

Alberta & Northwest Territories Branch

Annual Report

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The Lifesaving Society is Canada's lifeguarding expert. The Society works to prevent drowning and water-related injury through its training programs, Water Smart® public education initiatives, water-incident research, aquatic safety management services, and lifesaving sport.

Annually, well over 1,200,000 Canadians participate in the Society's swimming, lifesaving, lifeguard, and leadership training programs. The Society sets the standard for aquatic safety in Canada and certifies Canada's National Lifeguards.

The Society is an independent, charitable organization educating Canadian lifesavers since the first Lifesaving Society Bronze Medallion Award was earned in 1896.

The Society represents Canada internationally as an active member of the Royal Life Saving Society and the International Life Saving Federation. The Society is the Canadian governing body for lifesaving sport - a sport recognized by the International Olympic Committee and the Commonwealth Games Federation.

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LIFESAVING SOCIETY

Alberta & Northwest Territories Branch

Annual Report

2019-2020

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Preventing Drowning and Water-Related Injury

The Royal Life Saving Society Canada, Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch

Registered Charity No. 11912 9021 RR0001

All donations gratefully received.

Tax receipts are issued for donations of \$20 or more.

13123 - 156 Street | Edmonton, Alberta T5V 1V2 T: 780 415 1755 | F: 780 427 9334 experts@lifesaving.org | www. lifesaving.org

Teaching Canadians to save themselves and rescue others

Annually, over 1,200,000 Canadians participate in our swimming, lifesaving, lifeguard, first aid and leadership programs. Each year, we certify thousands of instructors who provide the leadership for our training programs. Over 30,000 Canadians earn our Bronze Medallion each year. As Canada's lifeguarding experts, we set the standard for lifeguard training and certify Canada's National Lifeguards.

Making Canadians Water Smart®

The Lifesaving Society focuses Water Smart drowning prevention efforts on people most at risk – like men fishing in small boats – or on those who can make a significant difference, such as parents of young children. We deliver Water Smart messages through our swim program, through the media and community action. Our Swim to Survive® program provides the essential minimum skills required to survive an unexpected fall into deep water.

Drowning Research

The Lifesaving Society conducts research into fatal and non-fatal drowning, aquatic injury and rescue interventions. Ongoing research and analysis supports the Society's evidence-based water-rescue training and Water Smart drowning prevention education. Setting the Standard The Lifesaving Society establishes aquatic safety standards and consults on aquatic safety issues for the aquatic industry, governments and the judiciary. The Society offers a suite of services to help aquatic facility operators maintain and improve safe pool and waterfront operations. We perform aquatic safety audits and serve as experts in legal cases involving aquatic safety.

Lifesaving Sport

The Lifesaving Society is the Canadian governing body for lifesaving sport – a sport recognized by the International Olympic Committee and the Commonwealth Games Federation. We use lifesaving sport to engage and inspire youth in our drowning prevention mission. Our Lifesaving Sport Fundamentals program offers a recreational introduction to lifesaving sport skills. Age-group, senior and masters athletes compete regionally, provincially, nationally and internationally. We offer certification programs for officials and coaches.

The Lifesaving Society

The Lifesaving Society is a full-service provider of programs, products and services designed to prevent drowning. We save lives and prevent water-related injury through our training programs, Water Smart public education, drowning research, aquatic safety management and lifesaving sport. We are a national volunteer organization and registered charity composed of ten provincial/territorial branches, tens of thousands of individual members, and over 4,000 affiliated swimming pools, waterfronts, schools and clubs. The Lifesaving Society is a leader and partner in the delivery of water safety education throughout Canada and around the world (The Society operates globally in over 25 countries). We represent Canada in the Commonwealth Royal Life Saving Society and are Canada's Full Member in the International Life Saving Federation. The World Health Organization recognizes ILS as the world authority in the global effort to prevent drowning. The Lifesaving Society takes lead responsibility for drowning prevention in Canada. We have been teaching swimming, water safety and water rescue in Canada since 1896. Established in England (1891) as The Swimmers' Life Saving Society, we became The Royal Life Saving Society in 1904. Today, we are known as simply the Lifesaving Society. @Lifesaving Society, Water Smart, Swim to Survive, Swim for Life and National Lifeguard Service are all registered trademarks of the Royal Life Saving Society Canada.

President & CEO Report

The 2019-2020 fiscal year was very full and successful year for the Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch of the Lifesaving Society. We accomplished a lot throughout the fiscal year, and certainly have much to celebrate! This Annual Report highlights the work and achievements of the Society.

We started the year off with a series of major events including the Alberta and Northwest Territories Lifesaving Championships and Junior Lifeguard Games in Spruce Grove, AB. We hosted the Annual General Meeting and Branch Recognition Awards at the Santa Maria Goretti Centre in Edmonton, We kicked off National Drowning Prevention Week (NDPW) at Edmonton City Hall. In the fall, we hosted our first Lifesaving Sport Coach Symposium in Calgary, AB and our Fall Forum in Calgary, AB. We celebrated and recognized our rescue hero's and Society volunteers for service at our Investiture of Lifesaving Honours hosted at Government House in Edmonton, AB.

The Society distributed proclamation letters to municipalities across Alberta and Northwest Territories for National Drowning Prevention Week (NDPW). As a result, we received numerous signed proclamations back and shared those with each Community and on Social Media! We value and thank the all the communities for supporting us in our quest to a Canada free from Drowning. We kick-started NDPW with our very first flag raising ceremony at Edmonton City Hall with Her Honour, the Honourable Lois E. Mitchell, CM, AOE, LLD.

Fiscally, the Society is ended they year in a strong financial position. Our ongoing focus on responsibly managing our budget allows us to maintain efficient operations while continuing to improve internal processes and services to members and affiliates. We were pleased to end the year with a small net contribution that will be reinvested into the Society as we look forward to planning for future growth.

