



## **THANK YOU**

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

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@ringettecanada



A community is defined as a group of people who share something in common, whether it is a geographical location, shared interests, or a sense of belonging. As we reflect on the past year, within our incredible ringette community and the shared passion for our sport, there were so many positive achievements and reasons to celebrate.

We are immensely proud of our work in both the gender equity and equity, diversity, and inclusion spaces. With funding from Sport Canada, we were able to support 26 participants who learned to play ringette in the Ice Hawks Indigenous Ringette Pilot Program together with iSPARC, Ringette BC, Lower Mainland Ringette League, Chilliwack Ringette Association, and the Sqwá First Nation, resulting in a new ringette community that will continue this season. Through the same

funding program, we were able to amplify our Come Try Ringette program, including an updated bilingual

tool kit, a media campaign executed through Bell Media, and 38 community grants to support local Come Try Ringette programming, including events in new communities in Berwick, NS and Boissevain-Morton, MB.

Additionally, we engaged consultants for a thorough review of our "Women Coach on the Bench" policy

and its value and impact on athletes, coaches, and administrators.

# WELCOME

The past twelve months also represented year one of Ringette Canada's 2024-2027 Strategic Plan, when we established a blueprint for where our focus will be, what we will achieve, and how we will achieve it.

This year, we saw a 3% growth in the number of ringette athletes registered across the country, continuing the steady upward trajectory post-COVID. Similarly, the number of coaches and officials in ringette continues to grow, now at over 7,000 and 1,600 respectively.

At the end of March, the ringette community's focus shifted to the Nation's Capital and the Canadian Ringette Championships. Congratulations to all those that participated including the 900 plus athletes, 49 teams, and more than 250 bench staff. This year, every game was streamed on CBC; a first for CRC's. A special thank you to all the volunteers, and particularly the Host Organizing Committee, who we look forward to working with again when we return to Ottawa in 2026.

To cap off a successful National Ringette League championship, we were privileged to have Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada to award the inaugural Mary May Simon Cup, named in her honour and featuring Inuktitut language, following the gold medal game.

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 64 NSO's in Canada to increase annual funding by \$144 million, has not materialized in any new funding going forward. Despite this setback, Ringette Canada is committed to ensuring our work is guided by our ICARE values, and we will continue to focus on building a safe, healthy, and inclusive sport system for all our participants.

We recognize that the growth of ringette and improved programming is intrinsically tied to the support Ringette Canada receives on many levels. We want to acknowledge those involved at all levels, including our funding partners, Provincial partners, athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, committees, our Board of Directors, and of course our talented and dedicated staff team. We hope you enjoy reading the Annual Report and reflecting on the activities and achievements we have collectively accomplished this past year.

CANADA

Sincerely,

Debbie Frail

President

Peter Levser

CEO



# VISION

Ringette provides
lifelong opportunities in
a safe, inclusive and
challenging sport
environment.

MISSION

Spark passion.
Foster potential.
Build community.

# 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 US

Ringette Canada is the national governing body for ringette across this country. The organization works in conjunction with the nine Members and their affiliated organizations to provide opportunities in a safe, inclusive and challenging sport environment.

Ringette Canada oversees the management of programs in Canada from entry-level to high-performance teams and competitions, including the Canadian Ringette Championships and the Canada Winter Games. Ringette Canada is also Canada's voice within the International Ringette Federation (IRF).











