

STAY CONNECTED

Follow us on social media



Ringette Canada/Ringuette Canada



@ringettecanada1963



@ringettecanada

THANK YOU

Your support makes everything Ringette Canada does possible. We thank you for your commitment to this great game.



WELCOME

Ringette turned sixty (60) this past year stemming back to 1963 where it was founded by Sam Jacks in North Bay, Ontario! We took the time to celebrate this important milestone with many special reflections and exhibits on display during the World Championships held last fall in Calgary, Alberta. While much has changed in six decades, the passion and strength of community remain steadfast. We are delighted that our registrations reached an all-time high this year, a testament that ringette in Canada is thriving and enjoyed by so many. During our 2023-24 season we saw a welcome return to a familiar cycle of ringette activities that culminated in April 2024, with the Canadian Ringette Championships (CRC) in Dieppe, N.B. Well done to all the teams that competed at the 2024 CRC and to those that rose to the podium – congratulations! A big thank you is extended to the host and local New Brunswick volunteers who helped to showcase our sport in such a terrific way!

2023-24 marked the launch of a new Strategic Plan for Ringette in Canada centered around passion, potential and community. Ringette Canada continues to emphasize our organizational values (ICARE) as the hallmark of our success and our approach to effective governance, decision-making, and culture. We thank the ringette community for your valuable input which helped to shape our plan.

INNOVATION

We try new things and take new approaches to achieve our goals while managing risk. Efforts this past year focused on examining new approaches, tools and processes to help improve our services and organizational efficiencies. We are thrilled to have received funding to further advance the great work already underway in the advancement of our commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and we are excited for new initiatives on these fronts.

COMMUNITY

We welcome diverse perspectives to enrich our experience, and we consider the greater good.

Backed by our Board of Directors, the national office team was committed in making itself available, ready to listen and willing to work in partnership with provincial members and local hosts for both the World Ringette Championships and CRCs. We are proud of the positive and mutually beneficial result. In addition, we continued to prioritize close collaboration with Sport Canada and extend our thanks to them as a valued contributor to our success. Finally, in accessing support under the Community Sport for All Initiative and working with community-based champions, Ringette Canada has been able to increase participation opportunities for currently underserved groups such as Indigenous, Persons with a Disability, and Newcomers. We are proud of how the use of Ringette Canada's Gym Ringette, Come Try Ringette and Mixed Ability programs contributed to increased participation.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We manage and lead with integrity. We take responsibility for our actions and learn from our mistakes. We persisted in highlighting the importance of accountability for our volunteers, staff, and stakeholders. This accountability remained mandatory not only for those involved in program delivery and organizational management but also for our athletes, coaches, support staff, and officials at all levels connected to our national teams.

WELCOME

RESPECT

For the game. For the rules. For our heritage. For each other. As dedicated advocates of diversity and inclusion, we demanded respect for all members of our community, regardless of their position, and firmly upheld the True Sport principles. We acknowledged the limitations within our organization, especially in financial matters, which guided us through challenging decisions. Your respectful interactions with us continue to impress us, and we thank you for that.

EXCELLENCE

We demand quality. We bring our best to each situation, and we strive for continuous improvement. Ringette Canada has consistently attracted skilled volunteers and staff committed to excellence. There's no room for complacency with such a critical value. Should we fall short of our high standards, we commit to assess the problem and take necessary actions in pursuit of excellence.

FURTHER. HIGHER. TOGETHER.

Your trust and support will remain crucial as we adopt best practices and build upon our already strong foundation. We have achieved great success in many areas including elevation of our governance practice to meet the updated standards within the Canadian Sport Governance Code. This work was driven by our Board of Directors, supported by our Members, and was guided by our commitment to excellence. Looking ahead we will continue to place high importance on safe sport, and financial responsibilities, ensuring accountability and clearness. Thank you for your ongoing support.

