

# 2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT



# 2024-2025 BOARD MEMBERS

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Auburn High head coach Lysa McGrath, Ruby

## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



This past year sport in Nova Scotia experienced positive momentum with the continued growth of programming across the province. The impact of resources in all areas of development, including organizational capacity, coaching and officiating has played a large role in this progress. The work of our Provincial Sport Organizations (PSOs) and community groups has been another key element of this growth.

We continued to strengthen our focus on equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility initiatives including the establishment of several new community programs and a strong uptake in our paraspot equipment loan program, which celebrated its second year. One of the most positive outcomes of this work has been the establishment of relationships with groups and communities who have not previously been engaged with the sport sector.

We were thrilled to see our KidSport program experience another record year, providing more than \$1.46 million to 3,346 children across the province, giving them the chance to experience the benefits of participating in sport.

None of this would be possible without the support we receive from our partners. We are deeply thankful to the Nova Scotia Gaming Corporation for the *Support4Sport* program. This program provides the foundational support that so many of the programs and services in our sector depend on and we are very lucky to have such supportive partners. We'd also like to thank all of our sponsors for their generous support, including Dairy Farmers of Canada, Bell Media, IG Wealth Management, D'Costa Marketing, Entreprise Rent-A-Car, Cleve's Source for Sports and Scotiabank.

Our partnership with the Provincial Government, particularly with the Department of Community, Culture, Tourism and Heritage, continues to be a vital part of our work. We value our relationship and we know that our shared passion for the value, growth and development of sport makes a difference in our province.

Our PSOs also deserve our thanks. The resources that are available and delivered in our sport sector would not be possible without their continued dedication, passion and persistence. This is also true of our many, and varied, community partners that exist across the province. We continue to be amazed by the tireless efforts of this largely volunteer group and their work to provide more sport opportunities for all.

Sport Nova Scotia also benefits from a wonderful team. Our staff are not only highly skilled but are true believers in the power of sport and the important benefits it provides in areas including health, education, social development and our economy. This is also true of our volunteer board of directors, whose guidance and support continue to help propel our forward progress.

The strong and expanding partnerships in the Nova Scotia sport sector give us a positive outlook for the future. Additional programming does of course bring additional challenges, but the ability to work together to address them will help us all as we continue to create more opportunities for all Nova Scotians to reap the benefits of sport.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Ferguson".

Jamie Ferguson  
CEO  
Sport Nova Scotia

## PARTICIPATION

Sport Nova Scotia's participation lead, in conjunction with partners at the Canadian Sport Institute Atlantic (CSIA) and the Province of Nova Scotia's Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage, continue to support PSOs in the development of their sports. This year bi-weekly virtual learning sessions provided PSOs with relevant resources and information on everything from best project practices to services offered by Sport Nova Scotia departments. These sessions are held live but recorded for PSOs to be able to view in their own time.

In the second year of Sport Nova Scotia supporting officiating support in the province, we have seen a significant uptake in the number of individual officials' applications as well as the number of PSO projects aimed toward officials' development and retention.



Hockey Nova Scotia BIPOC Advancing Hockey Program

## EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND ACCESSIBILITY

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility (EDIA) initiatives and programs have continued to grow in scope and availability in 2024-2025. This year saw a focus on community engagements specifically targeted to include Persons with Disabilities, the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, Indigenous populations, African/Black Nova Scotians, the Filipino community, Ukrainian newcomers and the annual International Women's Day networking event. These engagements reached more than 250 participants from these various communities. This year also saw the expansion of the Paraspot Equipment Loan Program to include the Para Throws equipment (Athletics) as an option. The program was used 15 times across all regions of the province.

2024-2025 also marked the first year of the formal multi-year EDIA Strategy. The objectives of this strategy are wide ranging and include themes such as education and training, communications, data collection, community sport development and working with non-traditional partners. There has also been continued work and support by the EDIA Navigators

with local communities, networks and organizations in Yarmouth, Antigonish and Halifax. This includes supporting organizations like the Youth Wellness Network (Yarmouth), Y-Reach, Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS), HRM Recreation and many others.

