

Dear MBA Members,

We are sending this update to provide much needed information about the measures the Board and Staff have taken to proactively manage issues that have arisen over the past several months. We are committed to addressing membership concerns proactively and in alignment with our values. The past year has been challenging for the Board as we looked to better understand some of the issues that required our immediate attention, including resolving the 2021-22 financial audit and catching up with the current 2022-2023 financials. For this reason, we were delayed in sending out some invoices and payments apologize once again for any frustration this has caused. We have been 'all hands on deck' for some time, as we have taken over varying amounts of former staff and administrative duties and numerous issues we were and are obliged to manage, and have had very little time to communicate the progress we've made as a Board. We are committed to communicating better through a bi-monthly Board update and through our social media and web platforms.

Here are some important updates that we'd like to ensure you are aware of:

- The current Board members are Yuns Oh (President), Renee Kunka (Vice-President), Adam Morin (Treasurer), Cadin Dupasquier, Samantha Rayburn-Trubyk, Terry Porayko, and Gurmeet Jassal. We have had a very challenging few months with the departure of several Board members, who have resigned due to personal reasons or because they have disagreed with the new direction and vision for the organization. Three of our current board members have been appointed to replace some of the departures. Our goals are to:
 - Ensure that we are a management Board that resolves issues proactively, reduces conflicts of interest and manage them ethically when they arise, and communicates transparently with our membership
 - Provide financial stability to the organization
 - Review and update governance and operational policies to ensure they meet legal and funding requirements
 - Proactively recruit non-Board members to serve on the Nominations Committee as required by our by-laws. Please send your expression of interest to serve on this committee to Terry Porayko at info@badminton.mb.ca. Our goal is to expand our current Board of Directors to ensure we are diverse and skills-based.
 - Address issues respectfully, meet legal and funding expectations, and maintain the health of our sport
- There have been many changes to our staff since our last communication in December. We wish to thank long-time Provincial Coach Justin Friesen and Technical Director Kevin Barkman for their contributions. We are grateful to Melanie Cure for her service as the former Executive Director and in particular for her assistance with navigating the organization through the pandemic.
- The Board would like to formally welcome Corey Draper as our Interim Executive Director who joined us in March of this year. Corey brings a wealth of experience from his previous role as the Operations Director of the Manitoba Disc Sports. Corey holds a certificate from Red River College in Volunteer Management and is experienced in communications, marketing, finance and program leadership. To reach Corey, please email him at corey@badminton.mb.ca. To address other gaps,

Elliott Beals and Marj Niemi have been contracted to provide technical support to the organization and to assist with running MBA tournaments. We trust that this will bring much needed stability to the organization.

We believe it is critical for us to stay connected to our membership and welcome your feedback in that regard. Over the next several months, we plan to reach out to all clubs to better understand your needs, concerns, and hope for the future. Stay tuned for ways you can have your say!

Yours sincerely,

MBA Board of Directors