



Made up of disciplines:



WhiteWater Ontario  
[whitewaterontario.ca](http://whitewaterontario.ca)

## Canoe Kayak Ontario NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (EST)

**Google Meet** – please have your Gmail open in order to connect to link below:

[meet.google.com/tbg-gviq-upi](https://meet.google.com/tbg-gviq-upi)



CANOE KAYAK  
ONTARIO  
SPRINT

[CKOSprint.ca](http://CKOSprint.ca)



Ontario Marathon Canoe  
Kayak Racing  
Association  
[omckra.ca](http://omckra.ca)

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call & Introductions
3. Approval of minutes AGM Nov. 2022
4. Chair's Report – Eric Olson
5. Treasurer's Report – Aiden Stead
6. Directors' Reports
7. Executive Director Report – Orest Stanko
8. Appointment of auditor
9. Discipline Nominations to the CKO Board
10. Other business
11. Adjourn

Supported by



Eric Olson President CKO  
October 05, 2023



2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes  
November 5, 2022, 1PM  
Teleconference

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>
<b>CKO Board</b>	
Paul Adams	President
Aiden Stead	Treasurer
Paul Vincent	Director
Ted Roworth	Director
Joanne Arthurs	Director
Christine Archer	Director
Peter Braul	Director
Orest Stanko	Executive Director, CKO
<b>Members</b>	
Gilles Cinq-Mars	CKO Sprint, President
Ryan Blair	CKO Sprint Technical Director
Ian Ramsay	OMCKRA
Kim Snell	OMCKRA
Don Stoneman	OMCKRA

- 1.1 **Meeting Called to Order:** Paul Adams called the meeting to order at 1:05 and asked for all attendees to introduce themselves
- 1.2 **Approval of Minutes.-.** Approval of the draft 2021 AGM Minutes  
Moved: Kim Snell; Seconded: Paul Vincent; **Carried**
- 1.3 **President Report.** A written report was tabled by Paul Adams who thanked all board members for their contribution, and commented that CKO is in a good position to continue to grow.
- 1.4 **Treasurer Report Tabled by Aiden Stead.** Aiden Stead provided an update re: CKO's current financial position.
- Overall CKO remains in a strong fiscal position following the 2022 season
  - As of October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022, CKO has \$15,624 in the bank and \$25,113 in reserve (GIC)
  - Membership fees have not yet been collected - and CKO is projected to end the fiscal year with a bank balance of around \$45,000, plus the \$25,000 in reserve

**Motion to appoint RLB as CKO's auditor:**  
Moved: Aiden Stead; Seconded: Kim Snell; **Carried**

- 1.5** Paul Adams tabled the **Whitewater** annual report prepared by Eric Olson (CKO Director) that was included in the AGM package.
- 1.6** Don Stoneman tabled the **OMCKRA** annual report that was included in the AGM package
- 1.7** Gilles Cinq-Mars (Chair, CKO Sprint) tabled the **CKO Sprint** annual report that was included in the AGM package.
- Paul Vincent complimented Peter Braul and the Collingwood Paddling Club for its continued growth re: both marathon and sprint disciplines.
- 1.8** Orest Stanko tabled the **Executive Director Report** that was included in the AGM package.
- Neil Lumsden, is the new Minister in charge of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS).
- Orest noted that CKO is awaiting the appointment of a new consultant to look after the CKO portfolio.
- CKO has signed the OASF 2022-23 Transfer Payment Agreement; CKO will receive the same funding as in previous cycles, \$150K.

**1.9 Discipline Nominations to the Board**

**Marathon:** Karen Bender, Kim Snell, Christine Archer, Peter Braul

**Sprint:** Aiden Stead, Joanne Arthurs, Paul Vincent, Ted Roworth

Since there were no representatives from Whitewater at the AGM the following nominations are still pending.

**Whitewater:** Larry Norman, Bryan Harris, Eric Olson, Laura Silverthorne

November 8<sup>th</sup>, email vote to accept/approve nominations to the CKO Board:

**Marathon:** Karen Bender, Kim Snell, Christine Archer, Peter Braul

**Sprint:** Aiden Stead, Joanne Arthurs, Paul Vincent, Ted Roworth

**Whitewater:** Larry Norman, Bryan Harris, Eric Olson, Laura Silverthorne

Moved: Ted Roworth; Seconded: Paul Vincent; **Carried**

**1.10 No other business. Motion to Adjourn 2:15 p.m.**

Moved: Paul Vincent; Seconded: Ted Roworth; **Carried.**

**Next CKO Board Meeting** Nov 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 at 7:30.



## **CANOE KAYAK ONTARIO AGM 2023**

### **President's Report**

Canoe Kayak Ontario (CKO) continues to be a strong, collective voice for canoeing and kayaking in Ontario, promoting and supporting its three disciplines: Sprint, Marathon and Whitewater.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS**

Over the past year, we have seen...