The EDIA Funding Program grew its reach across the province with 52 successful applications totalling \$428,706 in funding approved. These grants impacted communities in all regions of Nova Scotia and all the targeted underrepresented populations. Some of the organizations involved include the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq, the Bangladesh Community Association of Nova Scotia, Queer Hockey Nova Scotia, Speedy Kids and the Good Wave Project. This year also saw the collaboration between Sport Nova Scotia and a PhD student from the University of Western Ontario to evaluate the partnership requirement of the EDIA Funding. The research validated the current funding criteria and provided necessary recommendations on improving the fund moving forward.

## SAFE SPORT

We have been proactively collaborating to create positive and welcoming space for sport participation. Sport Nova Scotia is continuing to make strides towards the implementation of an independent third-party service provider to help handle complaints effectively for the province's sport organizations. We have also recently begun to build a restorative approach to sport, in collaboration with the Restorative Lab, for youth respondents under the age of 19 years.

The Athlete Advisory Committee continued to work to amplify the athlete voice in Nova Scotia in its fourth year while the Nova Scotia True Sport Athlete Ambassador Program continued to bolster athletic leadership by highlighting participants of the program from all six of the province's regions.

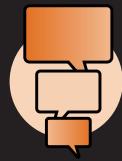


# COMMUNITY SPORT DEVELOPMENT

The partnership between Sport Nova Scotia, the government of Nova Scotia and Sport Canada continues to strengthen community-based approaches to increasing sport participation across the province. Regional Sport Consultants (RSCs) operate in all six regions of the province, providing support to PSO member clubs, municipalities, First Nations communities and other sport stakeholders.



## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:



Delivered **476 consultations** focused on funding navigation, organizational effectiveness and Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility (EDIA) partnerships.



Established **49 non-traditional** partnerships to expand community-level sport participation.



Facilitated **170 connections** with PSOs to enhance quality sport programming, including age-appropriate and stage-appropriate initiatives, and support for community coaching standards.



Conducted **64 presentations** across Nova Scotia to raise awareness of Sport Nova Scotia programs and services.

**\$650,000**

Additionally, RSCs played a significant role in funding community sport initiatives. Through the Sport Fund and EDIA Funding programs, more than **\$650,000** was invested in equipment purchases and program development.

## RECOGNITION AND AWARENESS

Sport Quarterly remained an important print publication for sharing and celebrating stories about sport at all levels. The printed tabloid was shared with nearly **53,000 Nova Scotian** households each quarter, highlighting individuals, programs and initiatives that go above and beyond for sport.

Our traditional sport recognition programs, Cleve's Source for Sports Impact Awards and the *Support4Sport* Awards, were vehicles to celebrate successes and gave us the opportunity to inspire Nova Scotians. In partnership with the Nova Scotia Gaming Corporation, the *Support4Sport* Awards recognized 218 accomplishments from across the province and with the support of Dairy Farmers of Canada, Sport Nova Scotia hosted 4,435 elementary and junior high students at the spring and fall Milk Sport Fairs.



Antonia Lewin-LaFrance, Sailing



# PROVINCIAL SPORT ORGANIZATION COORDINATOR PROGRAM

Our Provincial Sport Organization Coordinator Program continued to be vital to building sport across the province. **Some highlights include:**

## Artistic Swimming

Nova Scotia Artistic Swimming continued to build momentum with the introduction of new recreational programs in the Fundy region and free programming for newcomers to Canada in the Central region. Team Nova Scotia athletes trained throughout the year in preparation for the 2025 Canada Games, supported by a Mental Performance Coach to enhance performance and readiness. NSAS hosted four competitions, including the Atlantic Regional Championship, which brought together hundreds of athletes from Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, and was a significant success. Athletes and coaches also attended the CAS Atlantic Canada Development Camp in Prince Edward Island, benefiting from coaching by National Team athletes and coaches. The board focused on strengthening governance, updating policies, and improving communication with members.

## Badminton

During the 2024-2025 badminton season, the high-performance athletes of Badminton Nova Scotia achieved unprecedented results. Two junior athletes (U13 and U17), with outstanding performances in national competitions, were selected to represent Canada and participated in the Pan American Badminton Championships in Guatemala, bringing home a silver and bronze medal. Moreover, one of Badminton's U23 athletes was selected to join the University National Team of Canada and participated in the World University Games held in Germany. Throughout the entire season, several of the athletes also repeatedly stood on the podium at national tournaments, showing that Nova Scotia athletes are becoming more competitive on the national stage. Badminton Nova Scotia also focused on promoting the popularization of badminton in local communities, engaging public participation and developing more members.