Lastly, we thank all of the volunteers, staff and advocates for our mission. They have worked very hard and supported the numerous branch priorities and projects over the course of the year. The Society values all of your contributions no matter how big or small. We recognize that our volunteers and affiliate delivery partners are our most important resource and look forward to our continued work together for years to come.

In the last quarter for the fiscal year we were impacted by the global pandemic COVID-19. This resulted in the unplanned closure of swimming pools across Alberta and the Northwest Territories. We are united with Albertans and Residents of the Northwest Territories in standing together to fight this virus. It will have an unfortunate impact on the everyday lives of citizens and it is unknown as to how long restrictions will be in place. The Society is committed to working with Government, Communities, Stakeholders, and Members to support the development of a safe relaunch when the time comes.

2019-2020 Highlights and Achievements Include:

- Updated First Aid Programs to align with the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) standard for First Aid and compliance with Alberta and Northwest Territories workplace first aid requirements
- Launch of Swim to Survive +
- Release of Canadian Swim Patrol lesson plans
- Hosted a Coach Symposium for lifesaving sport coaches
- Hosted our first Provincial / Territorial Lifeguard Emergency Response Championship
- Received 25 National Drowning Prevention Week proclamations from Mayors across Alberta and Northwest Territories and received a letter of support from the Premier of Alberta
- Funded and supported non-fatal drowning research with the Injury Prevention Centre
- Released the Alberta Public Pool Safety Standards

Sincerely,

Davi Gross

President

Kelly Carter

Chief Executive Officer

KtaA

Branch Governors		Branch Patrons
Brigadier J.C. Jefferson	1965-1966	Hon. J. Percy Page 1959-1966
Maj. Gen. J.M. Rockingham	1966-1970	Hon. Dr. J.W. Grant MacEwan 1966-1974
Kenneth A. McKenzie, QC	1971-1975	Hon. Ralph G. Steinhaur 1974-1979
Jack Boddington	1976-1978	Hon. Frank Lynch-Staunton 1979-1985
Dr. E.S.O. Smith	1979-1980	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Terry Cavanagh	1980-1996	Hon. Helen Hunley 1985-1991
Bruce Hogle, CM, AOE, LLB	1997-2018	Hon. Gordon Towers 1991-1996
Barbara Costache	2018 -	Hon. Bud Olsen 1996-2000
		Hon. Lois E. Hole
Branch Presidents		Hon. Norman L. Kwong 2005-2010
Manny E. Power	1958-1959	Hon. Donald S. Ethell
R.A. (Paddy) Johnson		Hon. Lois E. Mitchell 2015 -
Jack Boddington		
Harry Boddington		Branch Vice-Patrons
Tell R.B. Stephen		Hon. Helen Maksagak
Hobart J. Clark	1973	Hon. Daniel Joseph Marion 1999-2000
Carman Byler	1974	Hon. Glenna Hansen 2000-2005
Rudy Berghuys	1975	Hon. Anthony W.J. Whitford 2005-2010
Walter A. West	1976-1977	Hon. George L. Tuccaro
Bryce Gibson	1978	Hon. Gerald W. Kisoun
Brian Sullivan	1979	11011. dolata 11. 11.00011
Gordon Wick	1980-1982	Board of Directors
Dave Linman	1983-1984	President
Neil Riley	1985-1986	Mr. Davi Grossi
Dale Drummond	1987-1988	Past-President
Tim Moorhouse		
Doug Mylie		Dr. Rob Campbell, Phd.
Barbara Kusyanto		Director of Finance
Jeanie Hutton		Mr. Graedon Rust, BComm.
Lisa Wolff		Corporate Secretary
Alice Park		Mr. Sean Curran, LLP, BCom
Colin Reichle		Directors
Kevin Feehan	2005-2006	Mr. Todd Carson, P Eng.
Chris Burrows	2007-2009	Dr. Kathy Belton, Phd.
Rob Campbell	2009-2011	Mr. Brad Dryer, MBA
Colin Reichle	2011-2013	Governor (Ex-Officio)
Martin Evers	2013-2015	Mrs. Barbara Costache
Bo Wolski	2015-2017	Chief Executive Officer (Ex-Officio)
Patrick Mack CHRP, MHRM	2017-2018	Mr. Kelly Carter
Davi Grossi	2018-2020	

Society Advisors

Legal Advisor

Ms. Heather Barnhouse, BSc, LLB,

MBA

Medical Advisor

Dr. William Patton, MD, CCFP (EM),

FCFP

Athlete Representative

Mr. Scott Southwood

Branch Personnel

Chief Executive Officer

Kelly Carter

Executive Assistant

Lee Galusha

Strategies and Partnerships Manager

Christina Palech

Member Relations Manager

Lisa Hansen

Aquatic Standards and Safety Manager

Rachel Baird

Training Programs Coordinator

Kyla Meyers

Program Technical Coordinator

Alex Parker

Finance Coordinator

Merritt Gallagher

Drowning Prevention Coordinator

Julianna Matson

Zachary Trynacity-Popowich

Graphic Designer

Alixandra Jade

Service Assistants

Margo Valens

Merchandise and Service Coordinator

Madison Lalonde

Water Smart Coordinators

Jenika Kopala

Gabriel Ferreira

Financial Report

The summarized financial information presented here is derived from the Royal Life Saving Society Canada, Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2020 and independent auditor's report. A letter was provided from Dentons Canada LLP confirming that as of May 20, 2020, there were no claims or possible claims outstanding. This year realized a net contribution of \$32,002. The Society establishes, maintains and enhances programs and services to meet our mandate for the residents of Alberta and the Northwest Territories and is well positioned to continue its humanitarian mission to prevent drowning and reduce water-related injury. Complete audited financial statements are available for viewing in their entirety by request to the Lifesaving Society Alberta and Northwest Territories. The Society acknowledges and greatly appreciates the support of our initiatives by the Alberta Government and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Society Supporters

The Lifesaving Society partners with government and organizations at the national, provincial and territorial level. Together we collaborated for injury prevention, sport, recreation and active living initiatives. The Society would like to acknowledge our supporters: Government of Alberta, Government of the Northwest Territories, City of Edmonton, City of Calgary, and DB Perks & Associates Ltd.

