

**Sport School Work Group 2004-2005 Final Report
Student Athlete Achievement (SAA) Project - Schools of Choice in Sport**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

By the end of 2004, 35 Sport School Programs existed in 27 BC Schools, an increase of over 300% from the end of 2003. It is estimated that in the 2004-05 school year, \$524,000 was spent employing sport school coaches and over 900 student athletes participated in Sport School Programs.

The SAA Work Group (Carl Repp, Renata Troc, Richard Way) established a workplan in August 2004 to be implemented through June 2005. Significant headway was made in the three goal areas. Work was also done in areas of emergent issues pertaining to sport schools in BC.

Highlights include:

- Established relationships with education and sport stakeholders.
- Successful defeat of detrimental Sport School policy at BC School Sport AGM.
- Creation of a Schools of Choice in Sport Website hosted by PacificSport.
- Development of a comprehensive strategic plan focusing on the integration of sport and education in BC.
- Data and information exchange with existing and potential Network of Sport Schools.
- Re-write and pilot of "Winning Characteristics" standards for Sport Schools and new definitions for "Sport Schools"
- Long term Sport School Plan for BC articulated to Integrated Performance Work Group Planning for 2005-2009.
- Recommendations for continuation of the SAA Project in 2005-06.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) It is recommended that 2010 LegaciesNow and PacificSport continue to support the SAA Project as part of the Integrated Performance Plan as outlined in the Pacific Sport Schools - Planning Paper 2005-2009.
- 2) It is recommended that the SAA Project goals and strategies continue to be aligned and linked with the Integrated Performance Plan for BC.
- 3) It is recommended that the SAA Project continue to provide leadership in creating more opportunities for more high performance athletes to increase achievement in sport and education.
- 4) It is recommended that the SAA Project continue to provide leadership in the integration of sport and education through developing partnerships and connections between stakeholders in sport and education.
- 5) It is recommended that the term Schools of Choice in Sport (SCS) be replaced with Pacific Sport Schools (PaSS) and Sport Academies be replaced with Sport School Programs as outlined in the Pacific Sport Schools - Planning Paper 2005-2009.

WORK PLAN SUMMARY

Goal A – Stakeholders

Goal A – To identify, educate, and partner with stakeholders in the Student Athlete Achievement Project - Schools of Choice in Sport (SAA-SCS).	
A.1	To represent the SAA-SCS at five BC SCHOOL SPORT'S 'Sport School' Advisory Committee meetings and complete committee work aligned to SAA-SCS objectives.
A.2	To develop and implement a multi-faceted communication system for stakeholders to share and exchange information.

In August 2004, meetings were held with eleven Provincial Sport Organizations to identify possible partnerships and models for the integration and sport and education in BC. Research and data gathering was done on a continual basis by phone and e-mail with all known existing and potential Sport Schools in BC. Relationships were established through face to face meetings with Executive Directors or member groups of all key education stakeholders. Each group endorsed the goals of the Student Athlete Achievement Project.

- ✓ BC School Trustees Association
- ✓ BC School Superintendents Association
- ✓ BC Principals and Vice Principals Association
- ✓ BC Parent Advisors Association
- ✓ BC School Sports

Contact with key school districts or schools in Nanaimo, Victoria, Whistler, Kelowna, Big White, Kimberley and Nelson were established for further partnering and pilot programs. Regular consultation with key members in sport organizations including PacificSport, 2010 LegaciesNow, PSO's and Sport Federations were necessary to integrate SAA-SCS planning with the direction of sport in BC and Canada.

SAA-SCS was added to the BC School Sports Advisory Committee on Sport Schools in August 2004. SAA-SCS objectives were voiced through a series of committee meetings, member communiqués, public e-mails, and meetings with the BCSS Executive Director, and lobbying of key stakeholders. On recommendation of the Advisory Committee and BCSS Executive, policies which were detrimental to Student Athletes and Sport Schools were defeated.

A website www.pacificsport.com/Content/PACIFICSPORTGRP/SAAPProject/SaaINDEX.asp was established and hosted by PacificSport. It improved communication between Sport Schools and provides information and resources to sport and education organizations as well as the public. The site includes News, Schools, Resources, Links and Contacts.

Goal B – Planning

Goal B - To create, with provincial sport organizations, a strategic implementation plan for BC Schools of Choice in Sport.	
B.1	Ensure the establishment of a School of Choice in Sport in Whistler by September 2005 through development, facilitation and monitoring of a strategic plan.
B.2	To create, with the NCI, a strategic plan for maximizing professional coaching opportunities through Schools of Choice in Sport

Following research into the existing Whistler Secondary School Sport School Program it was determined that the location presented a number of constraints to the establishment of a pilot program as originally intended. More suitable pilot sites are currently being researched.

Through prior SAA-SCS research, consultation with sport & education organizations, and existing Sport Schools, a comprehensive strategic plan for the integration of sport and education in BC was developed. During the consultation and development phase of writing the plan, sport in BC changed rapidly. Using research from the SAA-SCS Strategic Plan and planning from the Integrated Performance Work Group, the Pacific Sport Schools Planning Paper 2005-2009 was developed and presented as a proposed direction for Sport School development in BC. The Integrated Performance Work Group planning includes a plan for maximizing professional coaching opportunities through Sport Schools.

Goal C - Standards

Goal C - To build a "Schools of Choice in Sport Network" with existing and potential schools in BC.	
C.1	To create a set of recognized "School of Choice in Sport" standards.
C.2	To create opportunities for Schools of Choice in Sport to access Graduation Program sport related curriculum including new Board Approved sport courses.

Establishment of a "Sport School Network" in BC is well under way. The compilation of data, the website, and the stakeholder awareness has led to the sharing of information and increased standards. Evidence of the network was seen at the BCSS AGM and by the number of requests for shared information.

The 'Winning Characteristics' rubric, created to track Sport Schools on a continuum of increased student-athlete service and program flexibility, was updated to reflect the current knowledge and research in BC. The rubric was piloted in a number of sport schools, recommendations were made, and the tool was improved.

Resources for this goal are reflected in the Pacific Sport Schools Planning Paper 2005-2009. A series of grade 10-12 courses pertaining to sport topics has been proposed. Currently, Sport Schools are encouraged to report their sport specific School Board/Authority Approved Courses to the Ministry of Education to be posted on their searchable website of locally designed courses.