## Boxing

Boxing Nova Scotia had a great year marked by significant achievements and strategic growth. A comprehensive strategic plan was developed to guide the sport's future development and success. The highlight of the year was Wyatt Sanford winning an Olympic bronze medal. The organization successfully hosted the Provincial Championships in Membertou, showcasing local talent and community engagement. Additionally, Boxing Canada has awarded the 2026 Elite National Championships to Membertou, scheduled for November 2026. At the 2024 Nationals, Nova Scotia athletes delivered outstanding performances, securing seven medals across various weight classes. Furthermore, three athletes were named to Team Canada. Boxing Nova Scotia will continue to build on this momentum for the coming year.

## Cheer

Cheer Nova Scotia (CNS) made significant strides in 2025, introducing an Excellence Program aimed at elevating athlete performance and program standards across the province. The organization prioritized coach and official development through major training initiatives, ensuring strong leadership and technical expertise within the sport. CNS also fielded its provincial team for consideration at the Pan American Championships marking an important step toward international competition. Additionally, the successful coaching symposium highlighted key themes such as building inclusive programs and creating affirming spaces, reinforcing CNS's commitment to diversity, equity and athlete well-being. These efforts reflect CNS's dedication to advancing the sport while fostering a supportive and inclusive community for all participants.

# PROVINCIAL SPORT ORGANIZATION COORDINATOR PROGRAM



## Cross Country Ski

Cross Country Ski Nova Scotia celebrated a successful second season of the Ski Ambassador Program, reaching more than 431 participants across the province through try-it events and EDIA programs. The School Ski Rental Program also expanded its impact, supporting skiing for 524 students despite ongoing challenges with limited snowfall. While the lack of snow remains a significant obstacle, the Cape Breton region continues to grow, with all three clubs reporting membership growth compared to last year. Cross Country Ski also introduced a strategic plan at the end of 2024 that will be in effect until 2027. Looking ahead, Cross Country Ski Nova Scotia aims to increase the reach of the Ski Ambassador Program to further boost membership numbers and strengthen grassroots engagement in the sport.

## Judo

Judo Nova Scotia had a great year, marked by significant achievements on both the competitive and community fronts. Team Nova Scotia proudly represented the province at the Pan American Cup in November 2025, and athlete Abigail Smith showcased her talent on the world stage at the World Cadets Championship in Bulgaria. The organization also celebrated strong performances at the Montreal Junior Pan American Cadet Cup. Beyond competition, Judo Nova Scotia continued to prioritize inclusion and accessibility through initiatives such as the Newcomers to Canada program and dedicated programs for women and girls. Looking ahead, Judo Nova Scotia remains focused on strategic planning and governance improvements to build a solid foundation for sustainable growth, while continuing to support athletes and expand community engagement across the province.

## Karate

Karate Nova Scotia experienced a strong year in 2024–2025, highlighted by record-breaking competitive success and organizational growth. Athletes achieved 15 national medals, the highest in the organization's history, supported by increased international participation and enhanced training opportunities. Membership grew slightly to 980 members, with an average club size of 42, and efforts continued to modernize tournament structures and expand outreach to non-Karate Nova Scotia clubs. Challenges remain in attracting new officials, prompting initiatives such as training videos and regional outreach clinics. Looking ahead, Karate Nova Scotia will be hosting the 2026 nationals in February 2026.

## Rowing

Row Nova Scotia had a strong season highlighted by high participation numbers and a successful slate of racing opportunities for the province. A major milestone this year was hosting an international coastal rowing event, which drew significant interest and helped accelerate the growth of coastal rowing in Nova Scotia. The discipline continues to gain traction, with a couple of Nova Scotian athletes earning selections to national teams as the sport expands on the world stage. On the high-performance side, Row Nova Scotia continued to demonstrate an impressive ability to develop athletes for the next level. The province once again saw strong turnover to Rowing Canada programs, with Nova Scotian athletes representing Canada at major international competitions. This ongoing success reflects both the depth of talent within the province and the strength of its performance pathway. Row Nova Scotia remains focused on supporting athlete development across all levels while continuing to expand participation and showcase new opportunities within the sport.

