2023 - 2024 ANUAL REPORT



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WHO WE ARE

Vision

Canada is a leading nation in boccia and Canadians with physical disabilities have access to quality sport programming.

Mission

We lead, develop and grow boccia from grassroots to producing World Champions, and we collaborate with partners to increase participation of Canadians with physical disabilities in sport.

Values

<u>Excellence</u>: We strive for excellence in our organization, our people, and our performance, both on and off the field of play.

Resilience: When things get tough, we hang in there, and adapt to overcome challenges and obstacles.

<u>Inclusivity</u>: We create a safe, welcoming, and inclusive space for everyone to participate.

Collaboration: We work as a collective, towards our shared goals.

Integrity: We stand-up for what is right, and act honestly.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This past year was bookmarked by marked contrasting victories and challenges. It began with two gold medals and one silver on home soil at the Montreal World Boccia Cup in April. In fact, in 2023 our National Team Members captured 22 medals at international boccia competitions. As we closed the year in March, there was a fire at the INS Montreal, which left us without a National Training Centre and searching for a new home in preparation for competitions in 2024. In addition, we were notified that our partner for the 2024 Canadian Boccia Championships, could no longer host, leaving us looking at alternative options. In typical fashion, everybody involved e.g., staff, athletes, volunteers, etc., demonstrated resilience, one of the five CCPSA core values, as we addressed and overcame these issues.

Now, perhaps more so than at any other point in history, National Sport Organizations (NSO's) are financially challenged and having to make very difficult decisions to maintain their very existence. Since 2005, core funding from the Government of Canada to NSO's has not had an increase. A collective advocacy effort on behalf of the 65 NSO's in Canada to increase annual funding by \$104 million in the federal budget 2024, did not materialize in any new funding going forward.

Despite the above-mentioned setbacks, there were so many positive achievements and progress made over the past year. These include our support to the Women in Boccia Coach Mentorship Program, Parasport New Brunswick and ParaSport and Recreation PEI joining as Provincial Partners, new funding through grants and the delivery of those projects, more diversity on our Board of Directors, added accessibility features to our website, increased media coverage of national boccia events, and much, much more.

A highlight earlier this year, was a visit to our office from Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Sport and Physical Activity. The visit, timed with the Community Sport for All Initiative funding announcement, included one-on-one time with the Minster and local Member of Parliament David McGuinty, plus the two of them meeting and playing boccia with local athletes.

As you take the time to read our 2023-2024 Annual Report, we unquestionably want to thank our stakeholders and partners on every level. Thank you to our funding partners, Provincial Partners, staff, athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, Committees, and Board of Directors.

We appreciate that going forward, each of you will continue to assist in achieving our objectives in the years to come, and we look forward to collaborating and capitalizing on our collective strengths to move boccia forward.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Winterflood
President

CCPSA



Peter Leyser
Executive Director

CCPSA

STRENGTHEN LEADERSHIP AND OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Annual General Meeting and Board Elections

Recognizing the need for diversity on the Board of Directors and with a desire to increase the Board size to nine, the CCPSA Board and the Athletes' Council put forward a conscious effort on recruiting efforts for new members. In particular, to ensure athlete representation on the Board. At the CCPSA Annual General meeting held on Thursday, September 14th, 2023, retired boccia athlete Kevin Shaw joined the Board. Kevin is currently a Policy Officer with the Office of the Chief Accessibility Officer.

Megan Muscat, a retired athletics athlete who competed at multiple major games including the Paralympics and Para Pan American Games, also joined the Board. In addition, the Board welcomed Aidan Godin, who brings a wealth of experience in sport, including with the Canada Games.

