

JUNE 2024

MASRC NEWSLETTER

4TH ANNUAL INDIGENOUS
WOMEN & GIRLS RUN
ANNOUNCEMENT

2025 NAHC ID CAMP
DATES ANNOUNCED

INDIGENOUS ATHLETES
REPRESENT AT
OLYMPIC SWIMMING
TRIALS





June 2024 Event Calendar						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Athlete & Community Champion of the Month nominations close on the 25 th of every month. Happy National Indigenous History & Pride Month!						1 Scholarship Applications Close Aboriginal Coaching Modules
2	3	4 MASRC Community Visit – God’s Lake	5 MASRC Community Visit – God’s Lake Coach’s Corner	6 MASRC Community Visit – God’s Lake	7 Little Saskatchewan FN Softball Clinic	8 Little Saskatchewan FN Softball Clinic Aboriginal Coaching Modules
9	10	11	12 WSD Grad Powwow	13	14 MASRC Community Visit – Cranberry Portage	15 MASRC Community Visit – Cranberry Portage
16	17	18	19 Winnipeg Sea Bears Indigenous Night	20	21 National Indigenous Peoples Day MASRC Offices Closed	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	MASRC Urban Bike Program applications are open all summer! Visit www.masrc.com/events.php for more information.					



In case you missed it – our main office has been moved to the third floor of the Sport Manitoba building!

Our new address is 321-145 Pacific Ave, Winnipeg MB R3B 2Z6.

Pickup Your Copy of The Summer of Excellence!

Get ready to dive into the amazing achievements of Manitoba's athletes in our special edition: The Summer of Excellence! Explore interviews with key figures, stunning photos, and stories behind the scenes. Grab your copy for \$20.00.

Don't miss out—email us at info@masrc.com to get your copy and relive the pride, passion, and victories of Manitoba's summer in Indigenous sports. Get ready to be inspired!



Team Manitoba ties for third at 2024 NAHC

At the 2024 National Aboriginal Hockey Championships in Grande Prairie, both male and female teams ended up sharing third place. This unexpected outcome wasn't due to their performance on the ice, but because of wildfire warnings in the city.

The tournament began with a lively opening ceremony, bringing together Indigenous cultures from across the nation. But as the games progressed, wildfire alerts disrupted the schedule, prioritizing everyone's safety.



Despite the challenges, the teams showed remarkable unity. Instead of focusing solely on the competition, they worked together to ensure everyone's well-being. This shared experience forged strong bonds between them, leading to a decision to cancel both of the bronze medals matches, ending with both teams being tied for third place in their respective competitions.

Beyond the games, the teams found strength in spending time together, sharing stories, and supporting one another. While the tournament's end was unexpected, the lasting lesson of unity and resilience in the face of adversity will be remembered far beyond the rinks.

Nomination Alert! Celebrate Indigenous Excellence!

Do you know an outstanding Indigenous athlete or community champion making waves in their community? It's time to shine the spotlight on their achievements! Whether they've demonstrated exceptional skills on the field or gone above and beyond to uplift their community, we want to hear about them!

Nominate someone who embodies resilience, dedication, and community spirit. Help us recognize and honor those making a positive impact in Indigenous communities. Together, let's celebrate the remarkable achievements of our athletes and champions!

Nominate now at <https://www.masrc.com/monthly-awards> and be a part of honoring Indigenous excellence. The deadline for submissions is the 25th of every month. Don't miss this chance to highlight the incredible stories within our community!



Aboriginal Coaching Modules to be hosted June 1st & 8th at Sport Manitoba

In order to educate and promote the value of the NCCP and to establish meaningful participation of Indigenous peoples in this national program, the ASC embarked on a multi-year process to develop supplemental training material for Indigenous coaches taking NCCP workshops. The result of this process is the Aboriginal Coaching Modules (ACM), which responds to the need for a national training curriculum with content that reflects the uniqueness of Indigenous cultures, values, and lifestyles. The ACM is a professional development training tool for Indigenous and non-Indigenous coaches who coach Indigenous athletes, as they become certified through the NCCP.

