

Reaching Each and Every One

IMPACT REPORT 2025–2026

Increasing participation and retention among equity-deserving groups in recreational sport in Canada



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Executive Summary

Under the stewardship of the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA), the Reaching Each and Every One (REEO) initiative continued to advance inclusive and accessible community sport opportunities across Canada in 2025. Through an investment of more than \$425,000, CPRA funded 30 projects that engaged 6,134 participants nationwide. Demonstrating the program's continued commitment to equity and inclusion, 100% of funded projects served equity-deserving groups in their programming.

The demand for the program was exceptionally strong, with CPRA receiving 180 outstanding applications from organizations across the country. This overwhelming response highlighted both the urgent need for accessible sport opportunities and the growing capacity of community organizations to deliver impactful, equity-focused programming.

CPRA's success in reaching diverse communities is reflected in the demographics engaged through funded projects. 70% of projects engaged racialized participants, 57% engaged Indigenous participants, and 63% engaged participants living with disabilities. Projects created welcoming opportunities for participants facing a range of social, economic, and systemic barriers to sport participation, reinforcing the importance of community-driven approaches to inclusion.

In addition to funding impactful programs, the initiative strengthened organizational capacity within the recreation and sport sector. As part of this program, CPRA supported 19 organizations that did not previously have safe sport policies in place to develop and implement them. This work represents an important legacy of the initiative, helping organizations create safer, more inclusive environments for participants, staff, and volunteers for years to come.

The REEO initiative continues to demonstrate the impact of intentional investment in community sport organizations. Feedback from recipients has underscored the importance of accessible, community-based sport opportunities and the lasting benefits these programs create for participants and organizations alike.

CPRA is proud to steward a program that not only expands access to sport, but also strengthens organizational capacity, advances safe and inclusive practices, and helps ensure that everyone has the opportunity to participate and belong.

This initiative was made possible with funding from the **Government of Canada (Sport Canada) Community Sport for All Initiative**



REEO: National Numbers

6,134

participants engaged

\$425,000

invested across Canada

100%

of programs served
equity-deserving groups

30

projects funded

180

eligible applications



National Perspective

A diverse group of young Canadians were engaged across Canada.



70%
of projects
engaged
racialized
participants.

57%
of projects
engaged
Indigenous
participants.

63%
of projects
engaged
participants with
disabilities.

Safe Sport Policy

As a requirement of funding, recipient organizations without a Safe Sport policy in place were required to develop one with the support of CPRA.

19 Safe sport policies developed with the support of CPRA



Ottawa Outdoor Gear Library

New Brunswick

Recreation New Brunswick (RNB) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing the recreation and parks field by broadening the knowledge and experience base of our members and by advocating for the value and benefit of leisure and recreation opportunities for all people.

By the Numbers

247

participants engaged

2

projects funded

\$8,847

invested in New Brunswick



WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"Through this program, we were able to offer children and youth of different economic backgrounds equal opportunity to access sport programs. The kids thought it was the best day in the world when they saw the new equipment, as they were used to the old and limited equipment we had for them in the past. Thank you for your support."

NEXT GEN ATHLETES
BGC MONCTON

Newfoundland and Labrador

Recreation Newfoundland and Labrador (RNL) is a province-wide, non-profit organization established in 1971 to promote the values and benefits of recreation. In partnership with volunteers and the professional recreation community, RNL has worked to improve the quality of recreation for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians for over 40 years.

By the Numbers

52

participants engaged

1

project funded

\$17,420

Invested in Newfoundland & Labrador



WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"This funding made it possible to offer inclusive sport opportunities that would not otherwise be available in our community. This project demonstrated the importance and impact of accessible, community-based sport programs for equity-deserving groups. We are grateful for the support and hope to build on this work in future programming."

**ALL ABILITIES SPORT
GANDER BGC**

Nova Scotia

Recreation Nova Scotia is a province-wide, not-for-profit organization established in 1998 to promote the values and benefits of recreation and leisure; resulting from a merger of the Recreation Association of Nova Scotia, the Recreation Council on Disability in Nova Scotia, and Volunteer Nova Scotia.

By the Numbers

405

participants engaged

3

projects funded

\$20,002

invested in Nova Scotia

WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"The biggest challenge for our organization is the cost of ice and travel. Most grants will cover equipment, which is great, but operating costs are not included. This funding allowed groups that are challenged with ever rising costs an opportunity to offer the program free of charge, and to feel like they can make ends meet for at least one season. We now have the largest youth sledge program in the Maritime Provinces; we ran nine school and adult demos and placed over 400 individuals in sledges".

