

WOOD BUFFALO SPORTS CONNECTION

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR OUR SPORTS COMMUNITY

SEPT. 2024, ISSUE 7



“I learned that no matter what, you should try to have fun with whatever you are doing and to not take things too seriously.”

-Girls with Grit Participant

GIRLS WITH GRIT SPORT SUMMIT

On September 14 and 15 we hosted our first Girls with Grit Sport summit in partnership with MacDonalld Island Park and Kidsport and it was an incredible success!

We have over 20 local organizations volunteer their time to lead sessions with 100 girls participating over the two days. We are analyzing the feedback from the event and looking at ways to improve this event next time and continue to support young girls in sport!

Thank you to our sponsors for supporting us!





CALL FOR COACHES! WINTER SPORT PASSPORT

Our Sport Passport program is a multi-sport program where participants get to try a variety of sports over a 6-8 week session. Our fall sport passport program is in full swing and we are currently seeking organizations interested in being a part of our Winter Sport Passport program!

Thanks to funding received by Jumpstart, all organizations involved are entitled to free Respect in Sport training if it is not already completed, as well as a small compensation for your time leading the sessions!



SAVE THE DATE: SPORT LEADERS SUMMIT

December 1, 2024

Our first Sport Leaders Summit will take place this December. This summit is an exciting opportunity designed for parents, coaches, and sport leaders to come together for learning, networking, and professional development. The summit will aim to empower participants with the latest insights and strategies for fostering athletic excellence in a holistic manner. The event will include valuable content, dynamic activities, and opportunities to connect with like-minded individuals who share a passion for sport.

"Great leaders don't set out to be a leader...they set out to make a difference. It's never about the role-always about the goal"

NEW! SPORT LEAGUES

Our Sport League Program is a new initiative to help support the development and growth of local sport leagues. The Wood Buffalo Sport Connection can assist sport leagues to eliminate barriers to starting or sustaining a local sport league, that is not currently being offered in the Region.

The goal is to increase efficiencies and therefore create more opportunities for all ages to participate in sport!

If you are someone looking to start a new sport club in Wood Buffalo connect with us today!



NEW! SPORT PROGRAMS

This January the Wood Buffalo Sport Connection will launch TWO new programs to help support our mandate to expand sport opportunities for under-represented populations. If your organization would like to be involved please connect with us today!:

55+ Sport Passport

This program will be for adults aged 55+ to try new physical activities, connect with friends and have fun!

Women In Sport

Our Women in Sport program will be a multi-sport program that offers women the opportunity to participate in a variety of sports, and also the option for their children to be active at the same time.

2024 MULTI-SPORT AWARDS BANQUET

On October 5, 2024, we celebrating our sport community and all of the amazing achievements of individuals and teams! It was an amazing evening to showcase the Wood Buffalo's passion for sport!

Congratulations to our 9 award recipients: Tayden Shott, Sidney Barry, Keyano Huskies Men's Soccer/Futsal Team, Laura Wood, Darren Yee, Dau Dau, Kierra Pelz, Tiffany & Frank Fontaine, and Tegan Wanner!

The Wood Buffalo Sport Hall of Fame also announced 4 inductees to the Hall of Fame: Trish Leibel, Danny Lindstrom, The Stewart Brothers, and the 1988-89 Fort McMurray U18 (Midget) Barons.

TO VIEW THEIR BIOS AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MSAB, [CLICK HERE.](#)



[CLICK HERE TO NOMINATE FOR THE 2025 MSAB NOW!](#)

[CLICK HERE TO NOMINATE AN INDUCTEE TO THE WBSHOF](#)



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS WHO HELPED MAKE THIS EVENT A SUCCESS!



Thank you Rhonda Robinson for creating the awards for our 2024 recipients!



PHOTOS: JUSTIN HARDY FROM [OUTSIDE OPTIX](#)

CELEBRATING OUR SPORTS COMMUNITY

VOLT HOCKEY

BY: SABRINA SHACKLETON, *HEAD COACH*

Volt hockey is more than just a game; it's a testament to resilience, inclusion, and the power of sports to bring joy and sense of community to individuals with exceptionalities. Originating in Europe, Volt hockey quickly made its way across the world, offering kids who once thought they'd never play the game a chance to become athletes.