CCPSA Board Related Accomplishments

- CCPSA Board continued progress on Board Governing Policies document, which includes articulating the role of the Board, and clear delineation of Board versus staff responsibilities.
- Updated and presented Risk Registry Dashboard which provides a snapshot of the current risk registry.
- Reviewed and cross referenced Canadian Sport Governance Code with CCPSA policies and practices, and potential impact of the Code on CCPSA.
- Commitment to additional work in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) area including contract with INclusion INcorporated to assist CCPSA with this important work. Began with the Board completing the Moving INclusion workshop.

- In partnership with Wheelchair Rugby Canada, and Wheelchair Basketball Canada, we hosted a webinar series presented by <u>Will Russell</u>, lawyer with Sport Law, focusing on the critical area of Governance in Sport. The series was designed specifically for members of national or provincial boards engaged with Boccia, Wheelchair Basketball, and Wheelchair Rugby. In addition to providing the Boards and Executive Directors/CEO's a unique professional development opportunity, this was a great example of collaboration amongst para sport and capitalizing on economies of scale.
- Identified Board priorities and projects for 2024-2025 including:
 - Establishment of Committees (6);
 - EDI work within CCPSA;
 - Updates to Risk Registry;
 - Complete Board self-evaluation;
 - Request for Proposal for a new Auditor in 2024-2025;
 - Additional Board Professional Development;
 - Review of by-laws in relations to Canadian Sport Governance Code;
 - Finalizing Board Governing Policies.

Recognition

- Herb Torrance was an early pioneer who helped establish and promote boccia in British Columbia and across Canada. Herb was inducted in the CCPSA Hall of Fame in the Officials/Coaching category at the 2023 Canadian Boccia Championships in Richmond, BC.
- Boccia athlete Nathan Bragg (Vancouver, BC), para-athletics competitor Laura Calovini (Brampton, ON), and wheelchair basketball athlete Rylan Bileski (Winnipeg, MB) were the annual recipients of the Kabush Para Athlete Fund Bursary. The bursary was established in 2022 by Ken and Debbie Kabush (Surrey, BC) in partnership with the CCPSA and is intended to provide support to up-and-coming Canadian athletes or teams in para sport to offset costs related to registration fees, facility rentals, training, equipment, coaching, competition, and travel.

GROW PARTICIPATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Parasport New Brunswick and ParaSport and Recreation PEI Announced as Provincial Boccia Partners

Parasport New Brunswick and Parasport and Recreation PEI were officially announced as the newest Provincial Boccia Partners. This will help boccia grow and develop in the Atlantic region and is a tangible result of our ongoing development efforts there.



We're so happy to be working with the teams at Parasport New Brunswick and ParaSport and Recreation PEI. They are both already such strong hubs for parasport knowledge and activity that adding boccia to their menu of sport opportunities seemed like the perfect fit.

- Jennifer Larson, Program Manager, CCPSA / Boccia Canada



Governing all non-integrated Paralympic sports is our goal and Parasport NB is now in a strong position to support boccia development. We look forward to growing this sport in our province as it's one of the most inclusive parasports and it is a great opportunity for individuals with a wide range of abilities to have fun and be active.

- Sally Hutt, Executive Director, Parasport New Brunswick



After learning more about the sport of boccia in our discussions with CCPSA and Boccia Canada, we knew a partnership was the right decision. The addition of boccia to our programs will provide our members and potential members with a new sport experience. We love that boccia is inclusive and can be adapted for individuals with a wide range of abilities.

- Tracy Stevenson, Executive Director, ParaSport and Recreation PEI______



Through this program up to \$4,000 per province is available to support athlete recruitment and development, coach, officials and volunteer development and competitions. Grants totaling \$20,000 were approved for the following provinces this year:

- Alberta Cerebral Palsy Sports Association (ACPSA)
- Boccia Newfoundland and Labrador
- Association québécoise des sports pour paralytiques cérébraux (AQSPC)
- Ontario Cerebral Palsy Sports Association (OCPSA)
- SportAbility BC
- ParaSport and Recreation PEI

The grants supported a wide variety of boccia initiatives across the country, including Alberta Boccia Day, the PEI Parasport Festival, referee training and development initiatives in Newfoundland and Labrador, and Quebec, coach training in Ontario and equipment loans in British Columbia. This program also supported the national open boccia competition at the 2023 Défi sportif AlterGo in Montréal.