- The ongoing commitment and dedication of our board of directors conducting virtual meetings monthly, with additional ad hoc consultations and exchanges as needed.
- Executive Director, Orest Stanko, collaborating with the Ministry Sport Consultant to secure substantial funding
  - \$150,000 for CKO's three disciplines from the Ontario Amateur Sport Fund
  - \$388,000 support funds earmarked for redistribution to member clubs
  - \$101,000 Quest 4 Gold funds for 28 athletes.
- Renewal of the insurance plan.
- Many of our Ontarian athletes competing at national and international events (including 13 of the 23 sent to the PanAmerican Games).
- Bigger than ever training camps and development programs.
- Ontario hosts the Whitewater National Championships at the Minden Wildwater Preserve.

### **GRATITUDE**

Note of appreciation to my fellow board members who have been quite tolerant of my procedural missteps and helpful with advice. There are also unsung heroes from the past who have continued lending the board helping hands as we settled into our new roles and they have my heartfelt gratitude for their role in the development of the organisation.

This transition emphasises the continual need for the infusion of new board members who are equally as dedicated and committed to the background work enabling paddling.

### **MOVING FORWARD**

After a few years of stability in financial support, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport is returning to a more systematic review and assessment of the biannual requests for funding. CKO, with support from the disciplines, has presented a submission. There is now possibly the opportunity to increase our funding but also some risk if other sports have better packages. We will need to be even more attentive to deadlines, requirements for business plans and enhanced reporting back to the Ministry.

In 2022-2023, the board started a review of CKO bylaws in collaboration with legal advice to bring the organisation in compliance with new legislation. That work must be completed over the coming year and presented to the membership.

My main objective for next year would be to increase the communication with the disciplines and CKC and reassess in a systematic way whether our strategic plans align well with our funding partner's objectives and what we want our organisation to become.

With proper guidance, vision and member activism, my crystal ball says further growth in 2024: we'll be stimulating the current athletes of our three disciplines, introducing new members to the sports, developing our network of clubs, coaches, technical experts and other volunteers and welcoming Canada again, this time at the 2024 Canadian Sprint Canoe Kayak Championships.

All this with a side flourish of 2024 Olympics excitement.

*Eric Olson*

*President*

*Canoe Kayak Ontario 2023*



## **CKO AGM Financial Report: 2023**

CKO remains in a strong fiscal position as of November 2023

Please see below the following from our audit for fiscal year 2023 from RLB (Ending March 2023):

“Opinion: “In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Canoe Ontario as at March 31, 2023 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations.”

Unrestricted net assets as of the end of fiscal 2023: \$70,657 (Up \$4,941 from last year)

Overall the fiscal situation is normalizing following COVID-19. The majority of CKO’s budget still invoices “flow-through” money from grants that are ultimately passed onto the disciplines

Non-flow through expenses remain stable around \$35,000 per year and are covered by the annual fee charged to the disciplines. For fiscal 2024 CKO remains on-pace to achieve a modest surplus in-line with the projected budget

During our AGM I will move to once again appoint RLB as our auditor for fiscal 2024

I will be coming to my term limited two years in the treasurer role, but will be staying on as a director and will be happy to assist whomever may take over in that role. After two years I feel CKO remains in good fiscal standing and that we are well positioned for the future

Aiden Stead, Treasurer  
Canoe Kayak Ontario



October 18, 2023

Canoe Ontario  
o/a Canoe Kayak  
Ontario 39 Braco Street  
Kanata,  
ONK2L  
1B6

Dear Board of Directors of Canoe Ontario

We have completed our audit of the financial statements of the Canoe Ontario for the year ended March 31, 2023. As part of our work, we reviewed the accounting procedures and systems of internal control in the principal areas of financial activity within the organization. We report to you that, within the scope of our examinations, the systems of internal control are adequate to support the fairness of presentation and that we did not come across any material weaknesses.

However, we do stress that this observation is not the result of a specific examination of the organization's system of internal control and, therefore, must be taken in the context that it is meant, namely review of internal control systems to allow us to voice our opinion on the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations.

During the course of our audit of the organization for the year ended March 31, 2023, we may have identified matters which might have been of interest to management but tended to be minor or more of a housekeeping nature. During the audit, we would have met with Aiden Stead (Treasurer) and communicated these minor items, if applicable. There were no significant items that we felt should be addressed formally and brought to the attention of the board of directors.

This communication is prepared solely for the information of management and is not intended for any other party and, as such, we accept no responsibility to a third party who uses this communication.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for the excellent co-operation and assistance we received throughout the course of our work and, in particular, the assistance and co-operation received from Aiden Stead.

If you have any questions or concerns, we will certainly be pleased to discuss these with you further, at your convenience.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'RLB LLP'.

M. D. P. Short, MBA, CPA, CA, C. Dir., is responsible for the engagement and its performance, and for the report that is issued on behalf of RLB LLP, and who, where required, has the appropriate authority, from a professional, legal or regulatory body.



To the athletes, coaches, clubs, officials, volunteers, CKO Sprint Board of Directors and committee members, staff, CKO Executive Director and Board of Directors, and partners, thank you! The successful development of high-performance athletes and lifelong paddling would not be accomplished without your commitment to a culture of teamwork and community – OneTeamOneCommunity.

