



Aboriginal Sport and Recreation New Brunswick (ASRNB) Year in Review (2019)

Message from ASRNB Executive Director,

The last several months have been extremely busy and very productive. Since coming on board in July 2019, much has taken place of which I thought important to take a moment to provide an update to everyone. I also wish to share some of our successes to date and a few of our planned future activities. My goal is to improve communications with our Board and to keep you and our communities informed and increasingly engaged.



The Executive of ASRNB and I have made huge strides over the last several months in the strengthening of our governance structures. We have successfully engaged the services of new accounting firm that lends direct support to our treasurer in our day to day financial needs. Further, I am pleased to announce that we recently received our audited financial statements for 2019 of which will be provided to our Board members for each of your review and feedback. We continue to progress and improve our financial status and with ongoing improvements to our financial management which has directly resulted in improved access to increased funding and other opportunities. A special thank you to our treasurer Mary Sylliboy who has worked closely with me and our new accountant in implementing all the needed changes in strengthening our systems.

This upcoming year promises to be exciting as we get ready for NAIG 2020 in July and our Indigenous Summer Games in August along with many other exciting events. To ensure you are up to date, I encourage you to keep an eye on our ASRNB Facebook page.

Atlantic Indigenous Games 2019 – Halifax NS



ASRNB was pleased to participate in the first Atlantic Indigenous Games last summer that took place in Halifax, NS from July 12th-14th, 2019. The objective of this event was to help prepare the NAIG Host society with an opportunity to host a small contingent of athletes in preparation for NAIG 2020. The event was also a great opportunity for our athletes to compete and at the same time experience life on a university Campus. Team NB athletes performed amazingly with a contingent who competed in Athletics, Basketball, Badminton and Volleyball. We were fortunate to return

with medals in Badminton and both Volleyball teams! What a great experience it was for our athletes and coaches.

2019 Indigenous Summer Games – Oromocto First Nation

The 2019 Indigenous Summer Games (ISG) were a huge success as our gracious host Chris and Jenica Atwin from Oromocto First Nation did an amazing job of coordinating great competitions and activities for our Youth's participation. Thank you to our all community managers, coaches and volunteers that continue to support this important initiative!



Congratulations to St. Mary's First Nation in winning the cup and title for 2019!! Again, thank you to all communities for their continued participation including our former reigning champions Esgenoopetitj First Nation. ASRNB is excited to be working with the potential host community for 2020. Stay tuned as we are almost ready for our official announcement and awarding of bid for ISG 2020!

Welcoming of ASRNB new staff

In September we officially welcomed two Program Coordinators Kara Martin from Natoaganeg First Nation and Creighton Sanipass from Elsipogtog First Nation to the team along with our NAIG Games Assistant, Kaylee Wilmot-Joe from Esgenoopetitj First Nation. This team has been focussed on supporting Team New Brunswick readiness for NAIG 2020, the launching of various Multi Sport Camps in 2020 along with the creation of and offering of Officiating clinics. Some of the other projects/initiatives they are currently working on include the redesign and rebranding of ASRNB website, launching of a Team NB Logo contest to engage our Youth, revamping our Indigenous Athlete Fund (IAF) and much more. Please join me in welcoming them to our staff and as you will ASRNB is on the move and continues to grow – exciting times!



Multi Sport Camps/Workshops (Winter/Spring 2020)

ASRNB is pleased to announce that various multisport camps will be taking place in 2020. These camps are open to all Indigenous Youth from our communities at no cost. The multi sport camps aim to provide a fun environment to learn and share our culture. The first camp is scheduled to take place in Metepenagiag First Nation on Saturday February 29th, 2020. We have engaged with numerous partners including Metepenagiag Heritage Park to provide a day full of culture teachings and activities along with a fun snowshoeing activity. Renee Mattee from Canadian Sport Centre Atlantic will be present to discuss mental health skills and techniques including coping strategies to help manage when leaving home, family or community for competition. Natasha McLaughlin-Chiasson from NCM Nutrition will join us to educate participants on the importance of proper nutrition while competing in sport and how to eat healthy on a low budget. The next multisport camp is currently being worked on and tentatively scheduled for spring 2020 in St. Mary's First Nation.

Sport Officiating Clinics (Winter/Spring 2020)

Officiating courses are being planned for 2020, you may have seen a call out posted on our Facebook site asking all interested individuals and youth to contact Creighton Sanipass at Creighton.Sanipass@asrnb.ca for further information. The objective of this initiative is to provide a means to our Youth to become employable, to be educated in a safe environment and most importantly using Sport to make money! These clinics will be available to everyone but at no cost to our Indigenous youth participants.

NAIG 2020 – Halifax, NS (July 2020)

ASRNB is in full swing in preparing for NAIG 2020! Team NB athletes have been identified and our Coach and Mission staff have been selected. The calibre of our Coaches for NAIG 2020 is the strongest it has ever been. For the upcoming NAIG, Team NB will be represented in sports such as Athletics, Archery, Badminton, Basketball and Volleyball. We are excited to be able to once again offer a Swim team along with two new sports, Beach Volleyball and Golf. We are very excited to have coaches and athletes express their interest in these sports for this to happen.

Earlier this fall in September, we hosted our first Coaches Team NB meeting and have already set the dates for our next meetings and events. ASRNB and coaches have been working closely with our Team NB Chef de Mission, Manon Ouellette to identify all necessary training needs and develop learning pathways. Our next planned gathering for Team NB mission staff and coaches is January 31, 2020 and February 1, 2020.

This fall, ASRNB in consultation with our Chef de mission developed a Request for Proposal of which was sent to numerous companies/groups seeking proposals for our NAIG Team NB apparel. After careful review of the received proposals, I am pleased to announce that two companies have been successful and have been awarded the contract. The first being a well established and recognized name in the Sporting world Karbon based out of Toronto, who will be responsible for our Walk out uniforms and a local company River Signs from Miramichi was awarded our competitive uniforms.

Indigenous Athlete Fund

ASRNB is pleased to announce the relaunching of the Indigenous Athlete Fund, we have made improvements to the initiative and have successfully partnered with the Province in New Brunswick in receiving additional funds in support of this important initiative. As you may be aware, the objective is increasing participation and supporting our youth with the opportunity to access sport and physical activities.

Further information including revised applications and guidelines will be sent to all community managers for your appropriate action and sharing. Note, once completed all applications can be forwarded directly to Cathy.Ward@asrnb.ca or Kara Martin at Kara.Martin@asrnb.ca at any time as intake will be on an ongoing basis.

NAHC 2020

As most may be aware, earlier this month ASRNB was saddened to announce that we would not be sending teams to NAHC this coming year. In discussions with NAHC it was deemed that for the safety of all athletes unfortunately Team NB did not possess adequate strength and/or an adequate number of qualified athletes. ASRNB in conjunction with NAHC and Team Atlantic have developed a process for any interested eligible players to tryout for Team Atlantic in March. Further, as some may be aware Team Atlantic identification camps have been scheduled however, it is important to note that these are open only for local players. As such, any interested player from New Brunswick that wishes to tryout for Team Atlantic must express interest directly to Team Atlantic, General Manager, Tex Marshall. Good luck to all interested athletes!

Season's Greetings

On behalf of the ASRNB executive and staff, we would like to take a moment to wish you and yours a wonderful holiday season and prosperous New Year!