Donations

Distinction Club - donations of over \$500

- · Anne Resek
- DB Perks & Associates

Merritt Club - donations between \$300 and \$499

Bronze Club - donations between \$100 and \$299

Friends of the Society - donations up to \$99

Jordan Neave Endowment

Donations to the Jordan Neave Endowment, set up in 2010, go towards supporting barrier free Swim to Survive® education and training to prevent drowning and water related injury.

Summarized Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2020

Net Assets	2020	2019
Working Capital Net of Investments	525,325	469,109
Investments	333,101	322,692
Capital Assets	802,673	837,296
	1,661,099	1,629,097
Fund Balance	2020	2019
Investment in Capital Assets	802,673	836,693
Internally Restricted	475,000	475,000
General – Unrestricted	383,426	317,404
	1,661,099	1,629,097

Summarized Statement of Operations as of March 31, 2020

Revenue	2020	2019
Unrestricted	1,412,386	1,426,910
Restricted	177,998	143,202
	1,590,384	1,570,112
Expenses	2020	2019
Expenses	1,558,382	2019
Expenses Net Contribution		

Training Programs

Training Programs contribute to the mission of the Society by teaching Canadians swimming and lifesaving skills and the knowledge and judgment they need to enjoy water, to save themselves, and rescue others in an emergency. In 2019-2020, over 250,000 people participated in Lifesaving Society education and training programs.

Program Updates

Leadership Model

The Lifesaving Society competency-based leadership model sets the standard of training for Lifesaving Society leadership volunteers. Leadership volunteers within the competency framework have continuous opportunity to enhance their knowledge, skills, and attitude through independent professional development, formal training and through acquisition of knowledge and skills on the job.

SwimAbilities

SwimAbilities Instructor Award Guide was finalized and rolled-out to affiliates. The Lifesaving Society encourages facilities servicing a community who would benefit from adapted programing to offer the SwimAbilities program.

Workplace Approved First Aid: Meeting the CSA Standard

In 2019 the Lifesaving Society was required by Occupational Health and Safety Alberta and Government of Northwest Territories to update workplace first aid programs to meet the CSA Workplace First Aid Standards. The revised program includes several new content items in addition to defining all content items as awareness, knowledge or skill.

This update provided an exciting opportunity for the Society to incorporate first aid lesson plans into the Lifesaving First Aid Award Guide. This award guide format was established originally for the Lifesaving Society Leadership Model rolled out last year with resounding success. This streamlined resource means Instructors no longer need to maintain two (2) resources to teach workplace first aid programs.

As a required component of these updates, Alberta Occupational Health and Safety completed an audit of Lifesaving Society workplace first aid programs. We would like to thank facilities and Instructors who welcomed auditors into their courses in additional to 309 first aid instructors who have completed the required mandatory update.

Lifesaving Basic Life Support

The Lifesaving Society has re-branded CPR Health Care Provider to Basic Life Support. This change was to provide clarification and consistency in course naming across agencies providing this training. The Basic Life Support certification better reflects current terminology used by academic institutions and employers.

Swim to Survive + (Plus)

Swim to Survive + (Plus) was launched January 1, 2020 providing new content to challenge swimmers in grade 7 with new Swim to Survive skills. Swim to Survive + (Plus) has incorporated swimming with clothes, and basic rescue skills. The Swim to Survive Award Guide now includes both the original Swim to Survive launched in 2001 and Swim to Survive Plus. Swim and Lifesaving Instructors receive this award guide in their course pack.

Program Resources

Community Resources Toolkit

Lifesaving Society members are now able to send resources they have developed and use in their own teaching to the Lifesaving Society for inclusion in the Community Resources Toolkit. This toolkit provides a hub for resource sharing within the Instructor and Trainer communities while ensuring resource accuracy. These valuable contributions give Instructors additional options and ideas to incorporate into their own teaching practice.



Canadian Swim Patrol Lesson Plans

In September 2019 the Lifesaving Society published Canadian Swim Patrol Lesson Plans for Instructors to use while teaching Canadian Swim Patrol Programs. Originally submitted as a community resource, these lesson plans were adapted to meet program model design and published as an official resource for Canadian Swim Patrol. The Society would like to acknowledge the hard work and contribution from Shandy Onishenko who submitted these lesson plans and graciously agreed to have them published by the Society.

Leadership

National Trainer Workshop

On November 2, 2019, fourteen of the Lifesaving Society's National Trainers met in Edmonton for a workshop. The workshop provided a valuable opportunity for the National Trainers to highlight their advocacy for the Society within their communities and created opportunity for continued engagement of National Trainers and other Society members in accomplishing Lifesaving Society projects benefiting all affiliates and communities.

Trainer Courses

In 2019/2020, the Lifesaving Society hosted two Trainer courses. A total of 16 participants attended the Trainer courses.

Trainer Re-certifications and Trainer Mandatory Update

In 2019/2020 the Lifesaving Society hosted nine (9) Trainer re-certification courses. A total of 137 participants attended the Trainer Re-certifications. Trainers who still require the Mandatory Update were required to register for a Trainer Mandatory Update Webinar. There were 7 Trainer Mandatory Updates completed.

Leadership Recertifications

In conjunction with the Trainer Recertifications, the Lifesaving Society hosted two (2) National Lifeguard Instructor Recertifications and two (2) First Aid Instructor Recertifications. A total of 86 participants attended these leadership recertifications. These recertifications have transitioned to being delivered by affiliates delivery partners in their community.