Thank you also goes out to BBCC's Chris Mehak who took on his new role with Canoe Racing New Zealand as a Performance Coach with New Zealand's Women's Kayak Team. BBCC's tribute to Chris put it best *'a good coach is hard to find, difficult to part with, and impossible to forget.'*

CKC's National Team Para Coach Marc Creamer has also moved on to a new role with the Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC). Marc has led the National Para program since 2016 and was instrumental in supporting the development of CKO Sprint's Para Talent ID program, as well as high-performance programming in Ontario.

We would also like to recognize members we have lost this year, including BBCC's Don May, RHCC's Dima Buzdugan, RCC's Dr. Peter Davison, BCC's Liam Fisher, and RCC's Mike Scott. Their contributions to the paddling community will not be forgotten.

2023 was a year of incredible events, accomplishments, and records. Our training camps in Palm Coast, FL, Welland, ON, Ontario Team Camps, and Girls in Sport Crew Boat Workshop provided excellent training, teambuilding, and skill development opportunities. Athletes were extremely successful on the international stage, including BBCC's Rachel Cohen's Gold medal performance at the World Championships in the Special Olympics Unified K2 event with teammate, RCC's Maddy Schmidt. All three (3) Ontario competitions had record number of participants with 197 competitors at Ontario Team Trials (previous record of 185 set in 2016), 587 competitors at the Ontario Championships (previous record of 504 set in 2018), and 170 competitors at the Long Distance Regatta (previous record of 166 set in 2022).

### **Athlete Development:**

Due to the dedication and expertise of club coaches, and the support of clubs, family members and performance partners, Ontario athletes excelled at all international competitions. 46% of all nominated athletes were from Ontario (2025 goal is 50%). Congratulations to all athletes nominated to CKC's National Teams, those who achieved podium performances, who qualified Paris 2024 quota spots, and those who reached their performance goals.

A strategic goal is to become the #1 PTSO in the development of crew boat expertise in Canada. To reach this goal we provided crew boat training at Ontario camps, competitions, and the introduction of our Girls in Sport Crew Boat workshop. A benchmark of success was showcased when three (3) out of the four (4) Junior (U18) doubles events at National Team Trials were won by Ontario athletes.



Our approach to athlete services over the past year has been person and performance focused. In December, we published an athlete feedback form to gather input on support areas and identify opportunities for improvement. We adapted our workshop and service delivery methods to be more resource-based and application-focused, reducing the potential for information loss, especially for our younger teams. This approach has allowed us to better meet the evolving needs of our athletes and provide them with more targeted, effective support.

### **Organizational Excellence:**

Our communication strategy focused on engaging clubs and showcasing younger athletes, all while continuing to celebrate our current team's performances and achievements. This was supported by a diverse array of campaigns, centred around Instagram and led to a 25% increase in followers. In addition, our seasonal newsletter, with a 75% open rate, and the revamped mobile-friendly website, which received over 25,000 site visitors, were pivotal tools in connecting with our community and enhancing user experience.

In 2023, our goal was to develop and improve partnerships with all stakeholders. As such, we launched our new CKO Sprint Summit Series – Reflect, Reconnect & Reimagine. The Summit Series is an opportunity for the paddling community to come together, share ideas, network, and gain inspiration for future programming. Our next Summit is scheduled for November 25, 2023, and will include sessions on our 2023 Program & Services Review/2024 Planning, our introduction to CKO's Sprint's Person-Paddler-Performance Pillars, and Coach & Technical Leader (CTL) support.

Developing partnerships include working with Egale Canada on our inclusive policies, and inclusive training for athletes and coaches. In addition, we are working with Indigenous Sport & Wellness Ontario (ISWO) on coach mentoring with the goal of improved performance at the NAIG 2027 (North American Indigenous Games).

As we strive for excellence through effective leadership, continuous improvement, and collaboration, we encourage the paddling community to participate in our 2023 Program, Services & Events Survey so that we can best support the community in 2024.

### **Grassroots & Growth Development:**

With the support of the Canada Summer Jobs grant, we were happy to again partner with the Divisions and provide Sport Manager positions. These positions are critical to the successful execution of Divisional and Provincial competitions. In addition, thanks to Ontario's SEP grant, we were able to hire an additional summer student to execute our communication strategy and create our Girls in Sport Crew Boat Workshop.

A key objective of our 2025 strategic plan is to support the increase in competitive membership, and performances at the National Championships. Our 2023 competitive membership was 1081, compared to our 2025 goal of 1350, 6 clubs reached the Top 20 ranking of burgee points at the National Championships (2025 goal is 8), and 23 Para & Special Olympics athletes competed National Championships (2025 goal is 30). Considering the 2024 National Championships is held in Welland, ON, we have a tremendous opportunity to exceed all these goals next year.

In 2024 we will work with the Divisions to support volunteerism, particularly in the areas of recruitment, retention, and event management. We will also develop strategies to address issues of inclement weather and crisis management at events.

### **Technical Leadership:**

We continue to promote a growth mindset by providing coach mentoring programs, on-going learning opportunities through our Webinar Series, funding, and support towards Officials development. We have also increased our ability to share knowledge by expanding our website's Resources section for athletes, coaches, clubs, and Officials.

To reach our 2025 strategic goal of increasing the number of trained coaches by 20%, and certified coaches by 30%, we have updated our coach education delivery to include multiple experts leading individual modules, as well as providing greater support to coaches achieving certification.

