

SPRING
2016

MSC LAUNCHES NEW LINE OF MERCHANDISE!

MSC is pleased to offer T-shirts, polo shirts, jackets, water bottles and sport towels for sale! An online store will be added to the new website but, in the meantime, an order form is available on the MSC Blog page. Visit the MSC booth at Nationals to view and buy these great items.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Board of Directors has been active this year on several fronts. Masters swimming in Canada is managed by hardworking and dedicated organizations across the country. At times, it can be difficult to understand the roles and responsibilities of each entity, so the Board of Directors and management of MSC have been working on agreements to be signed between MSC and the various entities that will help to clarify the organization of masters swimming in Canada. We are in the final stages of negotiating an agreement with Swimming Natation Canada (SNC), and others will follow. We have also completed a strategic plan that will guide our focus for several years to come. While continuing to support competitive swimmers, we will increase our activities and programs targeting those swimmers who do not compete. Watch for more on this shortly. Our Communications Committee has been working in collaboration with the Technology Committee on the new website that will roll out at Nationals in May. It has been a huge undertaking, led by volunteers who have invested hundreds of hours of specialized expertise on designing a website that will facilitate communication among swimmers, between clubs, and serve both local and national conversations. Finally, our Finance Committee has overseen the implementation of a new accounting system and updated financial reporting content and timing. Much of this important work is “kitchen work” that may not be highly visible but which definitely makes our organization run smoother. We’re in good shape and getting better every day!

Carol Fitzwilliam
MSC President

FROM THE ED DESK

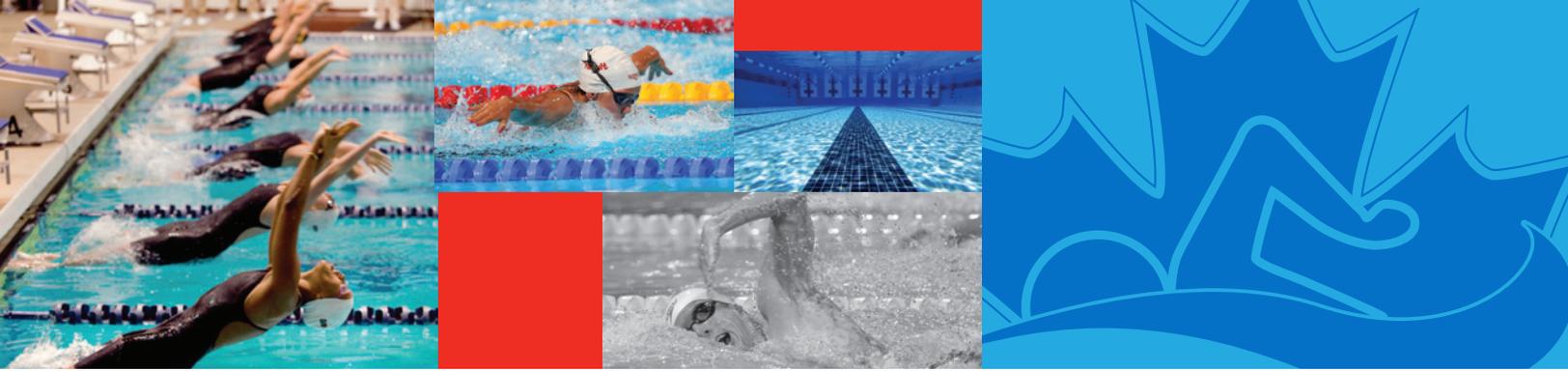
This has been a very exciting time for MSC. We are looking forward to Nationals in May but this is only a small part of the work that has gone on in the past year. We will launch our new web site in May. The new site comes as a result of many hours of hard work from our committee led by Mike Vanden Ham, and I also want to thank MSO for their investment in the project, with a special thanks to Mike Starr.

The new web site marks our renewed commitment to communications and support to our members. We will be announcing these changes in the coming months, with full upgrades to the web site complete in September.

In addition to the MOU with SNC we are finalizing partnership agreements with Triathlon Canada, the YMCA and Red Cross.

Enjoy this edition of the newsletter & have a great swim!

Doug Hannum
Executive Director
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FUNDRAISER AUCTION OF UNIQUE SWIMMER ART

MSC recently acquired a very unique piece of artwork from Marie Walsh, a Quebec artist. She is not only an artist, but a traveler and pedagogue. Painting with acrylic, her main topic is Human States that she expresses through gesture, movement, body poses and facial expressions.

MSC is holding an Online/Silent Auction as a fundraiser. The 2'x4' piece will be on display at Nationals in Etobicoke and bidding will close on Sunday, May 22nd at 6:00 pm ET. Those not attending Nationals have an opportunity to bid, as well - see the posting on the MSC Blog at www.mastersswimmingcanada.com for details.

Presidents Challenge - Carol Fitzwilliam has opened the bidding for \$500! She challenges all swimmers to beat her bid in an effort to support Masters Swimming!



2016 NATIONALS

Planning for Nationals, being held at the Etobicoke Olympium in Ontario, May 19-23, is well under way. Brian Sheridan, Chair of the Local Organizing Committee says, "We are excited about the return of Nationals to Etobicoke, and the Committee has been hard at work preparing for the event. We are particularly excited about our BBQ/Awards Ceremony on Saturday night. We encourage everyone to register early and we look forward to seeing you soon."

MSC is also pleased to announce the first Lunch'n'Learn @ Nationals speaker series. We are pleased to offer sessions on Saturday (Naturopathic Care) and Sunday (Injury Prevention) for all those attending Nationals and to any other swimmers who are interested.

To register for Nationals and/or the Lunch'n'Learn series, visit the MSC Blog at www.mastersswimmingcanada.com and click on the side links.

UNITED STATES MASTERS SWIMMING

For years now, we have been proud partners with United States Masters Swimming. Recently, the organization has undergone some changes with a new President, Patricia Miller, and new CEO, Dawson Hughes. We welcome both of them as we continue to build our relationship. Our Nationals are posted on their home page at www.usms.org.