

Mr. Dale Henwood, President
Canadian Sport Centre Calgary
Room 125, Olympic Oval
2500 University Drive S.W.
Calgary, AB T2N 1N4

February 28, 2008

Dear Mr. Henwood:

The Alberta Progressive Conservatives support your vision outlining the important role that sport plays in contributing to Albertans' quality of life. Sport and recreation are components of the cultural policy "The Spirit of Alberta" recently announced by the Progressive Conservative government. One of the policy's goals is to enhance community capacity to support and promote cultural activity and Progressive Conservatives have committed to providing funding for communities to plan, build and upgrade recreational facilities.

Ed Stelmach and the Progressive Conservative team recognize that much of the opportunities created for sport and recreation in Alberta are spearheaded by the volunteer and not-for-profit sectors. This is just one of the valuable areas where charities and volunteer organizations contribute to Alberta's society. That is why during his first 14 months, Ed Stelmach increased the tax credit for total annual charitable donations above \$200 by more the 60%. After including the federal credit, Albertans will now receive a 50% tax credit for every dollar donated over the \$200 threshold.

The enhanced tax credit is complemented by a Community Spirit Fund that will provide proportional matching grants for donations to Alberta-based charities – including those that are sports and recreation related. Progressive Conservatives believe in the power of community spirit and that incentives and matching grants will enhance the capabilities of our not-for-profit sector to continue to offer their valuable services to Albertans.

In addition, the Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation (ASRPWF) has solicited the input of Albertans to develop a comprehensive Alberta Sport Plan that guides the decisions made concerning sport in our province. The ASRPWF has used the strategic approach contained in the Alberta Sport Plan to secure significant increases in funding to sport programs and infrastructure.

The development of the Alberta Sport Plan began in 2000, and it has a horizon of 2010. A Progressive Conservative government would expect to have another process in place before 2010 to develop plan to guide us through the next decade. The time leading up to the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games will be very exciting, and we intend to keep the momentum going for the years that follow.

Regards,



Randy Dawson
Campaign Manager

PC Association of Alberta
9919 - 106 Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T5K 1E2

Phone: 1-888-880-3324
E-mail: info@albertapc.ab.ca