Starting with our next Summit Series session, our focus in 2024 is to support coaches and technical leaders in the areas of mental and physical health, self-care, and professionalism by building our resources and tools for coaches, technical leaders, and clubs.



CANOE KAYAK  
**ONTARIO**  
SPRINT

### **Ryan Blair | Technical Director**

Canoe Kayak Ontario Sprint

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## Report to the Canoe Kayak Ontario Annual General Meeting

November 11, 2023

Whitewater Ontario continues to show healthy membership. Both the recreational and competitive perspectives of whitewater canoeing and kayaking are represented on the board.

### Events and Competitions

- Many festivals, competitions and club events occurred throughout the province. Events were held in Minden, Forester Falls, Palmer Rapids, Elora Gorge, Buckhorn, Ottawa and Ottawa Valley, Marmora, Fergus, Kitchener, Durham, Quadeville, Mississauga, Port Hope, Petawawa, Hockley Valley...
- Canoe slalom *National Team Trials* took place in April at the Stade d'eaux vives in Pau, France. Significant presence of Ontario paddlers.
- Ontario hosted the *2023 Whitewater National Championships* in Minden Hills with and saw tremendous participation at the cadet levels as well as strong junior showings.
- Several younger paddlers travelled to the *Junior National Team Trials* held at Kananaskis, Alberta and claimed all spots on the Junior National Team.
- Freestyle National Team trials took place on the Ottawa River hosted by WT in August and all spots for K1, C1 and OC1 were claimed.

### Clubs

- Covid Relief - Schedule G committee distributed \$80,470 to clubs in May The Ottawa River Runners club was active with summer camps, instruction and slalom training groups at the Pumphouse but also held many travelling training camps.
- Minden Whitewater Preserve was active beyond the nationals with recreational paddling, events, instruction and training opportunities.
- Many of the Whitewater recreational clubs came together and planned several events (King of clubs, Paddle for Benny, Gull Gala, Gorge Fest and Mackfest to name a few)

### Advocacy

- WO has been very active in working to procure public access for whitewater paddlers to the Ottawa River near Beachburg Ontario. Progress is on going, there was a land survey completed which has indicated a take out would be possible. Next steps are still on going.

### Coaching Programs and Training Camps

- WO High performance slalom training continued throughout the season under the management of Jen Gratto.
- Freestyle mentorship camp was run prior to nationals. Many of the youth paddlers at Nationals came out to improve and gain experience with freestyle. Zack Zwandenburg and Alex Maggs headed the mentorship program.
- Ottawa River saw freestyle training camps over the summer to help prepare the athletes for World Championships 2023
- Slalom race series with training camps in Jonquière and Valleyfield provided interesting

opportunities for Ontario athletes following a training camp in March in Charlotte, NC.

- Winter pool sessions occurred in Ottawa, Fergus and Kitchener, London, etc. Training activities returned to normal outdoors as soon as the temperatures permitted it.

## Membership Numbers:

- Full membership was 1040, this is a good increase over 2022 (747).
- With an increased number of events in 2023, day membership was 292 up from 126 in 2022
- Also 4 commercial members and 6 post-covid clubs.

## National Teams

### Slalom:

- ORR coaching program with support of WO and Coaching Association of Ontario supported 167 training sessions with 12 races, spring training camp, team selections in Kananaskis and Whitewater National Championships
- 12 high performance development athletes, 11 junior/cadet athletes and 18 introductory athletes
- 12 of the 18 spots on the Junior World Championship team were filled, all with Ontario Athletes
- Ontario was the province with the highest combined results at Nationals earning the Brian Creer Cup
- 4 or 6 spots on the development squad were filled during European Canoe Association races
- *World Cups 1-5 & World Championships*: 8 of 9 athletes who represented Canada on the Senior National Slalom team during the season were from Ontario. Three semifinals (WK1, WC1, WXX1 and MC1)
- *Junior and U23 World Championships*: 7 of 9 members of the team from Ontario, a few semifinals.
- Development camp in Europe with participation in races in Bratislava, Roudnice and Prague before the Junior Worlds in Krakow.
- PanAmerican Games in Santiago de Chile all 5 team members were Whitewater Ontario members - they returned with 5 medals: Lois Betteridge silver in WC1 and silver in slalom cross, Mael Rivard - bronze MK1, Daniel Parry - 15th MC1, Beatrice Olson - WK1
- Daniel Parry placed 1st overall in ECA points for under 16 MC1
- Canadian National Championships held in Minden saw competitors come from across Canada and some international paddlers came to compete.
- U23 – Canadian National Championships results: Mark Zielonka – Gold in MK1
- U18 - Canadian National Championships MK1 Results: Daniel Parry – Gold, Isaac Zimmerman – Silver, Lachlan Faraday – Bronze
- U18 - Canadian National Championships MC1 Results: Daniel Parry – Gold, Isaac Zimmerman – Silver, Tyler Gevaert – Bronze
- U18 Canadian National Championship WK1 Results: Paige Zimmerman – Gold
- U18 Canadian National Championship WC1 Results: Paige Zimmerman – Gold
- Canadian Whitewater MK1 Champions: Daniel Parry – Gold in MK1 & Gold in MC1, Owen McKay – Silver in MK1, Isaac Zimmerman – Silver in MC1, Tyler Gevaert – Bronze in MC1, Lachlan Faraday – Bronze in MK1
- Canadian Whitewater WC1 Champion: Paige Zimmerman
- Canadian Whitewater WK1 Results: Paige Zimmerman - Silver
- Canadian Whitewater SLX Championships: Daniel Parry – Gold, Isaac Zimmerman – Silver

