase usage of appropriate IST services, analytics)
- Limited classification knowledge and understanding in the system



Canada's Gaps and Opportunities for Improvement

DAILY TRAINING ENVIRONMENT/ MONITORING

- Large country / limited athlete pool
- Limited centralization opportunities
- Access to quality DTEs
- Lack of accurate data / results and performance monitoring tracking overall
- Sub-standard / non-existent monitoring processes
- Lack of interventions based on monitoring outcomes



Canada's Gaps and Opportunities for Improvement

ATHLETE POOLS / PODIUM PATHWAYS

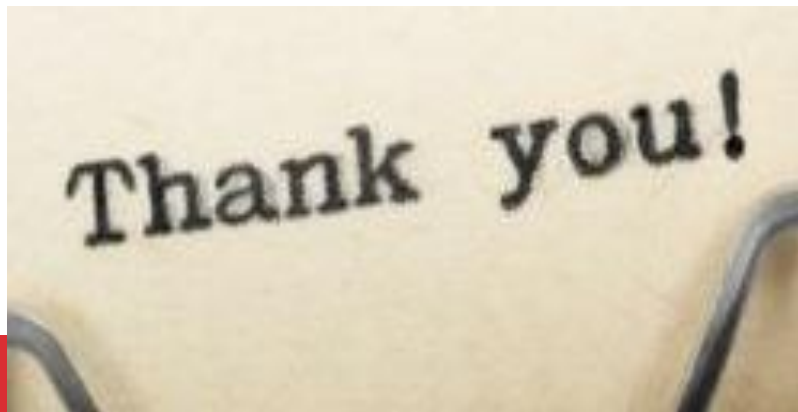
- A small athlete pool
- Athlete Depth / Talent ID based on GMP and sport classes
- Deliberate targeting of lower class / women / smaller depth of field.
- Strategic investments in events with lower depth of field, lower disabilities and VI classification
- Lack of a systemic athlete transfer system/process



Gaps and Opportunities

- Leadership
- Coaching
- Sport Science / Sport Medicine
- DTE / Monitoring
- Athlete Pools / Podium Pathways
- What can we do locally in each?





THANK YOU

WANT TO STAY INVOLVED?

DLEGG@MTROYAL.CA