NCCP Swimming Applications

In 2019/2020, the Lifesaving Society processed 55 NCCP Swimming Applications. This process, in agreement with the National Canadian Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) and Swim Natation Canada, allows Swim and Lifesaving Instructor to be used as a pre-requisite to the Swimming Teacher pathway for NCCP.

Swim to Survive®

Thirty-seven (37) affiliates provided the Swim to Survive program to their communities in 2019/2020. The Society would like to thank our members for their continued support and promotion of this valuable program. Swim to Survive teaches essential survival skills to children, adults, and new Canadians.

Swim for Life®

Two (2) new affiliates join the Swim for Life family by offering the Lifesaving Society's learn to swim program in their community. All affiliate delivery partners delivering the Swim for Life program were sent hanging wall banners. The Society was pleased to be able to present many of these banners to affiliates in person and celebrate the success of the Swim for Life program.

National Lifeguard is recognized as the standard measure of lifeguard performance in Canada. National Lifeguard certifications over the reporting period were similar to that of last year with 4,342 National Lifeguard certifications (all streams), 1,673 were original and 2,498 were recertifications.

Sport Coach 1

Lifesaving Sport Coach 1 Award Guide was finalized and rolled-out to affiliates. The new award guide is aligned with the new leadership model, as it continues leadership development for Lifesaving Instructors (LSI), with the foundational skills and knowledge to transition to coaching Lifesaving Sport. 83 new Lifesaving Sport coaches were certified in 2019-2020.

BOAT

The Lifesaving Society maintained accreditation with Transport Canada to provide training and testing as part of the Pleasure Craft Operator Competency Program with current tests due to expire December 31, 2023.

The Lifesaving Society recognizes a continued demand for in-person training and testing. The Lifesaving Society encourages affiliates to offer the BOAT program and Transport Canada Boating Safety Tests at their facilities.

The Lifesaving Society remains committed to their partnership with Transport Canada on this program with branch staff appointed to an advisory group to review and make recommendations on new boating safety test questions.

Top Line Summary

	2019-2020	2018-2019	2017-2018
Swim to Survive *	30,717	34,240	26,963
Swim for Life *	170,813	214,067	179,601
Canadian Swim Patrol *	10,891	22,065	15,022
Bronze Medals	7,326	7,349	7,498
National Lifeguard	4,342	4,349	4,361
First Aid/CPR	19,610	18,325	23,476
First Responder	80	65	107
Lifesaving Sport *	5,634	6,490	5,354
BOAT	326	639	430
Leadership	6,718	5,790	6,622
Education and Proficiency	912	1,157	1,000
Totals	257,369	314,536	270,434

^{*} Items are self reported by affiliate delivery partners

Recreation & Sport

Lifesaving Sport contributes to the mission of the Society by engaging and inspiring youth in our humanitarian mandate; by providing an incentive for lifesaving skill development and lifeguard training; by encouraging innovation in lifesaving and lifeguarding technique and; by providing unique opportunities for volunteer recruitment, retention and leadership development. The Lifesaving Society AB/NWT Branch is the provincial governing body for Lifesaving Sport (Provincial Sport Organization). We host and sanction Lifesaving Sport competitions for age-group, senior and masters athletes and provide certification programs for coaches and officials.

Coach Symposium

The Lifesaving Society hosted its first Coach Symposium on September 22, 2019 at the Okotoks Recreation Centre. This event engaged 33 participants representing 11 Lifesaving Clubs across Alberta in professional development and networking. Sessions included topics on sport club engagement, safe warm up procedures and an in-water review of fundamental techniques and drills.

Lifesaving Sport Camps

The Lifesaving Society hosted four (3) sport camps on June 22-23, 2019 at West Edmonton Mall, and on July 8th at Lake Summerside. Twelve (12) participants attended the camps. These camps were led by Jonathan Kusyanto, Safety Standards Coordinator and surfing expert, Jenika Kopala, Water Smart Coordinator, and Kyla Meyers, Training Program Coordinator. The focus of the camps was on the acquisition of fundamental surf and beach skills and use of lifesaving sport equipment for beginners and more advanced skills and equipment use for those participants with more experience and skill.

Junior Lifeguard Club

Based off our returned Affiliate Stat Request Forms, and athletes entered by clubs on our website, we had 5347 athletes participate in the non-competitive stream of Lifesaving Sport across Alberta and the Northwest Territories during the 2019-2020 year. Recreational clubs allow youth to continue to be active and engaged in the aquatic environment, working to enhance their skills and knowledge in swimming and lifesaving. Recreational clubs also provide the opportunity to youth, to be introduced to competitive lifesaving activities, and the possibility of becoming a competitive athlete in Lifesaving Sport.

Regional Sanctioned Lifesaving Competitions

The Lifesaving Society is focused on affiliate club development and sanctioned competition. Eighteen (18) affiliate clubs and 675 athletes competed in sanctioned competitions throughout the 2019/2020 sport season.

Seven (7) sanctioned regional competitions were held in 2019-2020:

- Cochrane Water Ninjas Invitational Meet October 26, 2019
- Claire Jones Memorial Swim Meet November 16, 2019
- Max Bell Mantas Lifesaving Sport Invitational November 30 to December 1, 2019
- Drayton Valley Lifesavers and Tri Leisure Centre Blue Fins Candy Cane Meet – December 7, 2019
- The Wetaskiwin Chill January 18, 2020
- Poseidon's Invitational February 7-9, 2020
- City of Lacombe Sea Lions February 29, 2020

Provincial/Territorial Pool Lifesaving Championships

The Alberta & Northwest Territories Pool Lifesaving Championships were held at the Trans Alta Tri Leisure Centre in Spruce Grove from April 5-7th, 2019. The Championships were attended by fifteen (15) affiliate clubs, 297 athletes and over 100 officials and volunteers.