## Freestyle:

- *ICF Canoe Freestyle World Championships Festival 2023* in Columbus, Ohio.
- Podium Results from ICF freestyle World Championships: First Canadian Junior podium medal awarded to Sophie Gilfillan - Silver in K1 junior women, Silver medal in OC1 defended by Zack Zwandenburg
- Top 10 placements: Sophie Gilfillan 4th in C1W, Joshua Mendes 9th in K1 junior men
- Top 20 placements: Sydney Nixon 15th and Savannah Westeinde 18th in K1W, Kalob Grady - 12th, Joel Kowalski -17th, Luke Pomeroy - 17th and Sam Duff - 18th in K1M, Ian Thomson - 12th and Matt, Hamilton -13th in squirt
- Participation in judging clinics and training organised by CKC, Ontario had a participant in the ICF freestyle judging clinic.
- Training camps ran to help athletes and help grow the sport

## Carding:

- Eight of the nine Sports Canada Canoe Slalom Athlete Assistance Program cards were awarded to WO athletes for 2022-23.
- Quest for Gold: As this program was again in hiatus this year WO directly supported (with provincial funding) eight junior and U23 athletes in the Next Gen program several of whom attended Junior or U23 World Championships

## **Finances:**

WO remains in good financial health due to a stable membership and Covid relief funding from the Ontario Government. Some pressure on prices due to increases in insurance costs.

## **Priorities for 2024**

- SafeSport - WO will be continuing with the Abuse Free Sport initiative from CKC last November
- Athlete Development: Continued emphasis on Development and Initiation Programs. Seamless integration with Next Gen and National Team programs.
- Paris 2024: Support WO athletes as they aim for the next Olympic games next year!
- Growth for other disciplines - Freestyle continues to gain profile and internal organisation on a National scope with more judges, coaches and events.
- CKC Instructor Certification program renewal. Develop a robust Ontario-based program
- Inclusion, Equity, Indigenous Sport: Continue with development of inclusion within the sport
- Pool Sessions for competitive and recreational athletes
- Support recreational events such as MACKFest, Hell Or High Water, and King of Clubs festivals
- Continue equipment procurement for Initiation and Development Programs as this has proved invaluable in recruiting new paddlers
- Broaden the participation of sport beyond our standard demographic.
- Continue to support initiatives that provide public access to whitewater rivers
- Promote whitewater for fitness, athleticism, and good mental health across all ages
- Promote inclusion and equity in the sport, including representation on the WO Board of Directors and gender groups.
- Active social media in 2024: @whitewaterontario Instagram Account surpassed 1,100 followers.

Submitted by:

CKO Director on behalf of Whitewater Ontario



## **MARATHON Report (submitted by Seb Courville, VP OMCKRA)**

### **Events and Competitions**

Many races and events were back in action this year throughout the Province. 12 Sanctioned races were held during the 2023 season;

- Toronto International Outrigger Challenge
- Nottawasaga Fall Classic
- Upper Jock River Race
- Marsh Mash
- Wai Nui Why Not
- Pittock Paddle
- Canoe The Nonquon
- Manotick Round The Island
- Saugeen Paddlers
- Parry Sound 50
- Kingston To Ottawa
- Muskoka River X

Registrations for most races have increased and were fairly close to pre-pandemic numbers. Unfortunately, 5 races remain cancelled for various reasons. Many paddlers taking part in sanctioned events are NOT members of OMCKRA. There is room to grow our membership numbers.

### **Initiatives and Coaching**

OMCKRA hosted a **Paddler Development** weekend late July in Bracebridge. Many paddlers attended the event where both canoeists and kayakers had the opportunity to be mentored and coached on paddling and racing techniques.

This year a group of outrigger paddlers at the storied Mississauga Canoe Club asked to be sanctioned as a “marathon” club so that they could take part in outrigger activities that are outside of the “Sprint” water safety policy. **Outrigger** is part of the club’s new policy to be more appealing to adult paddlers.

Counting the “Missy” group, **OMCKRA sanctions four outrigger clubs** in the Greater Toronto Area. The others are Wai Nui at Oakville, Maka Koa at Toronto Sailing and Canoe Club and Outer Harbour Paddling Club near the Don River. Long distance Outrigger paddling is in a vibrant stage in urban areas, apparently now taking paddlers away from shorter-distance Dragonboat events.

A note: **“Pro boat”** races on river courses have been supplanted by **Stock Boat** races ultra-distant largely on lakes. We hope to sanction more river races in 2024.

A **Race Subsidy program** encourages OMCKRA members to take part in certain high profile and highly competitive events outside of the province of Ontario, Nationals, Triple Crown, The Chattajack, Yukon River Quest, and some others.