We can't do this without you. We again extend our gratitude to all our members and to everyone who makes our community so special. Officials, coaches, athletes, athlete support personnel, administrators, and parents/guardians: you all contribute to make our sport so great.

Thank you to the staff who work tirelessly from coast to coast to keep our sport in demand and so vibrant. I would also like to extend thanks and best wishes to our past Executive Director, Julie Vézina, who departed the organization in May to pursue a career opportunity closer to her home in Montreal. We are working diligently to identify and secure our next Executive leader to help Ringette Canada deliver its mission, aligned with our strategic plan.

Finally, after six fulfilling and rewarding years, 2023-24 is the final year of my tenure as President of Ringette Canada. It has been an honour and privilege to work with such a dedicated group of volunteers, staff and provincial members for the betterment of ringette. Of course, there have been challenges along the way, but the positive experiences and the many new friends and colleagues I have acquired have shaped such fond memories which I will cherish forever. Good luck and best wishes for continued success to you all.

Sincerely yours,

President Angie Milbury



VALUES

REFRESHED VALUES:

Ringette Canada has defined a core set of values to enhance our work and strengthen our relationships. The following values, along with our adherence to the True Sport principles, reflect our passion for, and our shared commitment to the sport of ringette.

During the development of our 2024-27 Strategic Plan, and following extensive consultation with our stakeholders, it was determined that there were gaps in our previous values.

This new Strategic Plan encouraged the evolution of our core 'C' value - from Collaboration to the more inclusive 'Community,' which will allow us to have a greater impact from both a business and ringette perspective.



INNOVATION

We try new things and take new approaches to achieve our goals while managing risks.

COMMUNITY

We welcome diverse perspectives to enrich our experience. We consider the greater good.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We manage and lead with integrity. We take responsibility for our actions and learn from our mistakes.

RESPECT

For the game. For the rules. For our heritage. For each other.

EXCELLENCE

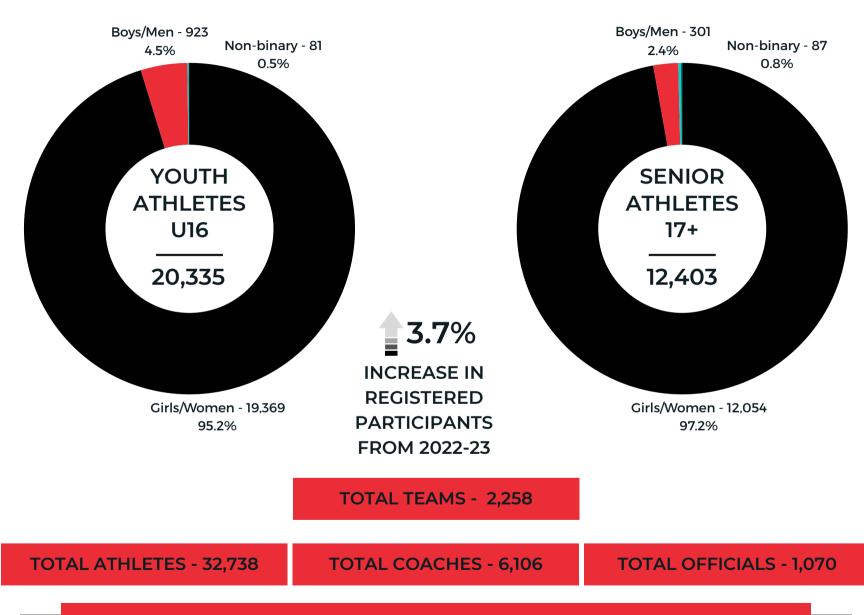
We demand quality. We bring our best to each situation. We strive for continuous improvement.

ABOUT



Ringette Canada is the national governing body for

PARTICIPATION



TOTAL NUMBER OF REGISTERED ATHLETES, COACHES AND OFFICIALS - 39,914

COME TRY RINGETTE

There's no better way to grow ringette than to get sticks in the hands of new athletes. Come Try Ringette, Ringette Canada's most popular national program, helped PTSO's do just that.