GROW PARTICIPATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Alberta Boccia Day involved three communities across Alberta (Calgary, Edmonton, and Medicine Hat) holding simultaneous boccia events and then joining together virtually for a province-wide skills competition based on the Boccia Gold Medal Profile. It was a creative approach to give newer boccia athletes exposure to a competitive opportunity without the expense and stress of travel. Eighteen participants from across the province took part in the day along with many wonderful volunteers and supporters.

Community Sport for All Project

Boccia Canada was one of several National Sport Organizations to receive funding through the Community Sport for All Initiative, which, aims to remove barriers and increase sport participation rates for underrepresented groups. The grant supported the Take the Shot (Paris Edition) program, which includes these core elements:

- Grants for Try It events
- Start-up funding for new clubs
- Free school-based presentations led by athlete ambassadors
- · Skill and drill video series
- Postcards to Paris

There was an overwhelming positive response to the grant program. While not all requests could be supported, nearly \$12,000 in grants were approved for 21 Try It events across 6 provinces and 4 new boccia programs in 4 provinces. Presentations were delivered to 250 students in 9 schools across 3 provinces.



These Have a Go Days (Try It Sessions) were a key piece to keep our Boccia growth going as we were able to recruit a new participant for our Moncton program and create some interest and awareness of the sport in Fredericton.



We succeeded in making the participants want to continue in the fall. One 6-yearold needed the ramp to play, and he did just fine. I have two leaders who were new to Boccia and who will be back in the autumn for a 10-week Boccia course.

- 🤊 🤊

Key Highlights

- 29th Canadian Boccia Championships held in British Columbia at Richmond Olympic Oval
- · Referee numbers continued to grow
 - ∘ 14 new referees trained (ON 9, NL 5)
 - o 4 provincial referees advanced to National status (BC -1, ON − 2, QC − 1)
- Two coaches attended competitions as the final part of the Female Coach Mentorship Program (Tiffany Gaudette World Youth Championship and Adriana Guzman Défi sportif AlterGo)
- 9 NL coaches received trained NCCP status (6 Learn to Coach, 3 Introduction to Competition)
- Partnered with ON to develop Lite version of the Boccia Track app for provincial coach use and deliver NCCP Competition Development Analyse Performance Technical Tactical Module for 4 coaches



REACH INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE

2023 Parapan American Games and Other Results

It was amazing to observe athletes' success at the 2023 Parapan American Games in Santiago, Chile. Team Canada Boccia secured 6 podiums, ranking as the second-best Canadian sport at the event. In total our athletes came back with 9 medals. Our BC4 athletes lead the way, Iulian Ciobanu and Alison Levine had excellent performances and Alison ended up with two Gold. It was also great to see that our BC1 and BC2 athletes played well in individual play but also in Team, beating Brazil during the pool phase and finishing with a silver medal.

- Alison Levine is presently #2 in BC4 Female World Boccia ranking. In 2023-24, Alison reached the Podium at every international event she participated in and ended up the year with two consecutive gold medals in individual play (Fortaleza and Parapan Am).
 She was also chosen as Canada's Flag Bearer for the closing ceremonies of the 2023 Parapan American Games.
- Iulian Ciobanu is presently #8 in BC4 Male. In 2023-24 he showed lots of improvement reaching the podium at all events and captured double Gold on home soil at the Montreal World Cup in April 2023
- The Canadian BC4 Pair is presently #3 in World Boccia ranking. Performances and results in 2023-24 were great with 3 podiums out of 4 events, including 2 Gold.
- Danik Allard is presently #12 in BC2 Male, in 2023-24 he achieved top 10 results at 3 of 4 events, including his first Gold at a Challenger event and a Silver at the Parapan Am games
- Lance Cryderman is presently #10 in BC1 Male. In 2023-2024 he reached 2 podiums of the 4 events he went to. His performance at the Parapan games in individual and in Team play was amazing.