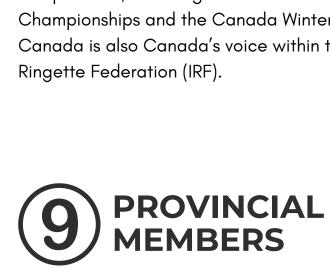




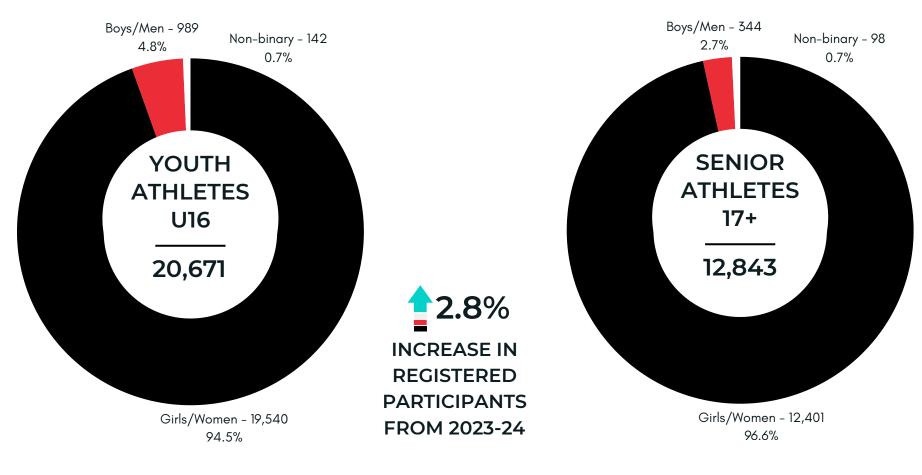








# PARTICIPATION



**TOTAL TEAMS - 2,288** 

**TOTAL ATHLETES - 33,657** 

TOTAL COACHES - 7,230

**TOTAL OFFICIALS - 1,626** 

TOTAL NUMBER OF REGISTERED ATHLETES, COACHES AND OFFICIALS - 42,513

# FINANCIALS

## **REVENUE**

Contributions
Sport Canada - Core \$480,500
Sport Canada - Other 703,778
Coaching Association of Canada 66,796

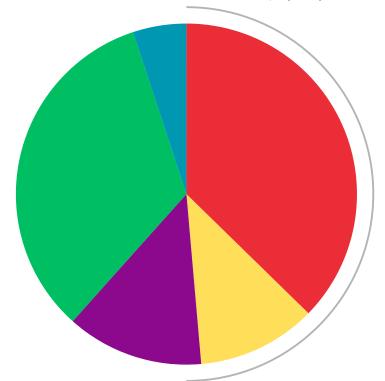
Registration & Membership 1,401,045

High Performance 424,250

Competition & Events 488,032

Other Revenue 190,265

**TOTAL REVENUES** \$ 3,754,666





## **EXPENSES**

High Performance	\$ 681,788
Administration & Governance	1,079,228
Competitions & Events	297,878
Technical Development	682,767
Sport Development	291,474
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,033,135

# COMETRY 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.

260+

Associations nationwide held Come Try Ringette events

**32%** 

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

4,192

Participants of all ages introduced to ringette nationally through program





# OFFICIATING

**Certified officials** 

**New Level 4 Evaluators - Sylvie Dubois,** Danielle Neumann, Laura Hickling, Alex Hanes, Jodi Sheppard, Stephanie Black, and Sylvie Bohémier

Officiating clinics were held across **66** Canada

**828 Clinic attendees** 



## OFFICIATING PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE



In order to grow the sport from within, an officiating program of Excellence was reintroduced to the Summer Development Camp.

Through Karen Meek's leadership Ringette Canada's officials worked to increase their skills. This session also allowed for feedback to Ringette Canada on ways we can support their development, and provided insight into ways we could help them continue to develop.

Fourteen officials took part in a week long camp that focused on development and included: fitness testing; on-ice and off-ice skating skill development, mental performance skill development, strength and conditioning education, nutrition and officiating decision training and program refinement.

Clinics held

1569

**Coaches trained** 

65 Community
Sport - Initiation

Competition Development

CoachEvaluator

Competition - Introduction

Learning Facilitator



## **MENTOR COACH PROGRAM**

Ringette Canada, in Partnership with the Coaching Association of Canada, is taking part in the Women and Gender Equity Program (WAGE). Two Program leads, two Mentors and two Mentees were selected to take the inaugural training led by the Coaching Association of Canada.