3,916

Participants of all ages introduced to ringette nationally through program

42%

of attendees went on to register with a ringette association after participating in a session

140+

associations nationwide held Come Try Ringette events



2023-24 FINANCIALS

REVENUE

Contributions

Sport Canada - Core \$ 480,500 Sport Canada - Other 397,300 Coaching Association of Canada 62,686

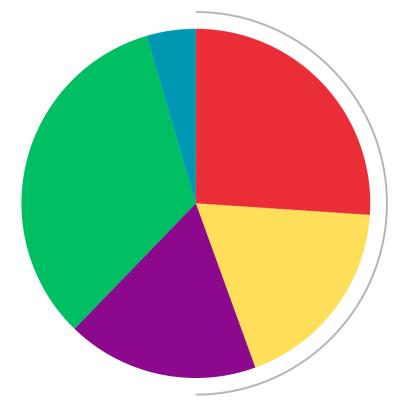
Registration & Membership 737,632

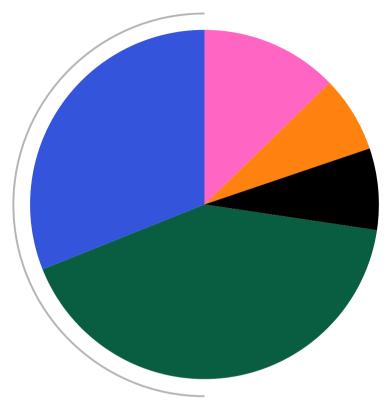
High Performance 521,102

Competition & Events 503,473

Other Revenue 128,600

TOTAL REVENUES \$ 2,831,293





EX	PE	NS	ES

High Performance	\$ 1,187,935
Administration & Covernance	887.412

Competitions & Events 363,793

Technical Development216,038

Sport Development 201,902

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 2,857,080

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION

We were awarded a transformational grant by Sport Canada, which will allow for critical EDI work to take place. Over the course of the next year, we will conduct an analysis of the current 'Female Coach on the Bench' policy and its impact, an Indigenous ringette pilot project in British Columbia, the delivery of a nationwide Come Try Ringette program in partnership with the Sport Information Resource Centre, the translation of Come Try Ringette delivery and materials into Tagalog, Hindi, Punjabi, and Mandarin, as well as the development of a robust pathway from athlete to official.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HUMAN RESOURCES

This year the HR Committee worked with the Executive Director to review the Employee Handbook, with the intent to ensure Ringette Canada's policies and processes are consistent and up to date with current best practices. Following the resignation of our Executive Director in April, the HR committee engaged a third party contractor to help support the organization ensuring continuity of services and to assist with recruitment of a new leader.

AUDIT & RISK

The Audit and Risk committee focused on supporting the organization to develop financial forecasting and accountability practices further, to manage the budget, and the continuing inflationary pressures experienced. In addition to its annual audit oversight role, the committee continued to build the foundational structures of risk management envisioned in its new mandate. The annual committee work plan included completing the risk management integration work and the assessment of proposals for the 2024 financial statement audit. The committee will also continue supporting the organization's financial literacy growth by continuing to hone the budgeting and forecasting processes as well as streamlining financial reports.

GOVERNANCE

The Governance and Ethics Committee has focused on strengthening Ringette Canada's governance practices by ensuring compliance with the Sport Governance Code in advance of Sport Canada's April 2025 deadline, and benchmarking Ringette Canada's practices against the Good Governance Framework. Ringette Canada's By-Law was revised to ensure compliance with the Sport Governance Code, with the new By-Law approved by the members in June. The Board adopted formal Terms of Reference for each of the Board's committees, all of which are now posted on the Ringette Canada website. A Board Mandate is also being developed. Updated mandates and position descriptions for the Executive Director and the Board Chair were approved. The Board adopted a policy review process to ensure policies are adequately vetted by appropriate board committees prior to coming to the Board for approval.