PARA HOCKEY PROGRAM

CAPE BRETON SLEDGE SOCIETY



Prince Edward Island

Recreation PEI is a volunteer, not-for-profit, provincial association dedicated to promoting, coordinating and encouraging all facets of recreation, physical activity and facility management on Prince Edward Island.

By the Numbers

23

participants engaged

1

project funded

\$9,500

invested in PEI

WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"A skater loved the program so much that she cleared out her boiler room so she could practice. She took her equipment home and had a huge improvement in her ability the next week. Her mom said she practiced every day. We had 4 skaters attend from rural areas who said they had no recreation opportunities in their area that they felt comfortable attending, so they carpooled every week".

**ROLL WITH US: FOSTERING
INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY**
CHARLOTTETOWN JR ROLLER DERBY



Québec

Association québécoise du loisir public (AQLP) is a provincial organization that represents and advances municipal recreation across Quebec.

By the Numbers

2,509

participants engaged

5

projects funded

\$81,827

invested in Québec

WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"Thanks to this financial support, we have been able to offer several hundred young people the opportunity to participate in accessible, low-cost physical activities that promote health, well-being, and community engagement. The program also played a key role during the holiday season by helping break down social isolation through a festive, inclusive, and unifying tournament. This initiative helped brighten an often-difficult time for some families and young people, while strengthening their sense of belonging to the community."

BASKETBALL SANS FRONTIERS
CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE BETHEL



Manitoba

Recreation Manitoba is a non-profit, membership-based association that provides a voice and leadership in shaping the future of recreation in Manitoba.

By the Numbers

398

participants engaged

2

projects funded

\$22,973

invested in Manitoba

WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"This project gave us an opportunity to connect with newcomer youth, parents and caregivers to further support them in their resettlement. The kids screaming with delight while trying tobogganing for the first time was a highlight of this event".

**WINTER CONNECTIONS: INCLUSIVE SPORT
FOR NEWCOMER CHILDREN & YOUTH**
WINNIPEG NEWCOMER SPORT ACADEMY



Ontario

Parks and Recreation Ontario (PRO) is a non-profit association that advances the health, social and environmental benefits of quality recreation and parks through evidence-based practices, resources and collaborative partnerships.

By the Numbers

1,229

participants engaged

7

projects funded

\$112,462

invested in Ontario

WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"Through this initiative, we have successfully expanded our gymnastics programming to a community with a significant and growing demand for inclusive recreational opportunities. This program has also served as a catalyst for our organization, strengthening our commitment to establishing strategic partnerships within the para-sport community and providing a foundation for future collaborative programming."

PARA GYMNASTICS BURLINGTON GYMNASTICS CLUB



Success Story Feature

GIRLS CAN WRESTLE AND LEAD BEAT THE STREETS, ONTARIO

"The Girls Can Wrestle & Lead Pathway ran in Scarborough and Thunder Bay. The project targeted girls and young women, with a focus on Indigenous, racialized, and low-income participants, by creating safe and supportive all-girls and Indigenous girls spaces that reduced barriers to participation in sport and recreation.

Through strong partnerships with the Achievement Program and Anishnawbe Mushkiki in Thunder Bay, the project significantly expanded its reach. The original target of 200 participants was exceeded, with a total of 361 girls participating across 67 hours of programming. Overall, the project provided accessible and culturally responsive sport experiences that supported physical literacy, confidence, and leadership development for girls who often face the greatest barriers to participation".



British Columbia

British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to the enrichment of individuals and their communities through the power of recreation and parks.

By the Numbers

212

participants engaged

3

projects funded

\$41,318

invested in British Columbia

WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"We doubled participation through this program, and the quality of program increased significantly. There were learning moments for participants who are socially challenged, where sport has been a tool for social development. We are happy to have put a code of conduct and safe sport policy in place through this program, and now have an equipment inventory that should see our community well-equipped to do a variety of sports for years to come".

CHUCHUWAYHA HALL SPORTS PROGRAM

UPPER SIMILKAMEEN INDIAN BAND



Alberta

The Alberta Recreation and Parks Association is a not-for-profit organization committed to building healthier and happier communities and citizens by developing and promoting recreation and parks.

By the Numbers

288

participants engaged

2

projects funded

\$33,398

invested in Alberta



WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"Through this project, Lacrossing Barriers was able to share lacrosse in an adaptive and inclusive format with Indigenous schools in the Calgary area in a sustainable format. Through this, we increased participation levels and created long-term sustainable programming and relationships. This program will be renewed and continued in the future."