The CAC workshop's vision is for each sport to develop a distinct plan to continue building a sound mentor-mentee community of practice in Ringette.

Beth Veale, Shelley Coolidge, Sheri Markle, Tracey Tulloch, Jody Nouwen, and Amanda Clark took part in the inaugural session.





YOUTUBE IMPRESSIONS 4.7M

FOLLOWERS 54K

FOLLOWERS +10%

**REACH** +40%

INTERACTIONS 220582

**ENGAGED COUNTRIES** 30

Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIN, Threads, TikTok, YouTube

# **EQUITY, DIVERSITY**& INCLUSION



In 2025, Ringette Canada adopted the Canadian Safe Sport Program Rules. The Canadian Safe Sport Program, administered by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport, replaced the previous Abuse–Free Sport Program as of April 1st, 2025. All Safe Sport policies and resources were updated accordingly. Ringette Canada continues to provide access to an Independent Third Party for Ringette Canada participants who are not covered through the Canadian Safe Sport Program to report instances of maltreatment of any kind.

# ICE HAWKS

### INDIGENOUS RINGETTE PILOT PROGRAM

Through funding from Sport Canada, Ringette Canada was able to help support the Ice Hawks program in collaboration with iSPARC, Ringette BC, Lower Mainland Ringette League, Chilliwack Ringette Association, and the Skwá First Nation. There were 26 participants, primarily from the Skwá First Nations, in the Ice Hawks program. The Ice Hawks team worked closely with a Skwá First Nation Councilor to develop and co-lead the program. The program was designed to remove key barriers to participation often faced by Indigenous youth by providing them with an inclusive and culturally safe

environment and removing costs to program participation. Feedback from the program was overwhelmingly positive from program leaders, participants, volunteers, coaches, and parents, and steps are already underway to prepare for next season and continue to grow the program.



# WOMEN ON THE BENCH

Ringette Canada partnered with the Sport Information Resource Centre (SIRC) to review our Women Coach on the Bench Policy and assess the value and impact of the policy on athletes, coaches, and administrators, as well as provincial recommendations on how to move forward.

A total of 474 individuals in the ringette community responded to the survey, and 28 coaches participated in focus groups to further discuss the policy.

Overall, findings of the online survey and focus groups suggest the policy is widely supported and beneficial for coaches and athletes in ringette. The research did highlight some ongoing challenges and identified recommendations to address these barriers that Ringette Canada will look to implement in the coming seasons.



# HEY CANADA! COME TRY RINGETTE

Ringette Canada partnered with the Sport Information Resource Centre (SIRC) to grow participation in ringette across Canada, with a particular focus on engaging women and girls. To achieve this, three strategic project components were developed: an updated bilingual Come Try Ringette (CTR) Toolkit, a national media campaign ("Hey Canada, Come Try Ringette"), and a Community Activation Grant (CAG) program to support local delivery of Come Try Ringette events

## 1 - National Survey and Focus Groups

SIRC and Ringette Canada conducted a national survey and focus groups to better understand who was hosting CTR events, identify barriers and enablers to running CTR events, and gather best practices from organizations who had successfully run CTR events. These insights informed the update of our bilingual CTR toolkit, housed on Ringette Canada's web portal, and helped shape the design of a national campaign and Community Activation Grants (CAG).

## 2 - Creative Campaign

A creative media campaign, "Hey Canada, Come Try Ringette" was developed in partnership with an Ottawa-based media agency, Extremeline Productions, and Bell Media to promote ringette as an inclusive sport for all. SIRC, Bell Media, and Ringette Canada rolled out a mix of social media, digital, and TV promotions across the country. The digital Campaign, which ran between November 2024 and March 2025, promoted ringette as an inclusive sport for all ages, abilities, genders, fitness levels, and backgrounds, with a special focus on engaging women and girls while staying true to Ringette Canada's identity.