The material in the ACM has been developed to meet the following learning objectives:

- Understanding the role of sport in Indigenous communities.
- Understanding and positively influencing the community in which you coach.
- Coaching the whole person; coaching beyond the physical to include the mental (intellectual and emotional), spiritual and cultural.
- Responding to racism in sport.
- Establishing a code of behaviour for your team that respects differences and addresses racism.
- Helping those you coach make healthy lifestyle choices.

To register for the ACM, please contact Cadin at 204-925-5737, or at cadin.dupasquier@masrc.com. You can also register online by visiting www.masrc.com/events.php.

MASRC Urban Bike Program Applications Are Open!

This program addresses our goal of providing independent, reliable, and safe transportation to Indigenous youth that have moved from rural and/or remote communities to live in Winnipeg for school or for work.

Applicants Must Be:

- Indigenous (First Nations, Metis, or Inuit).
- Youth between the ages of 16-24.
- From a rural or remote community.
- Now living in Winnipeg.
- Have no reliable mode of transportation.
- Applications open April 12th, 2024 at 9:00AM.

To Apply:

1. Complete the online application form [www.masrc.com/masrc-sports-equipment-bank]
2. Applicants must provide an unofficial transcript or a letter of enrollment/letter of employment.
3. Applications that are submitted without these documents will not be considered.

Note: Bikes are distributed to those that 1) apply first and 2) meet all of the criteria. Completing an application form does not guarantee that we will have a bike for you. For more information, please contact info@masrc.com or 204-925-5737.



The Manitoba Aboriginal Sports & Recreation Council would like to wish Joshua Samyn the very best as he concludes his time with MASRC as our Grassroots Holistic Sports Trainer. Thank you, Joshua, for your dedication and hard work. We'll miss you!



Garden City Collegiate Donates Over \$600 to MASRC Sports Equipment Bank

The MASRC would like to share our thanks with Collège Garden City Collegiate's Grade 11 Retailing Class and their amazing teacher, Ms. Single! Thanks to their incredible efforts and the excitement of March Madness, they've raised a whopping \$600 to support the MASRC's Sports Equipment Bank!

This generous contribution will make a significant difference in providing free sports equipment to those in need throughout Manitoba. Thank you for making a positive impact in our community!

Introducing Nicole Robak, our Sport for Social Development Supervisor!

Our province-wide Sport for Social Development Program is dedicated to fostering mentorship initiatives, wellness and recreation development, dynamic sports programs, and much more. At the heart of this initiative lies the objective to utilize the power of sports and recreation as a tool to address societal challenges. As we continue to make strides in this mission, we're thrilled to introduce Nicole, our Sport for Social Development Supervisor.

Nicole brings a wealth of experience and passion to her role. With a background in Olympic Weightlifting and Rock Climbing, she understands firsthand the transformative power of sports. Nicole will be working closely with our Program Leaders as they work to empower Indigenous communities across our province through sports and recreation.

Get to Know Nicole:

Best Advice Received: "Comparison is the thief of joy. Strive to better yourself instead of winning."

Go-to Relaxation: "Training for my sports, Olympic Weightlifting and Rock Climbing, helps me relax. I also like to unwind by lounging and watching anime or a documentary."

Skill to Improve: "I'm always trying to enhance my technique in my sport. I find joy in the minor technique changes, which relates to my field of study-motor control. I love learning about the ideal placement of attention when performing a skill."



Favorite Way to Get Active: "My favorite activities include Olympic Weightlifting and Rock Climbing. Additionally, I enjoy swimming, biking, and running, sports I previously competed in."

For inquiries or to connect with Nicole, please reach out at 204-942-6615 or nicole.robak@masrc.com.