REACH INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE

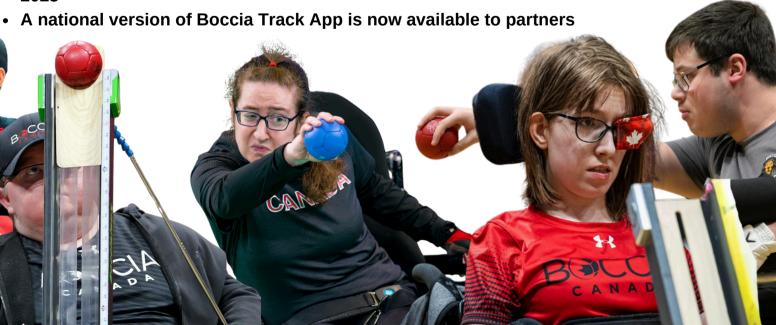
Supporting Development of Women Coaches

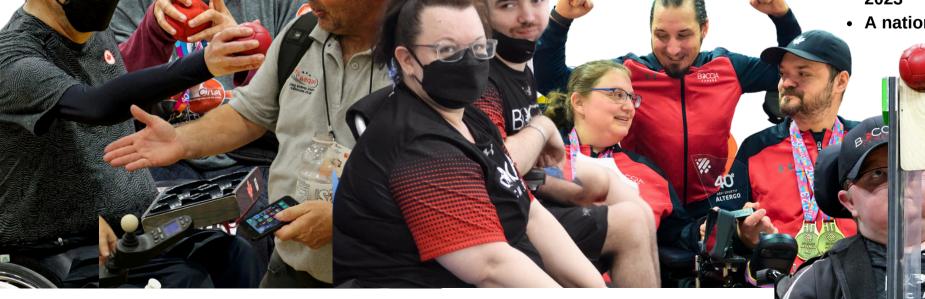
In 2023-24 with support and collaboration through our Women in Boccia Coach Mentorship Program we have supported the development of coach Tiffany Gaudette. That included, visits and work done at the National Training Centre alongside our national coaches, access to a national funding program (Petro-Canada FACE program), access to national coaches, and participation as a coach at the World Youth Boccia Championships in July 2023. In the province of Quebec, Veronique Messier from Quebec City is another coach that we have supported in her development. Veronique also received a bursary from the Petro-Canada FACE program in 2023 and was present at the World Youth Boccia Championships, supporting performances from Olivier Roy who finished 3rd at the

High Performance Support Increase

In 2023-24 along with the coaches and our Integrated Support Team we have made progress in providing more support to the athletes, provincial coaches and various partners. First, after the adjustment was made in 2022 to our coaching and technical leaderships roles and solidified in 2023, more visits to athletes were completed and more athletes had access to our daily training center. That included many "Espoir" athletes we started to work with in early 2023. Training schedules were regularly adjusted, with emphasis on training in smaller groups and remote training using cameras started in 2023-24. We have also become more data driven in general. Our physiologist has collected more data (training load, health, psychological/physical readiness, etc.) and this was helpful for the preparation of training and various competitions. Improvements to Boccia Track Application were made and now includes reference to our Gold Medal Profile (GMP) and integrated "Winning Style of Play".