#### 3 - Activation

SIRC and Ringette Canada collaborated to develop a call for proposals for CAGs, each valued at up to \$2500. Ultimately, 38 ringette and community associations from seven provinces were awarded grants to run CTR events supported by the newly updated CTR toolkit.

#### 4 - Evaluation

The digital campaign, "Hey Canada, Come Try Ringette", effectively raised awareness of ringette across the country with over 2.5 million impressions between February and April

2025 through TV, online, and social media platforms. The campaign generated 4,227 clicks through Bell Media platforms, such as CTV News, Crave, and YouTube, with an average click-through rate of 0.16%. While the average click-through rate across platforms may appear modest, it is considered typical for large-scale digital campaigns—especially those delivered via TV, where direct interaction (like clicking) is not possible. The campaign converted thousands of impressions into tangible interest, with users clicking through to learn more or take action by registering for a CTR event.

The digital initiative successfully generated over 2.5 million impressions and 4,227 clicks—consistent with industry norms for large-scale awareness campaigns. This suggests the campaign effectively raised national visibility, even if not always directly remembered by attendees. More importantly, 71% of CTR hosts reported seeing the campaign and all of them shared it through their channels, reinforcing the critical role of community-level amplification. Moving forward, pairing broad digital efforts with targeted grassroots outreach—and focusing on high-performing platforms like CP24—will help maximize reach, awareness, and participant engagement.



**NATIONAL TEAM PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING** 

We're becoming our best by integrating a national development program pathway. We:

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 Regional and National Development Camp (Training to Compete, Learning to Win), and La Relève U17 National Development (Learning and Training to Compete).

2. Increased the capacity and improved the effectiveness of coaches with a particular focus on Women coach development that is values-based, has purposeful delivery, and meaningful reflection.

3. Increased the capacity and improved the effectiveness of our officials. We held a week-long camp that focused on the development of 14 officials and included: fitness testing; on-ice and off-ice skating skill development, mental performance skill development, strength and conditioning education, nutrition, and officiating decision training and program refinement.





## HIGH PERFORMANCE: WORKING AS A TEAM TO ALIGN THE RINGETTE COMMUNITY

- 1. Facilitated opportunities to increase collaboration and strengthen relationships among ringette stakeholders in the host communities and with institutions of higher learning. Ringette Canada Coach Developers were engaged to support the delivery and debriefs of our on-ice sessions at the U18 and La Relève levels. This collaboration towards refinement and alignment continues to help build a network for our National Team Program and community coaches.
- 2. Discovered new ways to create and foster consistent alignment between all ringette partners on programs and systems. Through hosting our National Team Programs (La Relève, U18, and Junior National Team) in the same location and at the same time, we provide the platform to build alignment between our mentors, coaches, IST Staff, officials, and community leaders. This opportunity builds a community of practice for our leaders. By hosting our programs in one location, we also provided a valuable and safe training environment for future leaders. There is value in our partnership with University Programs to offer experiential learning, allowing for current education to meet practical experience.

## HIGH PERFORMANCE: DRIVING RINGETTE GROWTH THROUGH INNOVATION

We led the way by providing multi-layered mentorship programs through every component of camp planning and delivery. A lifelong growth and learning mindset was a priority in program planning and delivery. Mentors, mentees, colleagues, and interns were a part of every operational arm at all development camps.

Master Coach Developers met to map out the NCCP's future.

# 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.

287 Athletes

**191** <sup>6</sup>

Games

13

**Teams** 

Rookie of the Year – Sophie Daigle, Atlantic Attack

Most Valuable Player – Jenny Snowdon, Atlantic Attack

Top Centre – Gillian Dreger, Edmonton WAM!