Congratulations to the City of Wetaskiwin Orcas for being awarded the Championships. Thank you to our host, the Trans Alta Tri Leisure Centre, and to all the volunteers and key officials.

Lifeguard Emergency Response Championships

The Alberta and Northwest Territories Lifeguard Emergency Response Championships were held at the Jasper Fitness and Aquatic Center in Jasper on February 29th, 2020. The Championships were attended by four (4) organizations, 16 Lifeguards and 16 volunteers.

Congratulations to Yellowhead County for being awarded the Championships. Thank you to our host, the Town of Jasper, and to all of the facility staff and volunteers.









Lifeguard Emergency Response Championship competitors and volunteers, Jasper

National Event Participation

2019 Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships

The 2019 Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships were held on June 1-2 at the Markham Pan Am Centre in Markham, Ontario. There were two (2) AB/NWT affiliate clubs including nineteen (19) athletes and two (2) officials that participated. Clubs included: Alberta Lifesaving Club and the Cochrane Water Ninjas. The Alberta Lifesaving Club placed second overall, earning 17 medals. Congratulations to all clubs and competitors on their lifesaving sport awards, medals, records and appointments.

2019 Canadian Lifeguard Emergency Response Championships

The 2019 Canadian Lifeguard Emergency Response Championships were held on May 4-5, 2019 in Oakville, Ontario. Two (2) officials participated from Alberta.

2019 Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships

The 2019 Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championships were held on August 23-25, 2019 at Martinique Beach and Rainbow Haven Beach, Halifax County, Nova Scotia.

International Event Participation

Commonwealth Festival of Lifesaving 2019

Alberta was well represented with nine (9) athletes on Canada's national team for the Commonwealth Festival of Lifesaving which took place in Leeds, UK between November 21-23, 2019. Congratulations to Rylun Alberg-Moore, Dallas Walker-Milan, Kevin Knopf, Joel Smyke, Kent Berry, Katia Rasmuson, Nancy Morrow, Ainsley Burnett and Meadow Liversuch on their performance. With their dedication and perseverance, the Canadian National Team placed 4th overall, while the Canadian Development Team placed 5th overall. Lisa Brown represented as Assistant Coach to Team Canada. Thank you to Todd Reade and Barbara Costache who volunteered as officials at the event and supporting Canada's delegation of officials.



Team Canada, Leeds, UK

Provincial Sport Records

Congratulations to the following athletes for setting provincial records in their respective events during the 2019 Lifesaving Sport Season:

- Aaron Gamble
- Ainsley Burnett
- · Aki Oshima
- Alexa Kaziechko
- Alexis Olsen
- Aliah Meyer
- Alyanna Garcia
- Amelia Gerber
- · Amy Swedlo
- Anabelle Snell-Farnsworth
- Brock Gilbert
- Bryson Hammer
- Callum Snell-Farnsworth
- Carsyn Karach
- Carter Rolston
- · Carys Gale
- Chandler May
- Chloe Fowler
- Clark Anton
- Dallas Walker
- Donuil Salt
- · Emily Moore
- Geryll Benett Bautista
- Ian Kruger
- J.v. Badua
- Jack Dunse
- · Jake Odorski
- Jayda Tymko
- Jessica Babuik

- Jia Badua
- Joel Smyke
- Katia Rasmuson
- · Kayla Vogel
- Kevin Knopf
- Khaila Gale
- · Krista Gagne
- Lauren MacMillan
- · Levi Peek
- · Levi Schmidtke
- Luella Berry
- Lydianna O'Neil
- MacKenna Major
- Marlee Palmer
- Matt Johnston
- Max Kruger
- Meadow Liversuch
- Nancy Morrow
- Petra Tymko
- Philippa Madill
- Quin Fitzsimmons
- Rika Oshima
- Ryanne Anderson-Shilling
- Rylun Alberg-Moore
- Sarah Rasmuson
- Taylor Ginther
- · Teagan Donald
- Tyler Bailer
- William Allaway-Brager

On October 25, 2019, our Patron, Her Honour, the Honourable Lois Mitchell, CM, AOE, LLD, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta presided at our annual Investiture of Lifesaving Honours. This ceremony recognizes citizens of Alberta and the Northwest Territories who perform outstanding rescues and humanitarian acts. The ceremony also recognized individual members who have made significant contributions to the Lifesaving Society as active volunteers.

Rescue Award Recipients

North Saskatchewan River, Devon, AB June 20, 2018

Rebecka Blackburn, Branch Lifesaving Medal - Bar For Merit Sommer King, Branch Commendation Citation

Sikome Lake, Fish Creek Provincial Park, Calgary Alberta – July 31, 2019

Kaitlyn Bouchard, Branch Lifesaving Commendation Certificate Marie Donohue, Branch Lifesaving Commendation Certificate Ryleigh Kampman, Branch Lifesaving Commendation Certificate Chantelle Reeh, Branch Lifesaving Commendation Certificate



Her Honour, the Honourable Lois Mitchell, CM, AOE, LLD, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta

Service Award Recipients

Certificate of Thanks

Mike Costache

Susan Madill

Joe Muise

Service Medal

Kristine Belbeck

Davi Grossi

Shauna JacksonCrabb

Kimberley Jorgenson

Robert Leach

Crystal McDonald

Shaun Percival

Heather Rasmuson

Lynn Rasmuson

Marena Thompson

Service Cross

Bo Wolski

Bar to Service Cross

Cameron Mitchell



Chantelle Reeh, Kaitlyn Bouchard, Marie Donojue, Ryleigh Kapman with Her Honour



Constable Robert Leach with Her Honour

Public Education and Advocacy

Public Education contribute to the mission of the Society by teaching Canadians swimming and lifesaving skills and the knowledge and judgment they need to enjoy water, to save themselves, and rescue others in an emergency. In 2019-2020, over ?????? Albertans and Northwest Territories residents participated in Lifesaving Society education, proficiency and training programs, an increase of over ???? participants from the previous year.