Team Manitoba Identification Camp Scheduled for August 10-11, 2024

Get ready for an amazing chance to shine at the 2025 NAHC Team Manitoba Identification Camp! Taking place on August 10th and 11th, 2024, at Seven Oaks Arena in Winnipeg MB, this event is open to Indigenous athletes who dream of representing Manitoba in hockey.

Eligibility:

1. Indigenous athletes with recognized documentation of Indigenous Status.
2. Permanent residents of Manitoba (or those from Manitoba attending an out-of-province hockey academy).
3. Female athletes born between 2007-2011 playing AA-AAA, high school, or prep.
4. Male athletes born between 2007-2011 playing Jr. A, Jr. B, AA-AAA, high school, MMJHL, or prep.

Registration:

Secure your spot by paying a \$150.00 registration fee. Fill out the online form linked below and attach your Recognized Documentation of Indigenous Status and full-form birth certificate.

Scouting:

This year, there won't be any scouting services. Athletes must attend the camp to be evaluated.

Questions?

Check out our FAQ section on our website (www.masrc.com/nahc), or email Robyn Cruz, our Major Games Manager, at robyn.cruz@masrc.com.

Don't miss this chance to show off your skills and passion for hockey!



Save the Date for the MASRC's 4th Annual Indigenous Women & Girls Run!

Join us for the 4th Annual Indigenous Women & Girls Run on September 21, 2024! Lace up your sneakers and mark your calendars for a day of empowerment and community at Kildonan Park, Winnipeg MB.

Distance: 2K & 5K Walk, Run, & Roll

Location: Kildonan Park, Winnipeg MB

Every step you take supports sports and recreation initiatives for Indigenous women and girls in Manitoba. Together, let's make a difference and celebrate the strength and resilience of our community. Hosted in partnership by Anti-Racism in Sport Winnipeg, Athletics Manitoba, and the Manitoba Aboriginal Sports & Recreation Council.

Registration information will be released shortly, however we are currently accepting registrations for volunteers! Visit www.masrc.com/sport-for-social-development for more details.



Community & Staff Updates



Arctic Winter Games Demonstrations at Manito Ahbee Festival

Manito Ahbee looked a bit different this year for us – but it didn't stop us from participating in the fun and being active! Kyle Worl, a Tlingit athlete and coach from Juneau, joined us to demonstrate the events that make up the Arctic Games – a new trial sport being presented at the 2027 North American Indigenous Games.



St. Theresa Point First Nation with Athletics Manitoba

Despite the chilly weather we've been having, we were excited to join Dustin Manoakesick in St. Theresa Point First Nation last week to hold a few track and field clinics for their athletics team! A special thank you to Julia, Gavin, and Courtney from Athletics Manitoba for making the trek up north with Cadin. Looking forward to many more clinics in our future!



Traditional Games Workshop

Earlier in the month, MASRC staff Cadin ran traditional Indigenous games workshop for our staff, where we learnt (and played) traditional games from across different nations! Favourites included Screaming Eagle, the various forms of leg wrestling, and of course, Dog Warrior! Thank you to Cadin for sharing this knowledge, and we are excited to share these games with our communities!



Softball in Birdtail Sioux Dakota Nation

Rainy weather didn't stop MASRC staff Jazmyn and her guest coach Kelsey Straight of Brokenhead First Nation from having fun! On day 1, they taught kickball games indoors to the youth, and on day 2, were able to head outside for some softball skills sessions! Thank you to Birdtail Sioux Dakota Nation for making our evening sports night such a success!



Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs' Women's Gathering

From May 27-28, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs hosted a Women's Gathering for their member nations. The MASRC was excited to have a booth at the Gathering, providing information on our upcoming programs, events, and traditional games. We also had our Deadly Kookoms and Aunties gear available for purchase. We're grateful for the opportunity to connect with the community and for the support the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs shown us.



