



QUARTERY NEWSLETTER FOR ALBERTA AMPUTEE SPORTS AND
RECREATION ASSOCIATION



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Vic McClelland

We have survived another winter and the weather is starting to change again. I'm sure everyone is looking forward to spring and all the activities it brings. There are already a number of events and opportunities planned for 2025!

This newsletter will give you a glimpse into what events are upcoming as well as call for folks to attend our AGM and a way to get involved with AASRA Peer Support this year.

There are a lot of things happening so please keep an eye out for emails and newsletters regarding events and I hope to see many of you attending the AGM in April.

DONATE YOUR PROSTHETICS

A Message from Terry Shwetz

Hello AASRA Members,

Usually I am communicating to you through my role as Membership Coordinator, but today I am requesting your participation in another initiative I've become involved in. It is the Canadian Rwandese Foundation or CRF.

The CRF's focus includes the acquisition of prosthetic components, supplies and related support to be provided to disabled persons in Rwanda, Africa. This will include not only new equipment but good quality used devices as well.

If you can support the efforts of the CRF with the donation of any surplus new or good quality used prosthetic componentry and unused supplies such as socks, gel liners, and sleeves it would be greatly appreciated. Your donations may be given to your prosthetist, indicating that they are for the CRF. Alberta based prosthetists have been informed of this initiative through the Alberta Association of Orthotics and Prosthetists (AAOP). A representative from the CRF will be collecting donations from Alberta prosthetists' clinics with an objective to complete collections and ship equipment to Rwanda in Q4, 2025.

It is also the intention of the CRF to raise approximately \$20,000 in 2024-2025 to cover the expenses involved with the collection, storage, shipping and distribution of the materials described above so cash donations are also very welcome. Every possible effort will be made to obtain donated components of this endeavor (i.e. shipping, storage). Any surplus funds will be used to further advance the objectives of the CRF. The CRF is a registered charitable organization in Alberta so tax receipts will be made available. There are no paid employees in the CRF.

Thank you for your consideration in helping us out with this worthy project. You can discuss your donation by contacting Terry Shwetz at crfdisability@gmail.com or 780-217-1635.

Please visit the website of the Canadian Rwandese Foundation of People With Disabilities in Alberta at <https://crfpdisa.org.rw/>

Terry



Photograph: Radius Images/Alamy Photograph: Radius Images / Alamy/Alamy

AGM NOTICE

April 26, 2025

Alberta Sports Hall of Fame

#102 - 4200 Highway 2, Red Deer AB

AASRA's AGM will be held this year on April 26th at the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame, all members are encouraged to attend either in person or via Zoom. There are some changes on the Board - this means we will be looking for someone to become a Board Member as a Member At Large. There will be an email coming out shortly about these changes and AGM information.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

PEER SUPPORT TRAINING

Peer Support Training is coming this summer. AASRA is in need of additional Peer Support persons as this is one of AASRA's major mandates. Please keep an eye out for an email about the course and we encourage any members interested to sign up for the training.

ALBERTA AMP OPEN

The Alberta Amp Open is tentatively scheduled for this July in Whitecourt hosted by Randy Cameron. Registration emails will be sent when details are available.

GOLF and MORE GOLF!

There are a number of golf events again planned for this summer with Golf Canada, Golf Alberta and Golf BC. The City of Calgary is again putting on a multi-day golf clinic and there has been interest in setting up something in the Edmonton area this summer as well.

CASINO VOLUNTEERS

AASRA has been given another casino this coming September we will be looking for volunteers, this is our major fundraiser and we need all members to make an effort to help out.

FUNDING APPLICATIONS

It's coming into our busiest time of year and if you are interested in applying for funding to attend events, please get your requests into our Sports Director in plenty of time to get the paperwork in.

AASRA MEMBERSHIPS FOR PROSTHETISTS

AASRA is offering memberships (at no charge) to prosthetists should they be interested. There are no financial benefits from AASRA but they will be able to participate as a full, lifetime voting member. They will get connected with the AASRA community and they may consider contributing in other ways (casino volunteering, board membership, etc.). Please talk your prosthetist and share this news. If you have any questions, email President@aasra.ab.ca.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Last April I had the opportunity to participate in the Jurassic Jamboree in Drumheller - participants had to show up in an inflatable dinosaur costume.



There was an attempt at a Guinness World Record for the most people gathered in inflatable dinosaur costumes - did we get it? No. Counting error. Did I have a blast? Yes.

You are probably wondering why I am including these photos. Two reasons:

1) This was my outfit before the AGM last year. I really wanted to wear it for the meeting, but the camera didnt capture its essence.

2) It was also an opportunity to wear a shirt I ordered that was a topic of conversation as I sat and enjoyed a beverage at the local brewery...



Right now there is A LOT going on in the world and I hope that my T-Rex costume reminds you to go out and play sports, listen to your favourite podcast, hang out with friends, or sit in a park and just feel the earth beneath you. And also...HAVE FUN. We all know that our mental and physical health is important and it is easy to get caught up in what is in the news or on our feeds.

(and heck, come to think of it, maybe I will wear the costume during this years AGM!)

If you have a photo of you enjoying your favourite activity - send it my way and I will see if I can include it in the newsletter!

Kyle
director1@aasra.ab.ca