National Drowning Prevention Week

National Drowning Prevention Week tool place between July 21-27, 2019. The Society shared a Social Media and Community Activation plan to promote water safe behavior in, on and around watter.

Flag Raising Ceremony

The Society hosted a National Drowning Prevention Week (NDPW) flag raising ceremony at Edmonton City Hall on July 22. The Flag was official raised by Her Honour, the Honourable Lois E. Mitchell, CM, AOE, LLD along with Edmonton City Councilor Jon Dziadyk.



Flag Raising Ceremony at City Hall, Edmonton

Community Activations

Communities across the province activated to our cause to eliminate drowning in Canada by hosting numerous community activations at recreation centres and community events.



Calgary Tower, Calgary



High Level Bridge, Edmonton

City Hall, Lethbridge

Proclamations



This year we received a message from the Premier supporting NDPW along with 25 National Drowning Prevention Week proclamations.

NWT Water Smart Activity

The Lifesaving Society continues to collaborate with the Government of the Northwest Territories Injury Prevention and Drowning Prevention Working Groups to continue the delivery of the Northwest Territories Water Smart program. The NWT Water Smart program is now in its ninth year. In year nine of the program, the Society led an session at the Mackenzie Recreation Association Recreation Leaders Training Camp in Hay River on how to conduct Water Smart activities within their community.

The Society also delivered Water Smart education and Swim to Survive skills in combination with waterfront assessments in Hay River, Fort Simpson, Fort McPherson, Inuvik, Norman Wells, and tuktoyaktuk. Since 2011, Water Smart program content and materials has been delivered to 33 communities in the Northwest Territories.

NWT Beach Attendants

The Lifesaving Society conducted training for the Beach Attendants in Yellowknife preparing them to monitor beach activity for the 2019 swimming season at Fred Henne Territorial Park. This program teaches beach attendants first aid, water rescue, communication, and public education skills. The beach attendants also provide Water Smart education through interactive sessions and activities during National Drowning Prevention Week. This program is supported by the Government of Northwest Territories Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment.

Drop Drownings

The Drop Drownings Event was held on March 6, 2020. This event brought engagement and awareness to drowning prevention initiatives. There were 60 attendees, 8 presenters, and the event was emceed by Courtney Domoney, Commonwealth's Youth Ambassador.





Drop Drownings, Edmonton

Research

The Lifesaving Society researches and reports on drowning and preventable water-related deaths provincially, nationally and internationally. The purpose of the drowning research is to provide a comprehensive fact base on the drowning problem to guide the Society and other organizations in developing effective drowning prevention solutions. Ongoing research and analysis supports the Society's evidence-based water rescue training and drowning prevention education.

Non-Fatal Drowning Research

The Society invested in Non-Fatal Drowning Research by funding leading international research with the Injury Prevention Centre. This research will be some of the first data collected internationally using the World Health Organizations new proposed definition for non-fatal drowning. Preliminary results were shared at Drop Drownings.

The latest data indicates that the long term trend of decreasing drowning death rates in Canada continues. In 2015, the number of unintentional water-related fatalities reported by the provincial and territorial Coroner's and Medical Examiner's offices was 423, the lowest in the last 25 years. Despite decreases from the previous five year period, the highest drowning rates in 2011-2015 were still found in the Territories.

The major risk factors contributing to why water-related fatalities occurred in Canada remain consistent with those the Lifesaving Society has identified in the past. Alcohol is a common factor associated with drowning; in an average of one in three drowning deaths in Canada, the victim had consumed alcohol prior to the incident. Not wearing a personal floatation device or lifejacket while boating is also a common risk factor.

Northern Canada Drowning Report (2019 Edition) and Infographic



The Northern Canada Drowning Report outlines the most recent data collected from the Office of the Chief Coroners of the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut. From 2012 to 2016 (the most recent year for which data is available), 57 people drowned in Northern Canada. All incidences of children drowning in Northern Canada were due to absent or distracted supervision.

Males continue to contribute to the vast majority of reported drownings. Adults 35-64 years of age were at the highest risk for drowning in Northern Canada, followed by young adults 20-34 years of age and teenagers 15-19 years of age. Almost all water related deaths occurred in natural bodies of water (i.e. lakes, river, ocean). Drownings most often occurred between the months of May and September.

Major risk factors related to boating include not wearing a lifejacket, alcohol consumption, and capsizing. By purpose of activity, boating accounts for the majority of drowning fatalities in Northern Canada (40%) followed by unintended water entry during a non-aquatic activity (23%) and aquatic activities (21%). By recreational activity, most incidents occurred while canoeing, participating in a recreational activity (walking, running or playing) near water or swimming.

Alberta Drowning Report (2019 Edition) and Infographic



The most recent data available from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner of Alberta reveals an overall increase in the water-related fatality rate in the 2012-2016 period, compared to the period before, further reinforcing the need for continued strong drowning prevention efforts.

216 people drowned in Alberta between 2012-2016. The major risk factors contributing to drowning incidents in Alberta continue to be consistent with those the Lifesaving Society has identified for the national population in the past. The major risk factors related to boating include not wearing a lifejacket, alcohol consumption and boating alone. The major risk factors related to swimming include alcohol consumption and poor swimming ability (weak or non-swimmer). Proper supervision of children remains a serious concern as 100% of drowning deaths among children occurred due to absent or distracted supervision.

Consistent with previous years, males contributed to the vast majority of drownings. The age groups with the highest risk for drowning include children 0-4 years of age, young adults 20-34 years of age and seniors over the age of 65. The highest rates of drownings occurred between the months of May and September and in natural bodies of water such as lakes and rivers. By purpose of activity, aquatic recreational activities continue to account for the majority of drowning fatalities in Alberta (31%) followed by bathing (18%), unintended water entry during a non-aquatic activity (17%), and boating (14%). By recreational activity, most incidents occurred while swimming, participating in a recreational activity (walking, running or playing) near water or non-powered boating.

