



# Canada Games Building Dreams and Champions Legacy Program

VOLUME II

*The Canada Games Building Dreams and Champions Legacy Program (CGBDCLP) was established as a result of the \$3.4 million surplus from the 2005 Canada Summer Games in Regina. The CGBDCLP's 16 components are designed to help Saskatchewan's youth achieve their goals through optimum programming, training and competition, while allowing our young artists to pursue their creative aspirations. This newsletter will highlight the current initiatives of the CGBDCLP and recognize the benefits that communities gain by hosting major national and international sporting events. The CGBDCLP is managed by Sask Sport Inc. on behalf of the Regina 2005 Canada Games Host Society.*

## Team Saskatchewan Wins the Centennial Cup

Team Saskatchewan was awarded the Centennial Cup at the recent Canada Winter Games in Whitehorse. The cup is presented to the provincial or territorial team that shows the greatest improvement in its final standing from the previous Games.

Finishing with a total of 37 medals, Team Saskatchewan placed fifth overall and earned 211.6 flag points, an improvement of almost 30 points from the 2003 Winter Games. Saskatchewan easily outpaced the second place team by nine points to earn the cup.

The accomplishments of these young Saskatchewan athletes demonstrate that the Canada Games Dreams and Champions Program is making a difference as they strive for their dreams.



**TEAM**  
SASKATCHEWAN

WHITEHORSE 2007  
JEUX DU CANADA GAMES



## More Funding for Future Best Athletes

Through the Future Best program, Saskatchewan athletes receive funding to help them achieve their dreams of reaching the national level. Now the support they receive from Future Best is even greater thanks to the Canada Games Building Dreams and Champions Legacy Program. The program has recently dedicated \$200,000 over the next four years to Future Best.

"Thanks to this additional funding, more athletes than ever before will receive grants through the Future Best program," says Shirley Kowalski, Chair of the Canada Sport Centre Saskatchewan, which administers the program. "This will ensure that more of our national level athletes will be given a chance to compete at a higher level and prepare for future international sporting events, including the Olympic and Paralympic Games." This year, 81 athletes in Saskatchewan received grants from the Future Best program.



## On the Track to Long-distance Running

One girl's dream at Herchmer Community School was to become a long-distance track athlete. She was a member of the school's cross-country team which held a few practices a week during the program's short season, but she wanted more. Now, thanks to the Canada Games Dream Brokers program, she is living her dream.

The girl met with Garrett Mathiason, Herchmer's Dream Broker, and he began searching for a suitable track and field program that featured several girls her own age. Mathiason matched the girl with the Excel Athletika club, organized transportation to the club's practices, and helped the girl's family complete a KidSport™ application form to cover the costs of the registration fees.

To this day, the girl remains committed to track and field and has gained more confidence and self-esteem from participating in sport and meeting new friends at the club. Her teachers have also stated that her behaviour and attitude has improved since she joined the training program.

The Canada Games Dream Brokers program connects inner city youth to sport and cultural activity opportunities to help them reach their dreams.

## On-Line Volunteer Training Centre

The success of the amateur sport system in Saskatchewan is only possible with the support of volunteers. The Canada Games Building Dreams and Champions program is training and equipping volunteers more effectively through the on-line volunteer training centre. Managed by Sask Sport Inc., the on-line volunteer center is available at [www.ovtc.sk.ca](http://www.ovtc.sk.ca). The centre allows volunteers to register for an on-line training program at no charge.

Volunteers who register on-line will receive a user ID and password, giving them access to the eight available training modules. These training modules target all aspects of volunteer work, including administration, communications, and leadership. After successfully completing a module, volunteers will receive a training program certificate. The on-line centre is an exciting innovation, increasing accessibility throughout the province and providing volunteers with affordable training alternatives.

## Canada Games Emerging Aboriginal Artists Program

The Emerging Aboriginal Artists Program will provide young Aboriginal artists with the foundation they need to build careers in mainstream art. This initiative has been finalized with the Saskatchewan Arts Board.

Although young Aboriginal artists vary widely in their field of interest, from music, singing, and dance, to visual and media arts, they often share the similar goal of creatively combining traditional and contemporary cultural practices. In most cases, these young people, many of whom live on reserves and in inner city environments, have had little or no access to mentoring or other forms of training. This program will address those issues.



Mayor Pat Fiacco is pictured here with Dakota Desjarlais (Captain for the Grassick Park Team) and Jalon Jack (Captain for the Carry the Kettle First Nations Team) at the 2nd Annual Mayor's Cup held at the Brandt Centre. The Mayor's Cup is a hockey tournament held for players in the Ehrlo Outdoor Hockey League (OHL).