NOMINATIONS

Using a competency matrix, and with an objective of ensuring diversity of the board, the Nominations Committee recruited new board members based on the skills needed on the board, for proposal to our Members for election to the Board of Directors. The committee seeks individuals whose life, work experience, and backgrounds allow them to make meaningful contributions to board discussions, ultimately resulting in the best decisions made for Ringette Canada.

The committee also reviewed returning Director skills and competencies to identify gaps that incoming Directors could fill, to ensure that the Board covers the important areas identified and therefore fulfills its oversight role, including: Governance, Strategic Planning, Financial Management, Human Resource Management, Business Experience & Knowledge of Amateur Sport.

EVENTS

La Relève - Calgary, AB



To enrich the experience of high performance ringette athletes, this event serves as an entry point into Ringette Canada's High Performance pathway exposing participating athletes, coaches, officials, and our Integrated Support Team (Athletic Therapists, Strength and Conditioning coaches, Dieticians, and Mental Performance Consultants) to a unique, intensive high performance development experience. In addition to their training, athletes, coaches, officials, and IST staff were able to witness and interact with Ringette Canada's Junior National Team during their pre-World Ringette Championship training camp preparation as well as Ringette Canada's U18 Development program. The U17 athletes are exposed to the essential habits and behaviours that align with Ringette Canada's I-CARE values on their journey to Excellence.

IMPACT

68 Athletes and families

- 3 Program Supervisors
- 4 Development Officials
- 1 Official Supervisor
- 12 Female development coaches
- 2 Goaltending Coaches
- 1 Skating skills Coach
- 2 Coach mentors
- 4 Team managers
- 5 IST staff (1 Mental Performance, 2 Strength & Conditioning, 1 Dietician, 1 Athletic Therapist)

World Ringette Championships - Calgary, AB



Canada Olympic Park, WinSport Event Centre hosted more than 350 athletes, coaches, officials, and IST Staff.

Canada's Junior National Team made significant gains during the 2023 cycle in their development and execution at the World Championship Level. The return of Ringette and daily training environment preparation across the country, including NRL Competitions, Canada Games training and development were positive factors in preparing our Canadian athletes for their National Team Camps and meaningful high-level play. The World Championship showcased elite speed, skill, and execution. Game 1 ended in a tie, with Finland winning game 2 and ultimately winning the World Championship title.

- 22 Athletes
- 4 Coaches
- 4 IST Staff and a Team Leader

EVENTS

U18 International Development - Calgary, AB



Ringette Canada formally led the first U18 International Development Camp, a first for this age group, understanding that everyone will benefit if we work together to develop the game. There were 60 athletes representing Canada, Finland, the USA, and Czechia.

14 Coaches collaborated on plans and on-ice delivery representing Canada, Finland, and the USA. Athletic Therapists, Mental Performance Consultants, Dieticians, Strength & Conditioning Coaches, and Team Leaders were part of this development. Athletes from each nation were divided up, as were staff to deliver programming, share best practices on and off-ice, team build, and ultimately learn from each other in areas such as individual skills, individual tactics, and small team tactics. The development event ended with International Intersquad games followed by Canada East and Canada West each competing in competitive development games against Finland.

IMPACT

40 Athletes were invited and 34 selected

1 Master Coach Developer and Mentor

6 Bench Staff Coaches

1 Skating Skills Coach

2 Goalie Coaches

2 CSI Alberta Strength and Conditioning Coaches;

1 Mental Performance Consultant

1 Dietician

3 Coaches in Training also completed their Competition Development Certification

Canadian Ringette Championships - Dieppe, NB



The 2024 Canadian Ringette Championships took place April 7th to 13th in Dieppe, New Brunswick, and was another amazing showcase for our sport as we saw the 49 best ringette teams in the country at the U16, U19, and NRL levels battle it out. Congratulations to Cyclones de Québec (U16) and Team Alberta (U19) for taking home the Gold medals and the Edmonton WAM! (NRL) repeating as league champions.