Lifejacket Loaner Stations

The Lifesaving Society collaborated with several partners to provide the Lifejacket Loaner Station program at thirty-three (41) sites including eight (8) new sites in Alberta in 2019. The Society would like to thank our affiliates, Alberta Parks, the Governments of Alberta and the Northwest Territories and volunteers across Alberta and the Northwest Territories for their continued support of this valuable program.

The Society has maintained a partnership with Cross Country Parts Distributors who provide lifejackets at cost for our Lifejacket Loaner Stations. The Society provides banners for the Lifejacket Loaner Station program, which can be customized, as well as posters and maps for all of the Lifejacket Loaner Stations. The Society also provides Water Smart rack cards to all of the Lifejacket Loaner Stations.

Lifejacket Loaner Stations in the Northwest Territories:

- Dettah (Yellowknife Dene First Nation)
- Fred Henne Beach Territorial Park (Yellowknife)
- Hay River Territorial Park (Hay River)
- Town of Fort Smith
- Ndilo (Yellowknife Dene First Nation)



Beaver Lake Provincial Recreation Area, Lac La Biche

Lifejacket Loaner Stations in Alberta:

- Aspen Beach Provincial Park (east of Bentley)
- Athabasca Regional Multiplex
- Auburn Bay (Calgary)
- Bear Lake (Yellowhead County)
- Beauvais Lake Provincial Park (Pincher Creek)
- Beaver Lake Provincial Recreation Area (Lac La Biche)
- Carson-Pegasus Provincial Park (north of Whitecourt)
- Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Edmonton
- Chestermere Lake (Calgary)
- Cochrane Public Library
- Crimson Lake Provincial Park (northeast of Rocky Mountain House)
- Cypress Hills Provincial Park (south of Medicine Hat)
- Dillberry Provincial Park (Rutland area)
- Fish Creek Provincial Park (Sikome Lake)- two (2) stations (southwest of Calgary)
- Ghost Reservoir Provincial Recreation Area (Ghost Lake, west of Cochrane)
- Glenmore Reservoir Heritage Park (southwest of Calgary)
- Gregoire Lake Provincial Park (southeast of Fort McMurray)
- Henderson Lake Park (Lethbridge)
- Kinbrook Island Provincial Park (Brooks Area)
- Lac La Biche County MacArthur Place (Central)
- Lake Summerside (Edmonton)
- Medicine Hat YMCA Downtown Branch (Medicine Hat)
- Moonshine Lake Provincial Park (north of Grande Prairie)
- Nicholas Sheran Park (Lethbridge)
- Pigeon Lake Provincial Park (Pigeon Lake)
- Pinehurst Lake Campground (Lakeland Provincial Recreation Area)
- Saddletowne YMCA (Calgary)
- Shiningbank Lake (Yellowhead County)
- Sir Winston Churchill Provincial Park two (2) stations (Lac La Biche)
- Touchwood Lake (east of Lac La Biche)
- Town of Beaverlodge
- Town of Coronation
- Town of Grande Cache
- Wabamun Lake Provincial Park (Edmonton Area)
- Wabasca Water World & Fitness Centre
- Young's Point Provincial Park (Sturgeon Lake, west of Valleyview)

Advocacy

Partnerships and Presentations

The Lifesaving Society staff and leadership volunteers offered various presentations in Alberta and the Northwest Territories to support our humanitarian mission to prevent drowning and water-related injury with the following partners:

- Alberta Association of Recreation Facility Personnel (AARFP) Conference
- Alberta Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA)
- Mackenzie Recreation Association (MRA)

Social Media

Facebook	www.facebook.com/lifesavingabnwt In 2019/2020 there were approximately 510 posts made and 1,227 individuals and organizations liked the Society's Facebook page. This is an increase of almost 100 likes since last year.
Twitter	@lifesavingabnwt In 2019/2020 the Society had a total of 1,284 followers.
Snapchat	@lifesavingabnwt In 2019/2020 the Society created a snapchat account which has 61 friends.
Instagram	@lifesavingsocietyabnwt In 2019/2020 there were 385 posts and 850 followers. This is an increase of approximately 200 followers since last year.
YouTube	Lifesaving AB/NWT The Society's YouTube channel page contains promotional videos, news videos featuring the Lifesaving Society, and approved video resources for teaching Lifesaving Society programs. There are 34 videos 10 playlists 103 subscribers and 10 738 views

Safety Management Services

Aquatic Safety Services

Aquatic Safety Management Services contribute to the mission of the Society by establishing safety standards, providing the position of the Lifesaving Society on trending topics, and by inspecting/auditing aquatic environments.

Recommendations, positions, and standards provided by the Lifesaving Society assist pool and waterfront owner/owner's agents in identifying risk and by providing recommendations to reduce the risk of drowning and water related injury.

Comprehensive Safety Audits

Aquatic safety audits are a core safety management service, which provide a means to assess the safety of aquatic facilities and provide recommendations to enhance safety with the aim of reducing drowning and aquatic related injuries. Owner/owner's agents are encouraged to have an Aquatic Safety Audit competed at their facility once every five (5) years.

Topical Audits

Owners and owner's agents with concerns about specific problems or areas of a facility, making operational or facility changes or developing new facilities may wish to have a specific issue-topical audit. Topical audits will evaluate the issue(s) and provide recommendations to enhance staff and public safety. Examples of common specific issue topical audits include Lifeguard Positioning Analysis, Lighting Analysis, Aquatic Facility Design Consultation, Signage Consultation, Safety and Supervision Review and Amenity Analysis.

