

MANITOBA ABORIGINAL SPORTS & RECREATION COUNCIL



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FALL-WINTER 2022
NEWSLETTER



2023 *National Aboriginal
Hockey Championships*
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA
MAY 7 - 13, 2023



2023



National Aboriginal
Hockey Championships



Volunteers needed!

MAY 7 - 13, 2023

SEVEN OAKS ARENA, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

Email mel.whitesell@masrc.com for more information.

Message from MASRC Leadership



The Manitoba Aboriginal Sports & Recreation Council has had a busy late fall and early winter! Between tryouts for the 2023 North American Indigenous Games, ID skates for the 2023 National Aboriginal Hockey Championships, and further development of our Sport for Social Development Program, MASRC is headed into yet another busy season in the new year! We have some new and exciting programs planned, and we can't wait to connect with you throughout the year.

Mel Whitesell, Executive Director

Thank you to our sponsors & partners!

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ANTI-
RACISM
IN SPORT 

Sport
MANITOBA



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
E: info@masrc.com

SAFE SPORT SURVEY

Are you an Indigenous athlete, coach, volunteer, or involved in sports & recreation in some other capacity?

We want to hear your thoughts on Safe Sport!

Complete the survey below to be entered for a chance to win a Winnipeg Jets jersey!



TM True North Sports
& Entertainment



Visit our website or scan the QR code for more information!

www.masrc.com

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Canada

We're looking for Indigenous youth (ages 18-30) involved in sports & recreation interested in mentorship opportunities!

Through mentorship, we can provide free professional development, volunteer hours, and connections with employment opportunities.

Visit our website for more information!

www.masrc.com/sport-for-social-development

Upcoming Events

December 2022 - January 2023

Long Plain Minor Hockey Tournament** - December 26 - 28, 2022

MASRC Offices Closed - December 24, 2022 - January 2, 2023

Indigenous Women & Girls Walking Program - Mondays & Thursdays in January

Safe Sport Community Forum Red Sucker Lake - January 12, 2023

Safe Sport Community Forum Brochet - January 18, 2023

Safe Sport Community Forum Thompson - January 19, 2023

Aboriginal Coaching Module NCCP Course - January 21, 2023

Dakota Nation Winterfest** - January 26 - 29, 2023

***NOT AFFILIATED NOR SPONSORED BY THE MANITOBA ABORIGINAL SPORTS & RECREATION COUNCIL (MASRC)*

Make sure you SUBSCRIBE to our email list and check out our events page on our website!

Aboriginal Coaching Module

January 21, 2023 - Winnipeg, MB

**NCCP-ACREDITTED FREE
1-DAY COURSE COVERS:**

- Understanding the role of sport in Indigenous communities;
 - Responding to racism in sport;
 - Establishing a code of behavior for your team that respects differences and addresses racism;
 - Helping those you coach make healthy lifestyle choices...
- AND MORE!**

Contact: Hannah Chambers
P: 204-925-5689
E: hannah.chambers@masrc.com



INDIGENOUS WOMEN & GIRLS WALKING PROGRAM

Fitness-Instructor led program for Indigenous women & 2S ages 16+

Twice weekly starting
January 2023.

Located in West
Winnipeg- specific
dates & locations
released to registrants.

Contact: Season Kirkwood
P: 204-942-6615
E: season.kirkwood@masrc.com



TEAM MANITOBA ROSTER ANNOUNCEMENTS



At the 2023 North American Indigenous Games, Team Manitoba will be competing with 29 different teams across 13 different sports. These athletes and coaches represent over 50 Manitoba First Nations, 7 Métis regions, and countless other Indigenous communities from across North America.

We've released Team Manitoba's rosters for the 2023 NAIG taking place in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

To view the rosters, please visit www.masrc.com/naig_2023



CALL OUT FOR NAIG COACHES!

We're still looking to fill the following positions:

- 19U Female Box Lacrosse Head & Assistant Coaches
- Multi-Sport Manager

If you are interested in one of these positions, please contact our Director of Major Games, Gabrielle Desrochers, at gabby.desrochers@masrc.com, or at (204) 925-5689.