A huge thank you to all the participants, volunteers, host committee members, officials, and spectators for a fantastic week of competition.

HIGH PERFORMANCE

Ringette Canada Staff, in partnership with the Calgary host committee, simultaneously delivered 3 major high performance events along with numerous community engagement events that were delivered over a 10-day period.

Strove for excellence by enriching the experience of ringette participants

- 1. Delivered a quality athlete development pathway that provides opportunities for athletes at: the Junior National Team level Training to Win striving for excellence, U18 International Development Camp Training to Compete, Learning to Win and La Releve Learning and Training to Compete levels of Ringette Canada High Performance pathway
- 2. Increased the capacity and improved the effectiveness of coaches with a particular focus on female coaches on delivery and reflection
- 3. Increased the capacity and improved the effectiveness of our officials with a particular focus on female officials and male officials working the game. There were 16 Officials through all programs including supervisors and shot-clock operators
- 4. World Championships Additional programming for Officials from Canada. Finland also took part in skating refinement; mental skill refinement & development sessions

Aligned the ringette community

- 1. Facilitated opportunities to increase collaboration and strengthen relationships among ringette stakeholders. Ringette Canada partnered with Ringette Finland with a Coach Developer to deliver on-ice sessions at the U18 level. This collaboration has helped build an international network for 8 of our National Team Program Coaches
- 2.Discovered new ways to create and foster consistent alignment between all ringette partners on programs and systems. By hosting La Releve, U18, and our Junior National Team programs at the same time, we provide the platform to build alignment between our coaches in each of the programs

Drove ringette growth through innovation

- 1. Skate with the Champions Event Featuring the JNT and U18 program athletes provided the Alberta community an opportunity to interact with their role models
- 2. Local teams won opportunities to 'Experience a Dream' and watch practice from the bench, tour the Team Canada Dressing room, and get autographs from Team Canada athletes
- 3. Community Coach Education Workshop took place during the CRC event
- 4. Coach Developer and Coach Evaluator Training took place leading into the World Championship

RINGETTE TURNS 60!



Getting girls into winter sport - That was the vision in 1963 when risks were taken to develop a brand new sport to **give women and girls an opportunity for competition** during long, cold Canadian winters.

From that dream, a revolution was born. Women of all ages fell in love with the sport and participation spread across the country. Provincial and local associations sprouted. Tournaments were developed to feed athletes' competitive hunger. Interest was sparked in new countries and the World Ringette Championship was born. Ringette's popularity grew as boys and men jumped on the ice as well.

From athletes to coaches to officials to alumni, Ringette has now touched the lives of millions of Canadians and is growing every day. We are proud to say that ringette is now embedded into the fabric of Canada and we look forward to the next 60 years of our wonderful sport.

COMMUNITY SPORT FOR ALL GRANTS

Ringette Canada was awarded funding support from Sport Canada under the Community Sport for All Initiative. The intent of this funding is to remove barriers and increase sport participation rates for underrepresented groups. Ringette Canada used this funding to support three separate initiatives:

The first project was the creation of a series of skill videos to assist potential new athletes and coaches in understanding fundamental ringette skills (i.e. passing, shooting, skating skills, etc.). These videos will be integrated into our current coaching courses as well as made publicly available.

The second project was the creation of promotional videos for our Come Try Ringette and Mixed Ability Ringette videos. The intent of these videos is to promote awareness of ringette and the different participation opportunities that are available. We hope that these videos not only spark interest in new participants but also encourage local associations to promote and get involved in these important grassroots programs.

Finally, we were also able to use this funding to award grants to 30 different groups, local and provincial associations to support a variety of initiatives to reduce participation barriers to ringette. Grants were used to host Come Try Ringette sessions, create gear libraries, start Gym Ringette programs and support Mixed Ability programs.