# PROVINCIAL SPORT ORGANIZATION COORDINATOR PROGRAM



## Speed Skating

Speed Skating Nova Scotia (SSNS) celebrated another successful season, highlighting a year of growth, with increased participation across all clubs and notable athlete success, including Julia Snelgrove winning her second National Junior Long Track Championship and medaling at the Junior World Championship in January. A major organizational highlight was the Speedy Kids Oval Program being named one of four finalists for the national Intact Insurance Club Excellence Award, recognizing its commitment to grassroots development. SSNS successfully hosted the Atlantic Long Track Championships and saw one of its clubs, Dartmouth Crossing SSC, launch the successful inaugural East Coast Cup. However, its greatest challenge remains persistent ice availability issues for both short and long track, which the organization is addressing through stronger engagement with municipal partners. Looking ahead, SSNS is focused on the successful rollout of SafeSport, supporting the growth of para programs like Speed Sledge, and preparing to host the Canadian Youth Short Track Championships in March 2026.

## Squash

Squash Nova Scotia continued to strengthen its presence across the province with a year marked by competitive success and community engagement. Highlights included hosting the Lighthouse Junior Open and sending Nova Scotia juniors to compete at the Canadian Junior Open in January 2025. Team Nova Scotia Masters proudly represented the province at the National Championships in February, while the Atlantic Regional Championships in May drew a full house of enthusiastic participants. Beyond competition, Squash Nova Scotia advanced its commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility through ongoing work by its EDIA committee, ensuring the sport remains welcoming and inclusive for all.

## Triathlon

Triathlon Nova Scotia had a productive year focused on accessibility, regional reach and youth engagement. The PSO successfully expanded its event footprint by delivering races across multiple regions of the province, ensuring that rural communities had meaningful opportunities to participate in the sport. A major priority this season was getting more young athletes involved. The "Splash and Dash" series saw strong participation and became a highlight of the year, introducing many children to multisport in a fun and supportive environment. Several marquee events also incorporated kid-specific and women-focused race days, helping create welcoming entry points for new participants. With growing momentum in youth programming and broadened regional presence, Triathlon Nova Scotia is well positioned for continued progress in the years ahead.

## Wrestling

Wrestling Nova Scotia experienced another year of positive development, highlighted by the opening of three new clubs, including a university club, and the introduction of new membership options for those looking to try the sport. The Board focused on policy review and updates while improving communications with members through a social media rebrand. WNS helped facilitate the purchase of three competition-level wrestling mats, now in use across clubs in the South Shore, Central, and Highland regions. Athletes gained valuable competitive experience locally and out of province, while Team NS continued to make steady progress in preparing for the upcoming Canada Games cycle. The revamped Excellence Program emphasizes the development of younger athletes aiming to join the next Canada Games team. Coach development was also a major focus this year, with over 20 coaches completing Competition



Halifax Lancers, Equestrain

## OUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

**\$490,700**

The PSO project program remained strong with **\$490,700** in funding allocated to **90 initiatives** representing **39 PSOs** in the areas of organizational effectiveness, coaching, officiating, participation and excellence. Of these projects, 20 were approved related to EDIA at approximately **\$94,200** in support in 2024-2025.

**\$726,000**

**53 PSOs** received a total of **\$726,000** to support Participation Core Funding.

**\$740,000**

**41 PSOs** received a total of **\$740,000** to support Performance Core Funding.

**\$1,302,000**

**\$1,302,000** was allocated to **25 PSOs** to support **46 coaches** and technical directors employed in the Support4Sport Technical Leadership Employment Program. This includes **\$19,000** in professional development grants.

**\$101,500**

**89** Individual Coach and Individual Official Initiative applications were funded for a total of **\$101,500**.

**\$18,000**

Four PSOs received a total of **\$18,000** in Canada Games Legacy Access Funding to offset facility rental costs for their provincial teams.

**\$384,600**

**\$384,600** was allocated to support **190** athletes through the Athlete Assistance Program.

**\$227,105**

Sport Fund allocated **\$227,105** to support **80** community sport programs and initiatives.

**\$428,706**

**52 EDIA** projects were supported through the allocation of **\$428,706** in all regions of Nova Scotia impacting all targeted underrepresented populations.



**\$1,400,000**  
Allocated

In 2024, KidSport allocated nearly \$1.4 million to help 3,287 children participate in organized sport.