MASRC TEAM UPDATES

Please join us in welcoming Kaelei to our team! An ex-university basketball player, Kaelei is passionate about grassroots sports development. She'll be working closely with Indigenous communities, organizations, and key stakeholders to connect them to other provincial sports organizations throughout Manitoba. Kaelei also attended the 2014 North American Indigenous Games in Regina, where her basketball team won a silver medal!

Interested in meeting with Kaelei?
Please contact her at:
Phone: 204-942-6615
Email: kaelei.knutson@masrc.com

Kaelei Knutson
Winnipeg (Opaskwayak Cree Nation)
Indigenous Community Sports Consultant



Jazmyn Desjarlais
Brokenhead First Nation
Sport for Social Development Program Leader

Please also join us in welcoming Jazmyn to our team! Growing up, Jazmyn played many different sports—including volleyball, hockey, and ball hockey, to name a few! Today, she competes in local rec ball hockey leagues where she's a force to be reckoned with on the floor. Jazmyn attended the 2017 North American Indigenous Games in Toronto, where her volleyball team won bronze! She was also a player on the 2019 NAHC team that won silver in Whitehorse, and a member of the 2018 team that won gold.

In her position, Jazmyn will be working closely with Indigenous communities to help create sports and recreation programs!

We're looking for more communities to partner with! If you're interested, our Sport for Social Development team can be reached at:

Phone: 204-942-6615
Email: season.kirkwood@masrc.com



MASRC TEAM UPDATES

Our third addition to our team is Joshua Wilson! Joshua is a recent graduate of St. Paul's High School in Winnipeg, and a member of Opaskwayak Cree Nation. In high school, Josh played both volleyball and hockey, and competed in both judo and swimming. He attended the 2017 North American Indigenous Games as a member of the swim team, where he won a gold medal!

In his position, Josh will be assisting Quinton in the administration of the North End Hockey Program and assisting our Sport for Social Development staff with their program development.

Want to learn more about the North End Hockey Program? Contact Josh at:
Phone: 204-925-5737
Email: josh.wilson@masrc.com

Joshua Wilson
Winnipeg (Opaskwayak Cree Nation)
SSD - North End Hockey Program Assistant



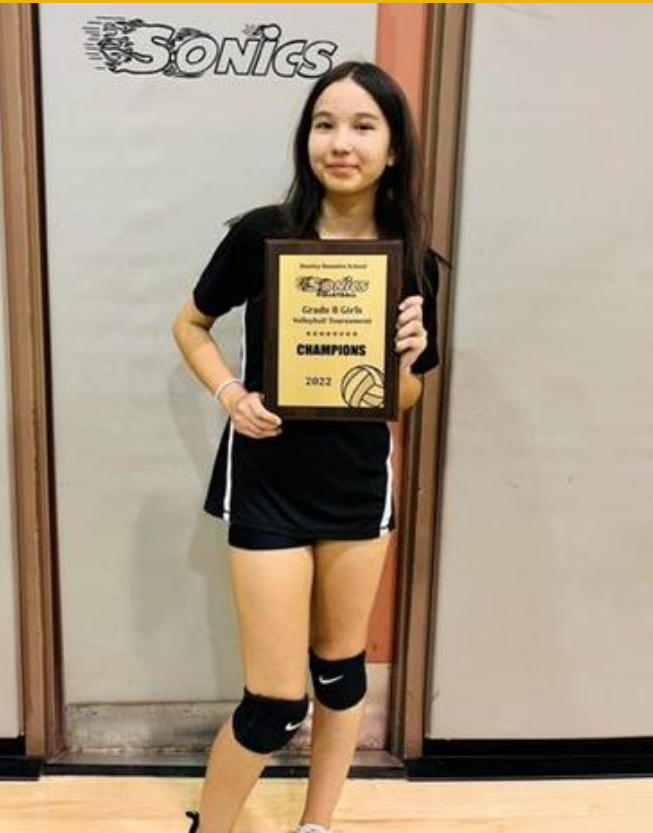
Robyn Cruz
Winnipeg (Métis - Winnipeg Region)
Sport for Social Development Program Leader



The last addition to our team is Robyn Cruz! Robyn is passionate about outdoor recreation. In her spare time, she enjoys hiking, camping, and spending time in the great outdoors! As a part of MASRC, Robyn will be working closely with Indigenous communities and organizations to establish outdoor recreation opportunities for Indigenous people across the province.