NATIONAL RINGETTE LEAGUE

The National Ringette
League (NRL) is the
Canadian showcase league
for ringette. Established in
2002, the NRL is the longest
continually running elite
women's sport league in
Canada.





16 games



Rookie of the Year - Annie Trudel - Montreal Mission

Most Valuable player - Kaitlyn Youldon - Calgary RATH

Top Centre - Gillian Dreger - Edmonton WAM!

Top Forward - Megane Fortin - Montreal Mission

Top Defense - Melissa Misutka - Edmonton WAM!

Top Goalkeeper - Sarah Macdonald - BC Thunder

Team Personnel of the Year - Calgary RATH

NRL Top Scorer - Jenny Snowdon - Atlantic Attack

NRL Scoring Champion - Britney Snowdon - Atlantic Attack

NRL Volunteer of the Year - Candace Ketsa - Edmonton WAM!





STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-27

The 2024-27 Strategic Plan focuses on four strategic pillars which are:

GROWING THE SPORT

WELCOMING EVERYONE

BECOMING OUR BEST

WORKING AS A TEAM

Listening to the voices of our stakeholders, we have identified and prioritized needs that will advance these strategic imperatives.

In creating our plan we drew inspiration from the proven benefits of incorporating values into the sport experience as a means to help athletes and participants achieve various goals such as forming friendships, developing character, and pursuing excellence. Ringette in Canada is known and recognized as a growing, welcoming, and safe sport community that provides lifelong opportunities for challenge and growth. This plan is guided by our commitment to being an athlete-centered organization which will help us to deliver an environment in which Ringette participants experience the best in sport.

EQUIPMENT SURVEY

Better access to quality equipment is essential for the growth of our sport.

Ringette Canada underwent a nationwide equipment survey to track the spending habits of our community to help ensure that they have access to quality and affordable equipment.







It's no secret that sport requires an investment to play, but it's an investment ringette athletes and parents are willing to make. Recent national ringette survey data and market analysis show vividly that the ringette equipment market is ready to explode. Close to half of athletes surveyed spend \$300 or more each year on equipment, and 16% spend over \$500 each year — numbers likely lowered by heavy reliance on second hand gear due to a lack of new options.

Ringette Canada surveyed close to 700 athletes, parents, and coaches, and the verdict is clear: athletes and parents are exasperated searching for safe, reliable equipment to get them on the ice.

This new research has led Ringette Canada to new ideas, new partnerships, and to explore more opportunities for growth in the equipment market. Ringette athletes want more equipment selection, more convenient ways to buy, and they are hungry for quality, reliable brands to invest in their sport.

SAFE SPORT

Ringette Canada continued to work to educate all stakeholders on the importance of integrating Safe Sport into the backbone of their policies and programing.

We created many resources this year to expand our Safe Sport Resources Hub including videos, Safe Sport tips, checklists, and conversation prompts. We also provided our provincial partners with Safe Sport Policy Templates and a subsidy to help offset the legal costs of adapting the templates to fit the particularities of each province.



LEAD [LEADING EQUITABLE AND ACCESSIBLE DELIVERY]

Ringette Canada is the <u>first</u> National Sport Organization to participate in the LEAD Process. The LEAD Process, a system-integrated methodology for achieving accessibility and inclusion, is one of the core services Abilities Centre has scaled and implemented in and outside of Ontario. The goal of LEAD is to support organizations in reflecting on their internal practices, processes and culture so that strategic planning and implementation across the organization take place through the lens of accessibility and inclusion. Going through LEAD challenges businesses to look beyond the accessibility of the built environment, or legislated compliance standards, and look within their organization to question and change their internal systems and policies that do not promote access and inclusion.

Ringette Canada started this process in May of 2023 and since receiving our customized improvement plan in August of 2023, we have made many important strides forward.