An **Equipment Sharing Initiative**, encouraging members to lend canoes and kayaks to new paddlers, is getting underway.

A student, hired under a provincial **Summer Experience Program grant**, conducted **Economic Impact studies** on sanctioned events using a provincial ministry Tourism Regional Economic Impact Model (TREIM) tool. The Mattawa Canoe Race for example was estimated to contribute more than \$80,000 to the local economy.

The student also developed a “heat map” that charted where members are in the province. Marathon, both in terms of races and membership, has largely moved from its original geographic base in southwestern Ontario to Toronto and areas north and east. Discussions with members point to traffic jams on the major highways around the Greater Toronto Area as being as much or more of an impediment to attending races as is the price of gasoline.

A **second summer student** was hired to complete the **Points Awards** calculations and produce reports required by the provincial government.

**Coaching.** In late October, Master Facilitator Trevor Robinson, Saskatoon, trained six ELCC Marathon coaches. Most were affiliated with the Collingwood Paddling Club, a small multi-disciplinary club on Georgian Bay.

### **Governance**

A summary of the Associations governance – covering relations with the respective PSO:

#### **OMCKRA Board**

- **Oliver McMillan**, President
- **Seb Courville**, Vice President
- **Mike Bender**, Treasurer
- **Don Stoneman**, Race Secretary
- **Christine Archer**, Past President
- **Kim Snell**, Membership Secretary & Recording Secretary

#### **Representatives to the CKO Board in 2023:**

Peter Braul, CKO Marathon Director  
Christine Archer, CKO Marathon Director  
Karen Bender, CKO Marathon Director  
Yvonne Kurz, CKO Marathon Director

#### **Canoe Kayak Canada**

Board member Don Stoneman is Chair of the Marathon Canoe Racing Council and sits on the board of Canoe Kayak Canada. The Ontario rep to the MCRC was vacant for most of this year.

#### **2023 Participation**

For this year, we got a **total membership count of 393**. Racing members accounted for 101 and club members accounted for 292 of the overall memberships.

**Provincial Championships** were cancelled in 2023.

**National Championships Marathon Nationals** were held in **Shawinigan Quebec** in mid-August.



## CKO AGM - November 11, 2023

### Executive Director Report

#### Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

Canoe Kayak Ontario (CKO) continues to maintain a strong relationship with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS). Earlier this year CKO welcomed yet another new Ministry consultant, Jennifer Fraser, who replaced Jason Lam.

As per my previous report presented at the 2022 AGM, CKO received three (3) sources of funding from the Ministry including:

- **Ontario Amateur Sport Fund (OASF) allocation of \$150,000.** All funds were received including initial \$30K holdback – following submission of year-end report on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 - and distributed to the three (3) disciplines as per agreed to formula.
  - Sprint - \$100,197
  - Whitewater - \$36,250
  - Marathon - \$13,553
- **Schedule G - Funding to Community Sport Clubs: total \$388,370.05**
  - CKO Sprint - \$266,344.16
  - Whitewater - \$80,470.27
  - OMCKRA - \$41,555.00
- **Schedule H - Quest for Gold: total \$101,388.00**
  - CKO Sprint - \$20,277.60
  - Whitewater - \$81,110.40

#### OASF 2022-23 Report & OASF 2023-25 Funding Application

In 2023, CKO submitted an OASF report covering fiscal 2023; please see Appendix A for details regarding report submission.

Also, in June 2023, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) introduced a new Ontario Amateur Sport Fund (OASF) application process. In addition to basic information requests, e.g., budgets, financial statements, etc., PSOs were also asked to respond to a series of questions and provide details regarding program initiatives. For example:

- Q5. *Provide detail regarding training programs for Train to Train and Train to Compete athletes including number of athletes, training hours, dates and locations.*
- Q13. *Over the next two years, what are your PSO/MSO's top initiative(s) (up to a maximum of three) to increase sport participation?*
- Q14. *Over the next two years, what are your PSO/MSO's top initiative(s) (up to a maximum of three) to recruit, train and/or support coaches to ensure every Ontarian has access to a qualified coach?*



- Q15. Over the next two years, what are your PSO/MSO's top initiative(s) (up to a maximum of three) to recruit, train and/or support officials to enable competitions to take place throughout Ontario?
- Q16. Over the next two years, what are your PSO/MSO's top initiative(s) (up to a maximum of three) programming to support athlete development and/or excellence within your sport(s)?
- Q17. Over the next two years, what are your PSO/MSO's top initiative(s) (up to a maximum of three) to attract, develop and/or retain athletes with a disability?
- Q18. Over the next two years, what are your PSO/MSOs top initiative(s) (up to a maximum of three) to create, enhance and/or support safe environments for all participants?
- Q19. Over the next two years, what are your PSO/MSO's top initiative(s) (up to a maximum of three) to create, enhance and/or support equitable, inclusive, diverse, and/or accessible sport environments?
- Q20. Over the next two years, what are your PSO/MSO's top initiative(s) (up to a maximum of three) to support the mental health for members, staff and/or Board of Directors?

Deadline for both submissions was June 30<sup>th</sup>. All documents were uploaded to the Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) online system.