Drum Workshop with Sweet Pea Starr of Brokenhead First Nation

On May 26, our staff took a few hours over lunch to learn how to make traditional hand drums! We would like to share our appreciation with Sweet Pea Starr, for sharing his knowledge and humour as we worked to create our drums. We are looking forward to painting them and truly making them our own!

Celebrating Our Indigenous Athletes of the Month for May!



Figure 1: Carson and Maxine at the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Swimming Trials earlier in May.

Join us in giving a huge round of applause to Carson Beggs and Maxine Lavitt, our Indigenous Athletes of the Month for May! The Red River Metis dedication and achievements in the swimming world are truly remarkable, making both of them standout leaders both in and out of the pool.

As the Varsity Swim Team Captain at the University of Manitoba, Carson embodies leadership and excellence. His commitment to his team and sport is evident through his role as the Athletes Council Executive Assistant, where he works to support his fellow athletes.

Carson's swimming excellence is undeniable, earning him the title of Swim

Manitoba Male Swimmer of the Year for the 2022-23 season. His success extends to the Speedo Western Canadian Championships, where he secured silver in the 50 & 100 Breaststroke events and bronze in the 4x100 Medley relay. Not only has he excelled individually, but Carson also holds provincial records in the 4x100 Medley relay in both short course and long course events.

In addition to his achievements in the pool, Carson's coaching talents shine through his role as the head coach for the 2023 North American Indigenous Games. His dedication to mentoring and inspiring the next generation of athletes is truly admirable.

Maxine's journey is one of determination, excellence, and commitment to her heritage. A learner of Cree, Anishinaabemowin, and southern Michif, she's deeply engaged in language revitalization efforts, participating in the First Language Reclamation Summit for Indigenous Languages of Manitoba.

Her passion for swimming extends beyond competition. Maxine's coaching role at the 2023 NAIG and selection for the Indigenous Community Coach Apprenticeship Program highlight her dedication to nurturing the next generation of athletes.

Maxine's swimming achievements are nothing short of extraordinary:

- Competed at the 2024 Paralympic Swimming Trials and achieved 4 qualification standards for the 2028 LA Paralympics.
- Won seven medals (3 gold, 3 silver, 1 bronze) at the 2024 Western Swimming Championships.
- Broke five Canadian records in the S13 category - National champion, silver, and bronze medalist at the 2023 Canadian Swimming Championships in August 2023.
- Was selected by Swimming Manitoba as the Para-Swimmer of the Year in September 2023.
- Was selected by Swimming Canada to attend a National Team camp for visually impaired swimmers in September 2023.

Their accolades, both in and out of the pool, underscore their unwavering commitment to excellence and community. Let's celebrate their remarkable achievements and inspiring leadership!



Message from MASRC Leadership



MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MEL WHITESELL

Dear Members and Supporters,

I would like to congratulate our Team Manitoba athletes on their performance at the 2024 National Aboriginal Hockey Championships. Though the bronze medal games were cancelled, the athletes took it in stride, not letting the wildfire dampen their spirits!

We are excited for a busy month ahead, with many community visits and programs planned for the summer months. Thank you to our members for their support!

Thank you to our Sponsors & Partners!



Have a story you want to share? Is your community hosting an upcoming event? Do you have questions about our newsletter?

Contact: Gabrielle Wishart
Communications Coordinator
P: 204-925-5737
F: 204-925-5716
E: info@masrc.com

2025 MANITOBA INDIGENOUS SUMMER GAMES

**NORWAY HOUSE CREE NATION
JULY 9-14, 2025**

**SAGKEENG ANICINABE NATION
AUGUST 17-23, 2025**

LEARN MORE AT WWW.2025MISG.COM



**MANITOBA INDIGENOUS
SUMMER
GAMES 2025**
NORWAY HOUSE CREE NATION / SAGKEENG ANICINABE NATION

Presented By



Hosted By



**SAGKEENG
ANICINABE GOVERNMENT**