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY

In the past year, Ringette Canada leaned into a multi-media approach, creating robust digital content across a variety of platforms, including new ventures into TikTok and Threads.

Our audience was enraptured, particularly with the athlete-centric content created at the Canadian Ringette Championships and World Ringette Championships.

Understanding that we all grow together, Ringette Canada used our platform to elevate the work of local teams and associations - highlighting their grassroots programming, philanthropic efforts, and more.

By embracing our engaged audience, we saw interest in Ringette continue to grow, with our content viewed by people in 30 countries worldwide, on every continent except Antarctica.

We look forward to leveraging this growth into a new strategic era for ringette.

YOUTUBE IMPRESSIONS	4.9M
FOLLOWERS	49K
FOLLOWERS	+27%
ENGAGEMENT	+45%
REACH	+95%
INTERACTIONS	+12%
ENGAGED COUNTRIES	30



MENTOR COACH PROGRAM

As part of the 2022-23 program, Ringette Canada invested in coach mentorship and national team program alignment. To ensure program alignment between the two National Team Programs, the U18 National Team head coaches were invited to participate, interact, and work with the U21 JNT coaches during the 2023-24 selection camp.

For our national U18 coaches, a Mentor Coach worked with the six bench staff coaches to support their overall reflection and refinement work. The purpose was to build peer mentorship, trust, and confidence in individual coaches' ability, to put their ideas forward, and to work with their colleagues to contribute to stretch thinking, critical reflection, and being open to grow their ideas in a safe space.

During the 2023-24 Season, coaches who had completed their Comp-Dev Training were provided a Mentor to help them complete their Comp-Dev portfolio and evaluation. Each coach was partnered with an evaluator who was also a mentor. The goal was again to enhance learning and support a coach to certification.

An 'International Peer Mentorship' program was created with Team Finland as part of the WRC Development. Coaches from both countries met online before meeting in person and worked together to design practices, discuss various approaches to the game, and deliver on-ice plans.

Two Mentor Coaches worked with U17 La Relève coaches to align skill development to our Senior National Team Program. The Mentors worked with team staff on their ice plans, ice times, and large group critical reflection following each ice time to stretch their thinking and planning to refine plans for the next day. One of the goals of the La Relève program is for coaches to work together with their colleagues from across the country, to learn from other approaches to skill delivery, and to build a mentorship network for their on-going growth.





PARTNERING FOR A STRONGER FUTURE

We have had incredible success over the past year with a wonderful group of partners that have been as committed to developing the sport of ringette as we are.

Ringette Canada has spent the past year challenging the perceptions of our sport and showcasing our unique culture.

We would like to acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.











































Ringette Canada provides leadership in virtually every aspect of the game. The Board of Directors is made up of volunteers elected by the Members to ensure that the organization stays true to its mission, remains financially stable, operates effectively, and is accountable to its members and the broader community. The board is a diverse group of dedicated and skilled leaders who are committed to excellence in the execution of their duties. They volunteer their time and expertise as members of the Board of Directors, who meet at least three times each year, and through various committees that oversee specific areas of the organization.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Angie Milbury - President
Amy Derickx - Director
Allison Biewald - Director
Jason Nystrom - Director
John Voss - Director

Denise Treslan - Director
Ann MacTaggart - Director
Debbie Frail - Director
Nina Tajbakhsh - Athlete Director

NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF

Julie Vézina - Executive Director (until May 2024)

Jenni Lloyd - Communications, Engagement & Marketing Director

Shelley Coolidge - Sport Director

Anik Desjardins - Office Manager

Erin van Gulik - Safe Sport & Sport Development Manager

Kenda McDonald - Office Coordinator

Kristen Leblanc - National Teams & Leagues Coordinator

Taylor Retter - Communications Coordinator

Jake Clarke - Sport Coordinator - Officials & Events

Pippa Edwards - Sport Coordinator - Coaching & Programs