- Our support Team is composed of 7 specialists in: mental performance, physical preparation, physiotherapy, physiology, medicine, biomechanics and neuroscience
- The GMP has been shared with Provincial Partners in 2023
- Online sessions of Gold Medal Profile learning with the Head Coach were organized in 2023





Championships



Montréal World Cup

April 2023

GOLD: Iulian Ciobanu / BC4 Pair

SILVER: Alison Levine

Povoa World Youth Championships

July 2023

BRONZE: Olivier Roy

Santiago Parapan Am Games

November 2023

GOLD: Alison Levine / BC4 Pair

SILVER: Lance Cryderman / Danik

Allard / BC1/2 Team

BRONZE: Iulian Ciobanu

Santiago World Challenger

June - July 2023

GOLD - Alison Levine / Danik Allard

SILVER - Marco Dispaltro / BC1/2 Team

/ BC4 Pair

BRONZE - Lance Cryderman / Kristyn

Collins / Marylou Martineau / Iulian

Ciobanu / BC3 Pair

Fortaleza World Cup

September 2023

GOLD: Alison Levine

SILVER: Iulian Ciobanu



ENHANCE COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Social Media

The numbers below represent CCPSA/Boccia Canada's combined social media following increase from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024, with our demographic mostly inclined to be active on Facebook. We retained all our current followers on all platforms and our engagement on our feed is still respectful and positive, which can be a challenge when having our numbers grow exponentially over the course of five years. The commitment to provide both official languages remains on all platforms, marketing materials, videos, documents, popups, pamphlets, and other publications throughout the year.

In 2023 we gained a total of 171 likes on Facebook and 260 new followers. Because Facebook caters to our demographic the best, we always see the highest numbers here. The Instagram following went up by 138 total accounts, on Twitter (now known as X) we had 58 new accounts follow us, on LinkedIn 41 new profiles, and on Tik Tok 32.

Website

All pdf documents on the CCPSA website were made accessible using the company AccessiBe and will be published on our website as soon as possible. Budget continues to be allocated towards website accessibility every year.

Media

At the 2023 Montréal World Boccia Cup a record number of media came in person to capture footage and quotes from the Boccia Canada athletes competing at the Maurice Richard Arena. A total of five stations were present: City News Montreal, RDS, Radio Canada, Accessible Media Inc., and CBC News. Radio, television, newspaper articles, and social media publications ensued thereafter.

For the first time ever, the Canadian Boccia Championships was streamed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) on their CBC Gem platform and official YouTube page in November 2023. A record number of viewers (approximately 1K) watched boccia over the course of four days at the Richmond Oval. The relationship between Boccia Canada and CBC was strengthened in that the webcast for the 2024 World Boccia Cup in Montreal was cast on CBC's Gem App and YouTube page several months later. The total views increased three-fold the second time for about six days of competition with intention to strengthen the webcast partnership with CBC at 2024 Canadian Boccia Championships.



DEVELOP AND STRENGTHEN SUSTAINABLE FUNDING AND PARTNERSHIPS

The CCPSA is grateful for the funding support from our partners including Sport Canada, Own the Podium, Canadian Paralympic Committee and Coaching Association of Canada. In addition, to our Provincial Partners who are delivering grassroots programming in communities across the country.

Revenue Diversification

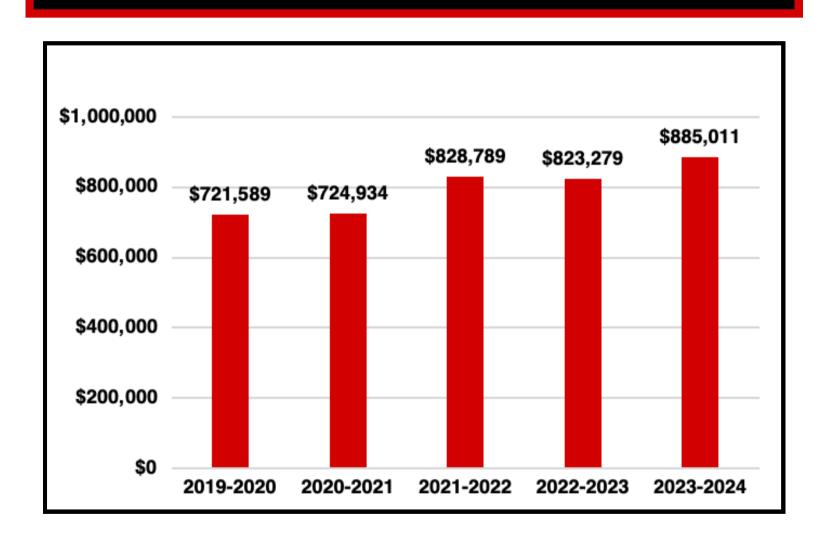
In addition to our annual Core Funding, CCPSA applied and were successful in receiving two additional grants through Sport Canada in 2023-2024.