Safety and Supervision Plan Reviews

Safety and Supervision Plan Reviews are a new service available to affiliate delivery partners and other aquatic facilities. The Society has extensive expertise in reviewing and assisting facilities in meeting the new Alberta Pool Standards (2018) and Lifesaving Society recommendations for site specific Safety and Supervision Plans.

The City of Calgary engaged the Society to review the Safety and Supervision Plans at all their aquatic facilities.

In-Services

Lifesaving Society run in-services are another service available to affiliate delivery partners and other aquatic facilities. This year, we added packaged in-services in addition to the topical in-services we have offered in the past.

Topics include:

- Lifeguard Scanning and Recognition
- Lifeguard Rescue Response
- Instructor Training Excellence
- Lifesaving Sport Development (JLC)
- Lay rescuer Emergency Response Training
- Drowning Prevention
- Other topics as identified by the facility

In 2019-2020 in Alberta and the Northwest Territories the Lifesaving Society completed:

- Comprehensive Safety Audits eight (8)
- Lifeguard Positioning Analysis seventeen (17)
- Signage Consultation fifteen (15)
- Safety and Supervision Plan Reviews six (6)
- Lighting Analysis four (4)
- Aquatic Facility Design Consultations two (2)
- In-Services two (2)

National Safety Standards Commission

Rachel Baird and Norm Baldry were members of the National Safety Standards Commission which is responsible for managing the development of safety standards and position statements for the Lifesaving Society Canada.

Membership in this commission is important for making sure the viewpoint of Alberta and the Northwest Territories is represented.

Technical Committee

The Lifesaving Society has a Technical Committee to provide information and advice on matters relating to risk management, pool standards, best practices and operation.

The Society would like to thank all members of the Technical Committee for their ongoing stakeholder review and input.

- Kelly Carter (Chair), Lifesaving Society
- Shauna JacksonCrabb, YMCA Northern Alberta
- Norm Baldry, City of Edmonton
- · Jack Birkett, City of Calgary
- Ken Brunton, Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Service
- Lisa Pittett, MacEwan University
- Mike Scott, Independent
- · Shaun Percival, City of St. Albert
- · Kevin Jeroncic, Alberta Health Services



Alberta Public Pool Safety Standards

On Sept 17, 2019 Alberta and NWT stakeholders discussed the Lifesaving Society's Public Aquatic Facility Safety Standards and provided suggested up-dates since its last publication in 2014. We want to thank all affiliates that were a part of this process.

The Lifesaving Society published new Alberta Public Pool Safety Standards in February 2020 replacing the Public Aquatic Facility Safety Standards which is now retired. This document reflects current legislation, regulations, standards, guidelines and incorporates stakeholder feedback. These Standards are compilations of aquatic safety guidance from Lifesaving Society research that has been published over many years in a variety of Society manuals and publications as well as external publications.

Safety Management Programs

The Town of Okotoks hosted an Aquatic Management Training Course May 23-24, 2020.

The Lifesaving Society hosted a fall Safety Management Training Institute which included SEE Auditor, and Aquatic Safety Inspector. The Aquatic Safety Inspector Course was hosted by the Repsol Sport Centre on November 14, 2019.

In the 2019/2020 business year the Lifesaving Society delivered:

- One (1) SEE Auditor course 8 participants
- One (1) Aquatic Safety Inspector courses 6 participants
- One (1) Aquatic Management Training course 12 participants

Member Services

Member Services

Member Services develops and maintains the corporate functions, systems and infrastructure required to support and service the membership of the Society.

Governance

The Royal Life Saving Society Canada is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors nominated by provincial/ territorial branches and elected at the Society's Annual General Meeting. National commissions are led by volunteer commissioners who report to the Board of Directors. These commissions are: Public Education, Training Programs, Lifesaving Sport, Aquatic Safety Standards and International Relations. A national management team is comprised of senior staff of the 10 branches.

Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch Board of Directors

The Lifesaving Society Alberta and Northwest Territories is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors and appointed representatives, such as a Governor. Thank you to Davi Grossi, Dr. Rob Campbell, Dr. Kathy Belton, Graedon Rust, Sean Curran, Todd Carson, Bradley Dryer and Barbara Costache for your continued support and dedication to the Society.

Annual General Meeting

The 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Branch Recognition Awards were held on Friday, June 14 at the Santa Maria Goretti Centre in Edmonton. The success of leadership volunteers, affiliate delivery partners and lifesaving sport athletes was celebrated. The Society showcased our key successes over the past year and presented a vision for the future.

The Lifesaving Society hosted Fall Forum on November 15, 2019 in Calgary.

Topics included:

- Underwater Surveillance Systems and the Impact on Lifeguard Surveillance at Peter Hemmingway
- Air Quality Indoor and Outdoor Facilities
- Safety Standards and Journal Review Update



Fall Forum, Calgary

Affiliate Webinars

The Lifesaving Society began hosting Affiliate Webinars to engage affiliates across Alberta and the Northwest Territories. These webinars highlight program and service changes as well as tips and key information to Affiliate Delivery Partners. In 2019/2020, the Lifesaving Society hosted seven (7) affiliate webinars and had a total of 89 Affiliate Delivery partners in attendance.

Website | www.lifesaving.org

In 2019 the Lifesaving Society started work on a new Members portal for the website and this work continues into 2020. The Lifesaving Society website provides a wealth of information and resources for the public as well as our affiliate members. The website offers the ability to post a course, find a member, post a job, and track employee certifications. Affiliate members and the public can access key information about Lifesaving Society branch events and courses as well information about our training programs, Water Smart® public education, safety management services and lifesaving sport. There were 99,684 visits to www.lifesaving.org in 2019- 2020. Approximately 77.4% were new visits to the website.

Publications of the Lifesaving Society are available from any Branch office. Inquiries from outside Canada should be directed to the National Office.

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