We're looking for more communities to partner with! If you're interested, our Sport for Social Development team can be reached at:
Phone: 204-942-6615
Email: season.kirkwood@masrc.com

October Athlete of the Month



Caridee Pelletier is a multi-sport athlete from Peguis First Nation living in Winnipeg, MB.

"Caridee Pelletier is from Winnipeg, Manitoba, but is a band member of Peguis First Nation. Caridee has played hockey and soccer since she was 6 years old. This year she is in grade 8 and made the Stanley Knowles Sonics JR girls volleyball team. She was also on the track and field team at the beginning of the school year. She was also asked by her previous teachers to help coach the grades 5 & 6 soccer teams throughout the school year. Outside of school, Caridee plays hockey with the U15 Rockets A1 female hockey team and soccer with the U15 Tyndall Park Thunder. Caridee has loved sports since she was young, and she has developed a love for trying new sports and enjoys participating. She is a positive role model in her school and to her family members. When on a team, Caridee adapts quickly and sees how to successfully work with her teammates, she is vocal and encouraging when on the field/court/ice."

-Deidre Pelletier, parent

November Athlete of the Month

Kingston Thomas is a Barren Lands First Nations member and volleyball player originally from Brochet. He is now living in Brandon, MB.

"Kingston is a hard working young Indigenous athlete with tremendous talent. With the Neelin Spartans junior varsity boys' volleyball team, he won the MHSAA JV Provincial Championship in his first year of playing high school sports. This is also his first year of playing an organized team sport.

He is not only a great athlete, but he is also an excellent team player! It really goes to show that you can accomplish so much when you put the work in and play hard. Kingston is someone from a small, isolated community that has never played in an organized team sport/setting and has never had coach or club training before. To come into his 1st year of team volleyball to win a provincial title, not to mention the many other tournaments they entered, shows his dedication and perseverance in the face of adversity. Kingston will go on to represent Team Manitoba with the U16 boys' volleyball team at the 2023 North American Indigenous Games in Halifax."

-Devon Halkett, brother



To read their complete stories, or to nominate your Athlete or Community Champion of the Month, visit <https://www.masrc.com/monthly-awards>. Nominations close every month on the 25th.

October Community Champion of the Month



Our October MASRC Community Champion of the Month is Savanna Sayese! Savanna is a First Nations soccer coach from Opaskwayak Cree Nation. "Savanna goes beyond not only for her students but also for all Indigenous athletes. She is the CoFounder of M30 and completed 4 soccer camps this summer, along with Battle of Nations Adult Soccer Tournament and the Northern Goaltender Dream Camp. She is always encouraging our young Indigenous athletes the importance of education and sports. She is a mother of five, coach, volunteer and educator. Sports has always been her passion and continues to promote sports to Indigenous communities in the North. She is a positive role model that truly cares about the youth in her community. She is always providing opportunities and empowering her students & athletes." -Jess Sinclair, friend

November Community Champion of the Month

Marshall is a First Nations multi-sport coach & recreation volunteer from Long Plain First Nation.

"Marshall Prince has been involved in his community since 1997, creating a lot of recreation opportunities for the youth, including creating hockey teams, soccer teams, baseball teams, etc. He has continued to promote recreation for the youth and enjoys providing an opportunity to his community with setting up skate nights, hockey tournaments, hockey camps, etc. He is well known in and outside of the community with his recreational efforts.

He goes above and beyond for his community and the youth. He has always enjoyed bringing recreation to the Long Plain community and creating opportunities for other communities to enjoy and participate in recreation. He believes in reconciliation and strives to include every child in sports and recreation."

-Carla Houle, daughter



To read their complete stories, or to nominate your Athlete or Community Champion of the Month, visit <https://www.masrc.com/monthly-awards>. Nominations close every month on the 25th.

