

**Alberta Adaptive Meeting Notes**  
**February 6, 2019 Red Deer College**

Top 5 themes from the questionnaire

1. Collaboration
2. Finding and resources
3. Inclusion
4. Paraspport Structure and Development
5. Recruitment

**Key Summary Comments:**

- **How are we reaching athletes?**
  - What is available?
  - Who is hearing us?
  - Upcoming Events Calendar – Are we following up (executing) recommendations?
  - Easy access to information
    - Contact information
    - Database
    - Accessing what already exists (what recourses are presently available)
- Holistic Environment
  - Family, volunteers, etc.
  - Lifelong engagement
- **Build capacity in different places – where haven't we gone?**
- **Celebrate our successes**
- What do the conversations in this room need to look/sound like?
- **Actually get to know everyone**
  - What is each groups mandate (organizationally)?
  - Talk to grass roots (successes, failures) – learnings
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- Access & Language
  - **There is no searchable space** (based on our present language and terminology) online or otherwise that suits the various terminologies that are in use in community
    - Find a common language
    - Help people find programs
    - Contact list via website of people involved, at summit, direct contact.
    - Para vs Adapted vs Inclusive
    - Semantics that matter

- Searching keywords...require glossary that lists all disabilities, not just visible disabilities
- Ways to use membership funds
  - For recruitment
  - Share b/w organization
- PSO – Who?
- How does the target audience want to receive information?
- Access
  - Rural
  - Getting facilities
- FEAR
  - Of getting involved
  - Level of sport
  - Newly acquired injury

### Group Discussion Topic Areas:

- Language
- Shared Vision
  - Vision-need a common vision for all groups (umbrella vision)  
PSO's as support with common vision
    - Large database but not inclusive
    - Organizations that have to match criteria
    - Highlighting what worked before
    - Come together to be 1 voice
- Resources
  - Setting up programs with clubs (AB). There is no funnel or central location
    - Understand who is responsible for what, PSO's & adapted sport PSO's
    - Member driven models, responsibilities to members & 'should' be spent on members
    - Take programs into schools
    - A database to keep people in contact
    - Fighting over same staff resources
    - Limited funding for staff/operations
    - How do we work better together to achieve more efficient funding?
- Communications & Accessibility
  - Programs are not shared across the region
    - Accessibility (There are lots of programs in Calgary but they are all spread out and hard to get to) programs in Calgary and Edmonton are very different
    - Communication Platform for all organizations
    - Adding social aspects in the programs

- Extending programs by engaging with the public, it is also a way to build the community
  - Acknowledge how to work together
  - More programming in smaller communities (Outreach)
- **Parent as a resource**
  - Parents are scared to put their kids (with amputee) out there. They are worried people will look at them differently
  - Parents have to make the first step; they have to be involved to make a difference
  - Start a conversation. Sharing stories/basic info of athletes with disabilities
  - Who do we need to communicate with and how?
- **Awareness**
  - Disconnection between hockey and sledge hockey. We need ambassadors to share their stories on social media
  - Celebrate/Showing stories to the funders
  - Get a hold of everyone consistently
- **Collaboration**
  - Mandates audiences of different organizations
  - Sharing resources/success and failures
  - Pulling different voices in more perspective
  - More opportunities to connect. How to make it a priority.
- **JOAY**
  - An app that is supposed to give parents and kids, what programs/events are available in your area
  - Sports and Rec. organizations have to add their data and programs on it
- **Fear**
  - How to explain in order to eliminate fear

**The above topic areas led to core large group discussion which was narrowed to the three following areas:**

### **Our Shared Space**

- What we do
- Partners
- How we fit
- Calendar
- Shared vision to unite us
- Fears

### **Communications**

- Language

- Navigation
- Varied ways to recreation information
- Parents
- Fears

### **Outreach**

- Awareness
- Introduction
- Linking other networks
- Access
- Fears

## **Group Notes (Break Out Discussions)**

### **1. Our Shared Space**

- Knowing us
  - What do we do?
    - Bio
      - Individuals
      - Organizations
  - How can we link / support each other?
    - Speed dating?
  - Create a template
    - Highlight geography
    - Accurate (vetted)
    - Establish basic criteria
    - Potential link using SpikeB (Joanne Reynolds)
- Calendar
  - Annual updates
    - Internal
    - external
- Shared vision
- Who is NOT here?
- Fear

### **2. Communications**

- Language
  - Searchable (Once the language is in place)
    - Language of people in community
    - Social media – intentional – to all PSOs and NSOs
  - ASC is a conduit for long term communication
  - Responsibilities of each layer of groups
  - Programming language for specific areas
    - Recreational

- Pre-comp
    - Competitive
  - Create a template of best practices
  - Cultural considerations
  - Contact
    - Mail
    - Phone
    - Internet
  - Socio-economic considerations
  - Funding models
    - Vision
    - Mission
  - How to apply this across different platforms (presently does not work)
- Navigation Throughout System
  - SAFE
  - APP for accessibility
  - We need a central database to access info for all sport/recreation/play
  - Resource space
- Various Ways to Share Information
  - Person 2 person
  - Word of mouth
  - Quality and trust interactions
  - Partnering – consistent
- Parents
  - Specific messaging
    - Parents do what they trust
  - We don't even know what we do
    - Find this first
    - Support consistent messaging
    - Refer others
  - Fear
- Other Considerations
  - Can we access who is accessing our information and how
    - Website
    - Analytics
      - Who is it?
        - Parents
        - Participants
        - All other categories
  - We need a simple trustworthy updated communication hub
    - Mappable

### 3. Outreach

- Awareness and introduction to what PSOs are, who are the rural groups, types of communication resources
- Access
- Link to other networks
  - For Example:
    - Physio
    - Rehab
    - Municipalities
    - Rural/Urban
    - Smaller organizations/groups doing good/related work
    - Public platform/database for organization
    - Schools, we need to educate the facilitators
  - Holistic environments, those that exist outside of sport & bringing them into that realm
- Collaborative success
  - We need to know the different mandates to direct organizations
- Debunk myths about disabilities
- How do we proceed with these meetings, action plans that help us move in our communities when not together?
- How do these conversations look in action, what are mandates, requirements & missions?