INDIGENOUS ADAPTIVE LACROSSE LACROSSING BARRIERS

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan Recreation and Parks Association is a non-profit, member-based organization whose purpose is to promote, develop and facilitate parks and recreation opportunities throughout the province.

By the Numbers

46

participants engaged

1

project funded

\$17,769

invested in Saskatchewan

WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"We were proud to provide free, high-quality football programming to youth in Yorkton, helping remove financial barriers and make sport more accessible for rural youth. It was great to see youth from our community, including surrounding First Nations, come together in one program. The camp created an inclusive environment where participants could build friendships, learn from one another, and enjoy being part of a team".

DEVELOPING FOOTBALL SKILLS
RAIDER GRIDDER FOOTBALL ALUMNI



Success Story Feature

HOOD RUSH SLEDGE HOCKEY

ROBIN HOOD ASSOCIATION, ALBERTA

"This program offered weekly practices and games for adults with developmental disabilities, along with three community scrimmages involving external groups from Edmonton and Sherwood Park. Over the course of the season, participants built skills, confidence, teamwork, and social connection through consistent access to adaptive sport. The program also supported retention and continued engagement, including the successful retention of three new players who initially trialed the program and are now eager to return next season."

A highlight of the project was the Hood Rush teams taking part in three community scrimmages, which created meaningful opportunities for inclusion, connection, and visibility in the broader sport community. One especially encouraging outcome was that a community player extended an invitation for Hood Rush participants to attend one of their games in return — a lovely sign of reciprocal connection and belonging."



Northwest Territories

The NWT Recreation and Parks Association works with communities across the NWT to promote healthy living through active recreation.

By the Numbers

650

participants engaged

1

project funded

\$18,142

invested in Northwest Territories

WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"This project allowed us to bring a certified judo instructor into our community to introduce youth to the sport of judo. Due to the significant interest, community members are now considering starting a judo association in our community. Additionally, through this project we were able to bring certified snowboarding instructors to our community, who in turn donated snowboarding equipment to our community to assist us in continuing a snowboarding program."

FALL AND WINTER SPORTS SERIES TOWN OF HAY RIVER



Yukon

The Recreation and Parks Association of the Yukon (RPAY) is a non-profit society dedicated to empowering Yukon people and communities to adopt active, healthy lifestyles.

By the Numbers

50

participants engaged

1

project funded

\$16,342

invested in Yukon



WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"Seeing kids out on the ice and improving their skating over the course of the year was a major highlight. Our arena has been under-utilized for a number of years so seeing kids having fun and learning to skate was very rewarding. For the first time in over 20 years, Faro was able to put together an adult rec hockey team and compete in a tournament in another community. This was a massive success."

SKATES AND STICKS TOWN OF FARO

Nunavut

Recreation and Parks Association of Nunavut (RPAN) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing the recreation sector by broadening the knowledge and experience base of members and advocating for the value and benefit of leisure and recreation opportunities for all.

By the Numbers

25

participants engaged

1

project funded

\$25,000

invested in Nunavut

WHAT REEO RECIPIENTS ARE SAYING

"This program was an excellent opportunity for Inuit girls in an isolated Arctic community to have a chance to be active and have enjoyment in a safe, supported environment. This program helped the girls increase their confidence and be better equipped to advocate for themselves."

OOKPIK

CAMBRIDGE BAY WRESTLING CLUB



CPRA would like to thank the all of the 2025–2026 recipient organizations.

Your commitment to advancing accessible sport and recreation opportunities for equity-deserving groups is making a difference across the country.

Lacrossing Barriers
Robinhood Association
Upper Similkameen Indian Band
Terminal City Roller Derby
Hollyburn Community Services
BGC Winnipeg
Winnipeg Newcomer Sport Academy
BGC Moncton
Slammin Salmon Rugby Football
BGC Gander
Cobequid Society for Athletic Excellence
Cape Breton Sledge Recreational Society
Halifax Sledge Grinders
Town of Hay River
Cambridge Bay Wrestling Club
Sport Aurora
Hamilton Challenger Sport Association
Community Links Solutions
National Capital Region Equitable Recreation Network
Beat the Streets
Ottawa Titans Water Polo
Burlington Gymnastics Club
Charlottetown Junior Roller Derby
Centre Communautaire Bethel
Le Moulin à vent Productions
Complexe aquatique Desjardins
Horizons Tatamis
Motivaction Jeunesse
Raider Gridder Football Alumni Association
Town of Faro