**Top Forward** - Laurence Larocque, Rive-Sud Revolution

**Top Defense** - Melissa Misutka, Edmonton WAM!

Top Goaltender - Sarah MacDonald, BC Thunder

Scoring Champion - Britney Snowdon, Atlantic Attack

**Top Scorer** - Jenny Snowdon, Atlantic Attack

**Team Personnel of the Year** - Montreal Mission

Volunteer of the Year - Emily Chènier, Gatineau Fusion



# EVENTS

## Canadian Ringette Championships - Ottawa ON



The 2025 Canadian Ringette Championships took place from March 30th to April 5th in Ottawa, Ontario, and was once again an incredible display of our sport. We saw the 49 top ringette teams from across the country at the U16, U19, and NRL levels compete at the highest level.

Congratulations to the Calgary Riot (U16) and Zone 2 Blaze (U19) for bringing home the gold medals, and to the Montreal Mission (NRL) for winning the league title and defeating the Edmonton WAM! in their chase for a three-peat.

A huge thank you to all the athletes, coaches, volunteers, officials, host committee members, scouts, and fans who made this week such a success.

For the first time, we'll see back-to-back Canadian Ringette Championships hosted in the same location as Ottawa is set to welcome the ringette community once again in 2026!





## La Relève - Gatineau Quebec

La Relève is Ringette Canada's entry point into our National Team Program High Performance pathway. The U17 Program athletes, coaches, officials, and our Integrated Support Team are introduced and exposed to the essential habits and behaviours in alignment with Ringette Canada's I-CARE values on their journey to Excellence.

The program's purpose is to expose 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 all exposed to and able to witness and interact with Ringette Canada's prospective U18 Program and prospective Junior National Team athletes during their development camp.

#### **IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS:**

68 Athletes (and their families!); 12 Women Development Coaches – with opportunities to work towards completing their Competition Development portfolios; 8 Development Officials; 3 Program Mentors; 3 Goaltending Coaches; 2 Coaching Mentors; 2 Skating Skills Coaches; 2 Team Managers; 2 uOttawa Sport Event Management Masters Program Interns; and 1 Official Supervisor

#### Core IST staff:

1 Mental Performance Mentor, 2 Mental Performance Coaches, 3 uOttawa Master Students – Mental Performance Consultant Interns; 2 Strength & Conditioning Coaches, 4 U de Montreal Kinesiology Interns; 1 Dietician, 2 University of Waterloo Dietetics Interns; and 1 Athletic Therapist



## **Junior National Team Camps**

The Junior National Team delivered two regional development camps in Calgary and Montreal, to begin the program's 18 months of preparation on their road to the 2025 World Championships in Lahti, Finland. Thirty-five athletes took part in each camp, which hosted highly competitive athletes. 40 athletes from those camps were selected to take part in an additional summer development camp that provided athletes with quality technical and tactical skill development, strength and conditioning development, mental performance skill acquisition, as well as focused time with dieticians and athletic therapists prioritizing athlete wellness.



## **U18 National Development Program**

The U18 National Development Program ran three camps last season. The first regional camp was held in Montreal, followed by a second in Calgary in May. The program's focus was to prepare the U18 athletes for their next step to the Junior National Team program with a focus on refining skill, individual tactics, and small team tactics play to lay the foundation for each athlete to better prepare them for the Junior National Team program. Thirty-five athletes took part in each camp, which hosted highly competitive athletes. Athletes from those camps were selected to take part in an additional summer development camp that provided athletes with quality technical and tactical skill development, strength and conditioning development, mental performance skill acquisition, as well as focused time with dieticians and athletic therapists prioritizing athlete wellness.