- Community Sport for All Initiative:Affords Take the Shot grant program to clubs and provinces; school presentations delivered by boccia athletes; and new skill and drill videos.
- Gender Equity and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Sport: Provides Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) education to staff and volunteers; a review of policies and procedures from an EDI lens; followed by the development of an EDI strategy and action plan.

Telemarketing

Approximately 50% of total revenues to the CCPSA is through charitable donations received via telemarketing conducted by **Engage Interactive**. In 2023-2024, we had a 7.5% year-over-year increase in fundraising revenue.

Total Fundraising Revenue



ATHLETES' COUNCIL REPORT

In keeping with the five Strategic Pillars of the CCPSA, the Athletes' Council focussed and progressed on the following areas in 2023-2024.

Strengthen Leadership and Operational Effectiveness

 The Athletes' Council was able to elect new members this year, all of whom bring some much-needed new and innovative ideas to the group. This ultimately helps our group make recommendations to the organization which are solution focused and address specific challenges faced by athletes across Canada and our sport.

Growth and Participation and Development

• The Athletes' Council has made it a priority to engage in meaningful dialogue regarding reducing the barriers of nationally sanctioned events. For example, our members offered some innovative ideas on how the organization might be able to leverage technology to reduce costs. The growth of the game has always been a priority for the Council and will continue to be into the future.

Enhancing Communication and Engagement

 The Athletes' Council created a new dedicated email address to improve communication between the national athletes we serve and our Council members.



This was the second year in which the CCPSA was a Program Signatory to the Abuse Free **Sport Program.** This means that any allegation of maltreatment or other prohibited behavior, as defined in the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS), against a UCCMS participant* of CCPSA must be filed directly with the Office of Sport Integrity Commissioner.

New in 2023-2024 was the introduction of online Consent Form via a centralized platform, for Abuse-Free Sport Participants to sign and provide consent through.

The Platform is designed to ensure that the consent process is smooth and simple, yet giving an opportunity to understand what it means to be an Abuse-Free Sport Participant and provide informed consent in this regard.

The consent process involves watching a 15-minute video about what the UCCMS covers, and a digital consent form follows the learning module.

Transition to this centralized online platform for our participants was scheduled to be completed by June 30, 2024.

CCPSA Participants

- CCPSA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs
- CCPSA Staff + contractors
- National Team Athletes
- National Team Performance Partners
- Integrated Services Team
- National Team Coaches
- National level Referees
- National level Classifiers
- Participants in National Sanctioned events and Canadian Boccia Championships



TREASURER'S REPORT

LIST OF PARTHERS

Additional Financial Support

Complete Audited Financial Statements can be found here.

Statement of Operations for the year ending March 31, 2024				
REVENUE	2024	2023		
Sport Canada (note 2)	702,288	778,880		
Fundraising	849,285	794,896		
Athlete Assessments	86,886	32,413		
Memberships	544	599		
Other Grants	48,000	100,950		
Interest and sundry	67,375	70,585		
	1,754,378	1,778,323		
EXPENDITURES	2024	2023		
Strengthen Leadership and Operational Effectiveness (note 6)	408,760	393,983		
Enhance Communication and Engagement (note 6)	34,178	23,164		
Grow Participation & Development	150,560	166,389		
Reach International Performance Excellence (note 6)	627,695	628,226		
Develop and Strengthen Sustainable Funding and Partnerships	496,644	468,413		
Safe Sport	36,070	27,447		
	1,753,907	1,707,622		
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	471	70,701		

