CROSS COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA INC.

October 26, 2026
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Welcome everyone. Welcome to the Cross Country Ski Association of Manitoba (CCSAM) Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the 2025-2026 ski season.

Winter weather of 2025-2026 was "better" for the sport of Nordic Skiing.
Remember that: "Good Ski Weather EQUALS Good Financial Results."
Your Board, along with anyone involved in winter activities are aware of the Super El Nino weather prediction for Canada. Laurie Penton – Manager of the Windsor Park Nordic Center has told me that his crew will do everything feasible to create snow and make XC skiing available at the Nordic Center.
Our Events Calendar is being finalized, and we remain optimistic that Events will occur without too many postponements and or modifications.

Our Association is well down the road of merger with (BAM) Biathlon Manitoba. We are being assisted in this process by the Sport Law Group. Sport Manitoba is encouraging this process but is not requiring it. However, your Board (along with the BAM Board) sees the writing on the wall and wish to do this in our time versus being required. Other sports under Sport Manitoba funding are merging – an example is Gymnastics. We genuinely believe that this will be a positive step forward. An immediate benefit will be savings of administrative costs such as accounting and audits. We believe that the merger will bring positive benefits for athletes in our competitive stream. At the same time, we believe our Recreational skiers will see no change in their skiing experience.

I continue to participate in Nordiq Canada's Division Council Committee. All the provinces are territories are welcome to join monthly Zoom meetings. In these meetings the Executive Director and Chairperson of our national organization update us. These meetings are an opportunity to ask questions and share both information and best practices. I find these meetings to be well worth the time.

Our provincial Sport funding remained constant.
CCSAM has received tremendous support from Sport Manitoba over the years. CCSAM continues to be the envy of other provinces when it comes to both financial support and general operational support.

CCSAM continues to support and invest in the Windsor Park Nordic Center (WPNC). This facility continues to develop as the center for:

- High performance skiing.
- Recreational skiing with Lessons and Rentals.
- Inner City School programs.
- Para Nordic Skiing – Blind ski program, Special Olympics program.
- Home to two Winnipeg based ski clubs – Downtown Nordic & Red River Nordic Ski and Biathlon Club.

As always, I am optimistic for the upcoming 2026 – 2027 ski season in Manitoba.

I invite all clubs – to look at CCSAM (and Nordiq Canada NC) website for information such as Policies, procedures, and general information. We realize our website is old and is in dire need of updating. As soon as the merger of CCSAM and BAM is complete, a new and improved website is our priority.

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THANK YOU'S ARE IN ORDER:

- Our Executive Director (E.D.) Ms. Karin McSherry. For eight months of the year Karin does the work of two people. Karin works all year round on Cross Country Skiing. I have personally witnessed, over the last 25 years Karin`s commitment to skiing in the province of Manitoba. Even in the summer months when Karin is a "*cycling volunteer,"* Karin is thinking skiing. Karin attends all the PSO / NSO meetings and participates in other organizations such as Provincial Trails Expert Advisory Body (Manitoba Parks) and brings her Nordic Ski perspective and expertise to these meetings.

- The **BOARD of CCSAM** – Thank you to the Board who provide thoughtful attention to detail to keep Nordic skiing on track in Manitoba.

CCSAM Board from 2025-2026 was composed of:
Marissa Zurba / Pauline Nadlersmith / Kristin Isaak / Kevin Miller / Neil Kornberger / Andrew Vandenberg. Thank you so much for your hard work. Murray Carter and Derek Page – thank you for your service to CCSAM.

- CLUB REPRESENTATIVES: All are welcome to our Board meetings – now the last Tuesday evening of the month. Confirm the exact time and date with Karin.

  I remind everyone – any club to speak up with concerns / comments to myself – to Karin or – to any Board member. We encourage Club input at our monthly Board meetings.

  1. **Provincial Development Committee** (formally known as the High-Performance Committee) – one hardworking Committee – meets monthly. Members from 2025-2026 included: Jennie Hissa / Andrew Vanden Berg / Alexandra Loeppky / Mariko Boorberg / Steven Wintoniw / Murray Carter / Karin McSherry. Athlete Reps: Dechen Guenther / Gideon Hoeppner. A huge thanks to Pauline Nadlersmith who has stepped back – a bit.
  2. **Windsor Park Nordic Center Committee** – Laurie Penton is the Chair of this important committee. Our Lease agreement with the City of Winnipeg is renewed with the City of Winnipeg for a five-year term. (With 5 Year renewal options.)
  3. **Recreational Ski Committee** – Kevin Miller is the Chair of this committee that has become a key committee now and in the future. Thanks to Pat McCarthy-Briggs, Joy Goertzen, Esther and Gyula Gergely, Ken Schykulski, Dorothy Quayle. Kevin has, as always, prepared a detailed precise report. If you want a comprehensive summary of our ski season, please read Kevin's report.
  4. **Coaches/Volunteers/Athletes.** The Volunteers – way too many to name because you all are Volunteers. I want everyone to know how much we – I speak on behalf of all skiers-acknowledge/appreciate their sacrifice and hard work.

Respectfully submitted:

Richard Huybers Chair, CCSAM