As players roll onto the area in sleek motorized chairs, specially designed to suit their needs, their intensity and love for the game match that of any traditional hockey player stepping on the ice. It's a 3-on-3 game, fast-paced and full of energy, where strategy, teamwork, and passion drive each play. These athletes once on the sidelines are now in the spotlight, moving with precision, anticipation, and joy.

Volt hockey is more than an adaptive sport; it's a community. For these kids, it's an opportunity to shine, to compete, to laugh, and to bond. They form friendships that go beyond the area, and every game day is filled with smiles, cheers, and high-fives. Parents and coaches watch with pride, knowing this sport has opened doors that, for many, were once thought closed. This sport is changing lives. It has brought hockey to those who thought they could only ever be spectators, turning them into athletes.



HIGHLIGHT: OILERS COMMUNITY BBQ

The Oilers Community Foundation hosted a community BBQ to coincide with their hockey camp this August. Over 200 community members came out to interact with Oilers Alumni, current players and of course their Mascot! Oilers TV was also on sight interviewing our future hockey stars!

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY



Fort McMurray Knights Rugby Club's 50th Anniversary was celebrated in July. Featured is a picture from the game day that included our Minis, Jrs, Womens and Mens players ages ranging from 70s to 1 year old!

PHOTO CREDIT IS TO VINCE MCDERMOTT FROM THE TODAY.

SPORT OPPORTUNITIES AND OFFERINGS

2024/25 Season Passes

Individual
 Adult pass \$259
 Student & Youth (13+) \$239
 Junior (6-12) \$219
 Senior (60+) \$219
 Tiger (5&under) \$20

Family
 Family of 3 \$699
 Family of 4 \$799
 Each additional \$50

EARLY BIRD SALE!

VISTA RIDGE

*All Prices plus 5% GST

available online
www.VistaRidge.ab.ca
 Sale ends October 31, 2024

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The Regional Recreation Corporation of Wood Buffalo is #hiring a Supervisor, Sport Event Hosting & Reservations.

Are you passionate about uniting community through sport and sport development, is your focus on providing exceptional customer service to all sport user groups, are you a multi-talented, multi-tasking mastermind who will go over and above to create extraordinary moments and who believes that by championing sport and sport development we can create a more inclusive community? Then, come join our extraordinary team, apply today [here](#)



#GIRLS100 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM
 AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Take action to end GBV by joining Girls Inc. for the following opportunities!

Now until November 15th	Collaborative Art Piece: All Ages Community members of all ages are invited to help raise awareness and amplify voices against GBV by decorating or writing a message on the provided feather template. During the 16 Days of Activism against GBV (Nov 25-Dec 10), all feathers will come together to create wings that will be on display in the community (Location TBD).
Tuesday November 26th: 4:30 - 7:00 pm	Combating Gender Violence in Sports: Ages 9-15 With prominent women in sports from the region, we plan to create vision boards for the changes we want to see regarding the sexism in sports and sports culture.
Thursday November 28th: 4:00 - 6:30 pm	Self Defense & Healthy Relationships: Ages 9-15 Join Girls Inc. for an hour long Jiu Jitsu class at The Fort followed by a discussion and activities with Girls Inc. staff surrounding healthy relationships, consent & personal boundaries.
Tuesday December 3rd: 4:00 - 7:00 pm	Empowering Voices: Disability & Gender-Based Violence Ages 9-15 Join us in learning about the different types of disabilities and how they can present differently from one person to another, with special guest speaker Lisa Dejong, followed by discussions surrounding how GBV affects people with disabilities and how to help and show support.