International



National









Coaching Association of Canada

Provincial

















LIST OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Board of Directors

- Suzanne Winterflood, President
- Alana Aird, Vice-President
- Alexandre Ferreira-Silva, Treasurer
- Aidan Godin, Director at Large
- José Malo, Director at Large
- Kevin Shaw, Director at Large
- Megan Muscat, Director at Large
- Sarah Nixon-Suggitt, Director at Large
- Steve Dukovich, Director at Large

Boccia Canada Council

- Steve Dukovich, Chair of Boccia Canada Council
- · Adam Dukovich, Chair of Athletes' Council
- Lance Cryderman, Vice Chair of Athletes' Council
- Eileen Barlett, Chair of the Participation and Development Committee
- Jane Blaine, Chair of High Performance

Athletes' Council

- Adam Dukovich, Chair of Athletes' Council
- Lance Cryderman, Vice-Chair of Athletes' Council
- Chris Halpen, BC1 Representative
- Nathan Bragg, BC2 Representative

- Josh Gautier BC3 Representative
- Ryan Rondeau, BC3 Representative
- Alison Levine, BC4 Representative
- Iulian Ciobanu, BC4 Representative
- Marc-Antoine Goupil, BC5 Representative

Participation and Development Committee

- Eileen Bartlett, Chair of the Participation and Development Committee
- Adam Dukovich, Ontario Representative
- Brenda Redmond, Nova Scotia Representative
- Dayna Penney, Newfoundland and Labrador Representative
- Donna Cumming, British Columbia Representative
- Élizabeth Déziel, Québec Representative
- Hailey Perchotte, Manitoba Representative
- Sally Hutt, New Brunswick Representative
- Tara Chisholm, Alberta Representative
- Vivian Nguyen, Prince Edward Island Representative
- Lorette Dupuis, Head of Classification

High-Performance Committee

- Jane Blaine, Chair of High-Performance Committee
- Mario Delisle, High-Performance Director
- César Nicolai, Head Coach
- Simon Larouche, Assistant & Espoir Coach
- Ed Richardson, BC1 & BC2 Coach

FULL STAFF LIST AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Staff

- Peter Leyser, Executive Director
- Jennifer Larson, Program Manager
- Holly Janna, Communications Lead and National Team Coordinator
- Heather Bonas, Safe Sport Coordinator
- Diana Nunes, Finance Manager
- Mario Delisle, High-Performance Director
- César Nicolaï, Head Coach
- Simon Larouche, Assistant Head and Espoir Coach
- Ed Richardson, BC1 and BC2 Coach

Integrated Support Team (IST)

- Amélie Soulard, IST Lead & National Team Consultant in Mental Performance
- Lisa Minten-Corbeil, National Team Physiotherapist
- Dr. Andréane Bourgeois, National Team Medical Doctor
- Dr. Sylvain Gaudet, National Team Physiologist
- Mathieu Charbonneau, Sport Biomecanist
- Thomas Romeas, National Team Neuroscientist and Skill Acquisition Specialist
- Valérie Audet, National Team Fitness Trainer

Email and Website

- Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association: info@ccpsa.ca | www.ccpsa.ca
- Boccia Canada: info@bocciacanada.ca | www.bocciacanada.ca

Address



RA Centre House of Sport 2451 Riverside Drive Ottawa, Ontario K1H 7X7

Phone Numbers

• Phone: (613) 748-1430 | 1-888-752-2772

Social Media







@CPSportCanada
@BocciaCanada

@canadiancpsportsassociation
 @bocciacan

@CP_SportCanada
@Boccia Canada



@bocciacanada



Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports
Association / Boccia Canada



Boccia Canada