**MORE THAN  
\$140,000**

Significant financial support was received from Sport Nova Scotia's membership for KidSport including Soccer Nova Scotia (\$20,000), Hockey Nova Scotia (\$19,439) and Equestrian Nova Scotia (\$3,000). KidSport also received more than \$100,000 from the Government of Canada's Sport for All Initiative via KidSport Canada.

## FUNDRAISING

**\$52,000**

Sport Split had participation from 53 new teams and clubs raising more than \$52,000 for amateur sport.

**\$180,000**

SportSweep continued to be available year-round with 102 community groups raising more than \$180,000 for amateur sport.

**\$15,000**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual IG Wealth Management Ceilidh and Casino raised more than \$15,000 for KidSport.

**\$7,500**

The Reindeer Games raised **\$7,500** for amateur sport.





Special Olympics Nova Scotia, Apline

## ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE

Sport Nova Scotia operates numerous administrative services that are available to our members including printing, mail/courier, computer networking, telecommunication, office space, meeting facilities, equipment rentals, desktop publishing and financial and general administration.

Sport Nova Scotia is contracted by the provincial government to provide administrative support to provincial sport and recreation organizations. Sport Nova Scotia provides subsidized services to active and associate members, as well as recreation organizations approved by the provincial government.

In the fiscal period 2024-2025, 72 organizations were eligible for subsidies.

The general operating and building funds produced a combined surplus of \$105,000 (before depreciation), supported by full occupancy, careful expense management and strong fundraising efforts.





	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
<b>Revenue:</b>					
Building	\$742,026	\$690,968	\$700,197	\$704,640	\$671,295
Provincial Funding	3,819,491	4,038,401	3,785,009	2,258,753	1,533,146
Nova Scotia Gaming Funding	6,366,051	6,102,729	4,907,582	4,457,354	4,302,686
Programs	2,201,254	2,246,825	2,486,190	768,278	787,704
Membership Fees	17,019	16,850	16,850	17,175	17,250
Interest/Other	30,198	47,974	21,128	6,307	32,897
	13,176,039	13,143,747	11,916,956	8,212,508	7,344,978
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
Building	413,820	423,585	392,890	354,870	358,301
Operating	926,964	914,752	920,483	919,357	860,370
Programs	4,710,181	4,809,129	5,236,239	2,401,488	1,613,261
Nova Scotia Gaming Allocations	6,366,051	6,102,729	4,907,582	4,457,354	4,302,686
	12,417,016	12,250,195	11,457,194	8,133,069	7,134,618
Surplus of revenue over expenditures before other items	759,023	893,552	459,762	79,439	210,360
<b>Other Items:</b>					
Loss on Disposal of Capital Assets	0	0	0	0	260
Amortization	91,501	100,845	108,529	109,494	120,350
Surplus of revenue over expenditures	\$667,522	\$792,707	\$351,233	-\$30,055	\$89,750

## National Sport Trust Fund (Nova Scotia Amateur Sport Fund)



	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Revenue:</b>					
Donations - Member Fundraising Projects	527,069	516,551	181,170	72,886	44,900
Donations - Other	1,500	1,500	4,025	0	14,750
Interest/Other Income	38,798	23,035	11,388	2,211	2,329
	567,367	541,086	196,582	75,097	61,979
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
Funding Allocations	558,541	537,802	195,289	74,866	61,549
Administration/Promotion	8,826	3,284	1,294	232	430
	567,367	541,086	196,582	75,097	61,979
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-

## KidSport Canada (NS Chapter)\*

\* This report is only on national allocations.



	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Revenue:</b>					
Donations	\$33,959	\$30,594	\$54,024	\$55,495	\$74,854
Sponsorships (Fundraising/Admin./Promo.)	58,018	131,927	262,710	21,477	5,826
Interest/Other Income	755	1345	1076	31	27
	92,732	163,866	317,810	77,003	80,707
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
Funding Allocations	88,951	159,063	311,981	70,888	74,520
Fundraising/Admin./Promo.	3,781	4,803	5,830	6,116	6,187
	92,732	163,866	317,810	77,003	80,707
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-

# SPONSORS

*Sport Nova Scotia is a non-government, not-for-profit organization that relies heavily on sponsor support to carry out its programs and services. Thank you to the following sponsors for your commitment to advancing amateur sport opportunities in Nova Scotia.*

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