For more information or to register for workshops:
 Website: <https://girlsincofnorthernalberta.org/register-a-girl/>
 Email: pd@girlsincofnorthernalberta.org

REGISTRATION OPENS NOVEMBER 4TH - CLICK HERE

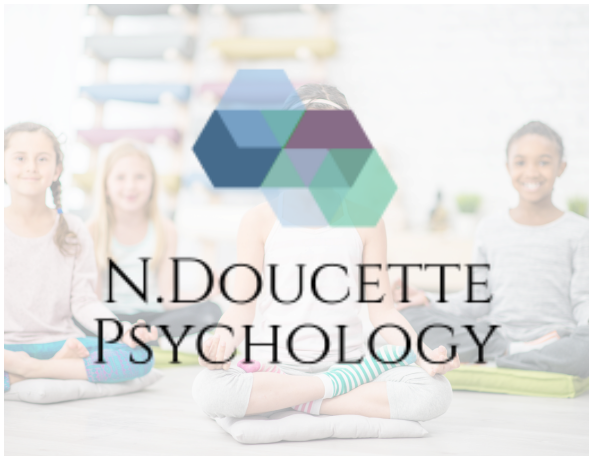
IT'S HUSKIES SEASON!

Come watch the **Keyano Huskies** Women's and Men's Volleyball teams take on NAIT for their home opener weekend at the SSWC!

Friday, October 25th 6:00 PM & 8:00 PM

Join us the week after for the Basketball Home opener on Halloween! **Thursday, October 31 at 6:00 PM & 8:00 PM**

Then celebrate with the Men's Basketball team as they raise their National Championship Banner on **Friday, November 1 at 8:00 PM**



ENHANCE AND PRIORITIZE MENTAL HEALTH IN SPORT

Natalie Doucette is a bilingual Registered Psychologist and Certified Mental Performance Consultant through the Canadian Sports Psychology Association (CSPA). She has experience supporting local, provincial and national sport organizations, teams, coaches and athletes with various mental health and mental performance topics and issues. Some examples of performance topics she can support include building confidence, growth mindset, recovery after injury and return to sport, performing under pressure, strategies for performance anxiety, goal setting and team culture, among many others. For more information and to book your first consultation session, please reach out to ndoucette.psychology@gmail.com.

FORT McMURRAY OIL SANDS CURLING CLUB

Social League

ARE YOU NEW TO FORT McMURRAY? LOOKING TO MEET NEW PEOPLE? OR YOU JUST WANT TO TRY CURLING BUT YOU DONT HAVE A TEAM? OUR SOCIAL LEAGUE IS FOR YOU!

WE OFFER:

- INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION - JOIN AS ONE, A PAIR OR A GROUP AND WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO ENSURE YOU HAVE A QUALITY CURLING EXPERIENCE TOGETHER WHILE MEETING OTHER CURLERS!
- OPEN TO NEW AND EXISTING CURLERS.
- FIRST 2 WEEKS WILL BE FOCUSED ON LEARN TO CURL WHILE THE FOLLOWING WEEKS WILL BE GAME FOCUSED.

SCHEDULE:
FRIDAYS AT 7:00 PM
(OCTOBER - DECEMBER, JANUARY-MARCH)

CONTACT THEM TODAY!

OILSANDSCURLING@GMAIL.COM

780-793-6911

ALBERTA BALLET IS COMING BACK TO FORT McMURRAY!

BY: ALBERTA BALLET COMMUNITY

Alberta Ballet's Community Outreach Classes are returning to Fort McMurray this Fall in Partnership with Keyano Theatre & Arts Centre.

In this free 6-week beginner ballet program, students will explore the basics of ballet technique and musicality while nurturing self-expression. These fun, creative classes build strength, posture, athleticism and grace. Ballet also develops teamwork, listening skills and confidence while making new friends in a positive and welcoming space.

This program is also a great complement for students who participate in other activities or sports looking to enhance their posture, balance and flexibility.

No uniform or previous dance experience is required.

Alberta Ballet Outreach Classes aim to increase access to the benefits of dance for more kids across Alberta.

Beginner Ballet Class
Classes run Mondays Oct 28- Dec 9, 2024 (6 weeks total)
No Class November 11 in lieu of Remembrance Day.

Ages: 6-8
4:30- 5:30 pm

Ages: 9-11
5:45- 6:45 pm

Ages: 12 + Teen
7:00- 8:00 pm

Location: Keyano Theatre & Arts Centre
8115 Franklin Avenue, Fort McMurray
**Keyano Theatre main entrance is off the parking lot on King St.*

For help registering, please contact our Alberta Ballet Community administrative team by email: Community@albertaballet.com
(780) 702-4725 ext. 4