Monthly Recap: October

North End Hockey "Break the Ice" Family Event

Carnival games, barbecuing, face-painting and more! The North End Storm Hockey teams were invited to a meet & greet family fun event before the season started. Over 150 people attended the event between the ages of 5-85.



MASRC staff cooked hotdogs (200 to be exact), hosted mini-stick tournaments, and monitored the blow-up axe throwing station. We also had wonderful face painters & balloon artists provide their expertise! Congrats to North End Coordinator Quinton for organizing such a fun event!

2023 NAIG Team Manitoba Wrestling Trials



Monthly Recap: November

Indigenous Family Bowling Night

As a part of our Urban Wellness program, MASRC invites Indigenous families from in and around Winnipeg to join us for a night of free bowling! Up to five family members are given passes to the arcade, free pizza and free pop.

This November we held our largest bowling night yet, with just over 8 families & 60 people getting the chance to bowl!

A huge thank you goes out to Uptown Alley for always being a great host and ensuring everything goes smoothly.

To be the first to know about our free family programs, make sure you subscribe to our email newsletter list and check out the calendar on our website!

www.masrc.com/events



Community Visit: Wasagamack

During the first week of November, 204 Volleyball Club Director Jared Brown joined Indigenous Community Sports Consultants Kaelei & Cadin for a week of volleyball development in Wasagamack!

We can't thank Jared Brown enough for sharing his expertise and knowledge, and as well to the community of Wasagamack for hosting us!



Monthly Recap: December (To Date)

Sport for Social Development Safe Sport Forums Gods Lake First Nation

After weeks of planning and organizing, Sport for Social Development (SSD) Program Leaders Jazmyn and Robyn headed up to Gods Lake First Nation for their first community visit!

SSD Mentee Angel Grieves has been running recreation programming in Gods Lake since before the pandemic began. Most of Angel's mentorship until this point had been online due to lockdown regulations in her community- and we were so excited to be able to visit! She has done an exemplary job of establishing grassroots sports and recreation opportunities for her community.



Gods Lake youth playing volleyball

Sitting right on the narrows of the lake, Gods Lake is a community of 1,500 on-reserve members. Angel runs after-school programming in the gym, including basketball, volleyball, ball hockey- anything the kids ask for! Jazmyn and Robyn were so excited to see Angel's young crew of youth at work, setting everything up, organizing teams, and starting to play by themselves!

When Jazmyn and Robyn weren't busy hosting Safe Sport information meetings, meeting with community members, or participating in a game of volleyball, they had the opportunity to visit the "mountain" in Gods Lake and take in the wondrous beauty of the area.

Our staff is so excited to grow this partnership and to visit the community again! Many thanks go out to the community of Gods Lake, Jordan's Principle for housing our staff, and Angel for being such welcoming hosts.



L-R: Robyn, Angel, Jazmyn



Out for a walk in -30C.



View from Gods Lake "mountain"

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MASRC PRESENTS

Family Fun Days Winter Events

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING BOOKINGS FOR THE 2023 WINTER SEASON.
GREAT FOR WINTER CARNIVALS, SCHOOL EVENTS, AND COMMUNITY
FAIRS!

INCLUDES FAMILY-FRIENDLY
WINTER ACTIVITIES SUCH AS:

- SNOWSHOEING
- XC SKIING
- KICKSLEDS
- BROOMBALL
- ICE SKATING

CONTACT:
SSD MANAGER
SEASON KIRKWOOD
204-942-6615
SEASON.KIRKWOOD@MASRC.COM

MASRC YOUTH SPORTS CAMPS

WE'RE PLANNING
SPORTS CAMPS FOR
SPRING 2023.

WHAT SPORTS DO
YOU WANT TO SEE IN
YOUR COMMUNITY?

CONTACT:
Indigenous Community Sports Consultants
Cadin or Kaelei
204-942-6615
cadin.dupasquier@masrc.com
kaelei.knutson@masrc.com



EVENT COUNTDOWN

as of December 16, 2022



2023 NAHC
MAY 7-15, 2023
142 DAYS

**2023 JEUX
AUTOCHTONES**
de l'Amérique du Nord



North American
**INDIGENOUS
GAMES 2023**

2023 NAIG
JULY 15-23, 2023
210 DAYS