To date, MTCS has not released the final results of the OASF application process and funding amounts. Once CKO receives details regarding its funding allocation each discipline will be required to complete a Ministry provided business plan template and identify how OASF funds will be spent. All funds must be assigned to eligible expenses. In general, the guiding criteria regarding eligible expenses is defined as expenditures that are tied to sport related management and administration.

**Eligible Expenses** Funds may be used for, or for costs related to or arising as a result of:

- i. salary and benefits;
- ii. rental and facility operation includes heat, hydro, cleaning, maintenance;
- iii. meeting space;
- iv. office furniture;
- v. technology;
- vi. programming costs;
- vii. coach and official certification and professional development;
- viii. training camps, fitness testing, talent identification, sport science/medicine;
- ix. enhanced competition opportunities;
- x. enhancement of LTAD –based programs, governance structure, policy development/rejuvenation;
- xi. initiatives targeted at under-represented populations;
- xii. and travel, accommodation, and/or meal expenses (these cannot exceed the current provincial rates of the **Broader Public Sector Accountability Act (BPSAA)** directives).

**Ineligible Expenses** Funds may not be used for, or for costs related to or arising as a result of:

- i. capital purchases (real estate, vehicles for promotional purposes, non-sport equipment)

- ii. components of a project already being funded by any other provincial grant program*
- iii. legal costs*
- iv. financial review engagements/audits*
- v. insurance*
- vi. long term debt financing*
- vii. budget deficits*
- viii. legal*

The Ministry continues to carefully scrutinize financial reports to confirm that all OASF funds are applied towards eligible expenses, as per above.

### **CKO Bylaws – Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA)**

In 2023, CKO initiated the process of revising its bylaws to comply with ONCA requirements. Steve Indig, lawyer for Sport Law, presented an initial draft earlier this year. Paul Vincent and myself met with Steve Indig on October 30<sup>th</sup>, to review the draft and recommend changes including amending the definition of what constitutes a CKO member from individuals to clubs and affiliates. A new draft was completed by Sport Law. The new Board of Directors will need to review and approve. Subsequently a special meeting will need to be convened in order to ratify and implement. All not-for-profit organizations must be in compliance with the ONCA legislation by no later than Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This mandatory requirement also applies to all of the disciplines.

Additionally, the lawyer will commence to change the legal name of the organization from Canoe Ontario to Canoe Kayak Ontario.

### **Quest for Gold Funding**

To date CKO has not received any update regarding Quest for Gold (Q4G) funding. I anticipate that CKO will be receiving Q4G funding for the 2023-24 cycle in support of CKO Sprint's and Whitewater's high-performance athletes and programs.

### **Ontario High-Performance Sport Initiative (OHPSI) 2021-23**

Through the OHPSI program the Canadian Sport Institute Ontario (CSIO) provides leadership, coaching support, sport science and sport medicine services, equipment and technology, competition and training camp enhancements, and facility access to create optimal daily training environments for Ontario athletes and coaches. The OHPSI program was created with the goal of increasing the number of Ontario athletes performing at the international stage.

CKO Sprint continues to be a part of the CSIO's OHPSI program. The 2021-23 agreement was signed September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021. As a designated Tier 2 OHPSI sport, CKO Sprint is eligible to receive a contribution of \$95,000.00 per annum.

Respectfully submitted,

Orest Stanko  
Executive Director, Canoe Kayak Ontario

## Appendix A

### Sport Recognition Policy and 2022-2023 Ontario Amateur Sport Fund Attestation and Transfer Payment Agreement Reporting Requirements

**May 2023**

**PSO/MSO:**

This form will:

- Confirm your organization’s continued compliance with the requirements of the Sport Recognition Policy
- Attest your PSO/MSO used funding from 2022-2023 Ontario Amateur Sport Fund (OASF) towards eligible expenses.
- Outline the reporting requirements as part of your Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA) for the 2022-2023 OASF (including applicable Amending Agreements).

**Due: June 30, 2023**

<b>Sport Recognition Policy Requirements</b>	
√	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b> <b>(Please confirm with Sport Consultant to ensure ministry has current and accurate information.)</b>
√	Confirm current contact information for the PSO/MSO.
√	Submit current list of the PSO/MSO’s Board of Directors and attest they reside in Ontario by checking the box to the left.
√	Submit a letter of endorsement (dated April 1, 2023 or later) from a Sport Canada funded National Sport Organization (NSO). The letter must outline the discipline(s) governed by the NSO, and stipulate that the NSO recognizes the PSO/MSO as the governing body for the sport in Ontario ( <i>Attached to the email is a sample template</i> ).  For <b>combative sports</b> that do not have a Sport Canada funded NSO, two letters need to be submitted: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A letter of endorsement from the International Federation (IF). This letter must indicate which disciplines are governed by the IF and must identify its recognized Canadian NSO.</li> <li>2) A letter from the Canadian NSO recognized by the IF. The letter must outline the discipline(s) governed by the NSO, and stipulate that the NSO recognizes the PSO/MSO as the governing body for the sport in Ontario.</li> </ol> <p><b>*Endorsement letters to only include discipline(s) the Ministry has recognized the PSO/MSO for.</b></p>
	<b>GOVERNANCE</b> <b>Please check to confirm your PSO/MSO has submitted the requirement documents, where indicated.</b>
√	Submit Board approved Strategic Plan (not required if submitted as part of the 2023-25 OASF Application)
√	<b>For Council Sports:</b> Submission of the annual contract between the Council and its affiliate groups or member associations that outlines the Terms and Conditions for their working relationship. The contract must ensure that the associations recognize through their By-Laws that they are accountable to the PSO Council, and ultimately to the Ministry.
√	<b>POLICIES</b> <b>(Please check to attest and confirm compliance).</b>