#### **IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS FOR U18 & JNT:**

70 Athletes. 6 Coaches, 6 Officials, 5 IST Staff (Mental Performance, Athletic Therapists, Strength & Conditioning, Dietitians), 2 Skating Coaches, 1 Mentor, 1 Team Manager

# COMMITTEES

#### **AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE**

# ANN MACTAGGART (CHAIR) DEBBIE FRAIL JOHN VOSS

Over the last year, the <u>Audit and Risk Committee's</u> focus was on supporting the transition and onboarding of the new Ringette Canada Auditor, Baker Tilly, the new CEO, and continuing to support the development of the financial forecasting and accountability practices. In addition to its annual audit oversight role, the committee continued to build the foundational structures of risk management envisioned in its mandate. Committee work this upcoming cycle is anticipated to focus on supporting the transition and work plans of the CEO. The annual committee work plan includes completing the risk management integration work and the 2026 financial statement audit.

## **ATHLETE'S COUNCIL**

# BREA BECK (INTERIM CHAIR) ERIKA KIVIAHO, LAURENCE LAROCQUE REGAN MEIER, BRITNEY SNOWDON ERIN UNG, EMILY CHÉNIER

A major focus for the **<u>Athlete's Council</u>** has been collaborating with Ringette Canada to help increase interest in the Senior National Team. As well, a considerable amount of time and effort has been applied to updating the Terms of Reference for the Council. The past couple of years there has been a heightened emphasis on meaningful representation in the governance structure of NSO's and for athlete voices to be heard. While the Ringette Canada Athlete Council (RCAC) is still in its infancy, after having a few years to navigate and understand how Council works and provides critical athlete input to Ringette Canada, we were now in a position to critically evaluate our terms of reference; how we can benefit Ringette Canada and provide the high performance athlete's perspective, as well as how we can connect with and be the voice of the high performance athlete pool.

## HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

# DENISE TRESLAN (CHAIR) AMY DERICKX TRACY PHANEUF

The HR Committee created a subcommittee of Ringette Canada board members to complete the search for a new CEO and leader for the organization. The Search Committee successfully completed the hiring process, and the HR Committee worked with the President to create a robust onboarding process for the new CEO. The HR Committee top priority continues to be the review of the Employee Handbook, with the intent to ensure Ringette Canada's policies and processes are consistent and up to date with current best practices.

## GOVERNANCE & ETHICS COMMITTEE

# JOHN VOSS (CHAIR) JASON NYSTROM NINA TAJBAKHSH

Ethics The Governance and Committee has continued its focus on strengthening Ringette Canada's governance practices, guided by the Sport Governance Code and best practices in governance. A Board Mandate was developed approved and is posted on the Ringette Canada website to ensure accountability. The committee is working with the CEO to adapt Ringette Canada's policy suite and policy review and approval process to reflect a more mature governance model.

## NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

# JASON NYSTROM (CHAIR) DENISE TRESLAN SHANE LAMBERT

The Nominations Committee used a competency matrix to guide the recruitment of new board members, with a focus on ensuring diversity and aligning with the skills needed on the Board. Candidates were proposed to our Members for election based on their ability to contribute meaningfully ultimately supporting sound decision-making Ringette Canada. The evaluated the committee competencies of returning Directors to identify gaps. This helped ensure that incoming Directors would complement the board's collective expertise across key areas —enabling the Board to fulfill its oversight responsibilities effectively.

Ringette Canada provides leadership in virtually every aspect of the game. The Board of Directors, who meet 6 x per year, 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**

Debbie Frail - President

Amy Derickx - Director

Shane Lambert - Director

Jason Nystrom - Director

John Voss - Director

Denise Treslan - Director
Ann MacTaggart - Director
Tracy Phaneuf - Director
Nina Tajbakhsh - Athlete Director

# NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF

Peter Leyser- Chief Executive Officer

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 - High Performance Coordinator

**Taylor Retter** - Communications Coordinator

Jake Clarke - Sport Coordinator - Officials & Events

Pippa Edwards - Sport Coordinator - Coaching & Programs



# PARTNERS

**Funding Partner: Funded by the Government of Canada** 



**Sport Partners:** 



































**Event Partners:** 









RINGETTE CANADA

# THANK YOU

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