√	<p>By checking the box to the left, attest that all operational policies required within the Sport Recognition Policy have been:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Board reviewed and approved within the last three years (since April 1, 2020)</li> <li>2. Submitted to the Ministry</li> <li>3. Posted to the PSO/MSO website</li> </ol>
√	<p><b>TECHNICAL AND SAFETY STANDARDS</b>  <b>(Please check to attest and confirm compliance).</b></p>
√	<p>By checking the box to the left, attest that your organization continues to comply with the rules and regulations of its Sport Canada funded NSO or IF that provided the letter of endorsement. The NSO or IF outlines the rules of play, requirements for athletes, coaches, officials and referees, the field of play, equipment and scoring. Rule modifications can only be made with the permission from the appropriate Sport Canada funded NSO or IF, along with an explanation of how they align with the PSO/MSO's Long-Term Development (LTD) or equivalent athlete development pathway.</p>
√	<p><b>PROGRAMMING</b>  <b>(Please check to attest and confirm compliance).</b></p>
√	<p>Programming for Athletes – By checking the box to the left, attest that your organization confirms that its programming provided to athletes complies with an NSO approved Long-Term Development model for the sport.</p>
√	<p>Coaches – By checking the box to the left, attest that your organization confirms that it continues to train and certify coaches and provide them with professional development opportunities.</p>
√	<p>Officials – By checking the box to the left, attest that your organization confirms that it continues to train and certify officials and provide them with professional development opportunities.</p>

<b>Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA) Reporting and Planning Requirements</b>	
The documents below can be submitted based on the PSO/MSO fiscal, however, the period must cover the time period outlined. It is acceptable to submit multiple documents to cover the required timeline.	
√	<b>REPORTING AND PLANNING REQUIREMENTS: (Please check to confirm you have submitted the required documents)</b>
√	Submit Minutes from the PSO/MSO's most recently held Annual General Meeting, as well as the most recent Approved Minutes (Example: Approved 2021 AGM minutes/Draft 2022 AGM minutes)
√	<p>Submit a valid Insurance Certificate that meets MTCS requirements detailed in section A.10 of the OASF TPA. This includes the following detail, listed or visible on the certificate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The TP recipient is listed as the certificate holder</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> On an occurrence basis, with an inclusive limit of not less than \$2 million</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Minimum of 30 day written notice of cancellation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Naming of MTCS as an additional insured - (His Majesty the King in right of Ontario, His minister, agents, appointees and employees, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport to 400 University Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Toronto ON M7A 2R9)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that it's currently valid</li> </ul> <p>With evidence of the following coverage (have each item listed/visible on the certificate):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Commercial General Liability</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Contractual Liability</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Cross Liability</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Personal Injury</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bodily Injury</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Property Damage</li> </ul>
√	Submit documentation which reports on outcomes of activities identified in operational plan(s) spanning funding period April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023. This can be in the form of a "Status" column added to the Operational Plan indicating status of each activity (ex. Complete, ongoing, delayed and any relevant details).
√	Submit your PSO/MSO's Budget Actuals to reflect the April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023 funding period <b>including a column identifying where OASF funding was allocated.</b>
√	Submit your PSO/MSO's Financial Review Engagement/Audit for the most recent year-end.
√	<b>For Councils Sports:</b> Budget documents and Financial Review Engagement/Audit documents must identify any transfers of Ministry funds to Member Associations as separate line items, while Member Association documents must identify incoming Ministry funds as a separate revenue line.
√	Final Report for Quest for Gold (if applicable)
√	Sport Specific Data Report (not required if submitted as part of the 2023-25 OASF Application)

**ATTESTATION FORM**

We attest that **Canoe Kayak Ontario** meets the ongoing requirements to maintain recognition status as identified in the Sport Recognition Policy as well as additional requirements within 'Schedule E' of the Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA).

We attest that **Canoe Kayak Ontario** has used the Ontario Amateur Sport Fund funding provided for 2022-2023 by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport in the amount of \$150,000 for the priorities of the Ontario Amateur Sport Fund as outlined in Schedule "C" of the TPA and only for eligible expenses as outlined in Schedule "D" of the TPA and according to Section A14.1 of the TPA.

The form must be signed off on behalf of **Canoe Kayak Ontario** by a signing officer(s) as defined in the **Canoe Kayak Ontario** by-laws.

**Eric Olson - President**

Name (please print)



Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_June 27, 2023\_\_\_\_\_

Date

**Orest Stanko – Executive Director**

Name (please print)



Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_June 27, 2023\_\_\_\_\_

Date