



# CANOE KAYAK BC

## ANNUAL REPORT

### 2021.22

# President's Message

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The 2021.22 Season continued to bring us challenges that we all worked hard to overcome and adapt to. A big thank you to all the member clubs, boards of directors, staff, and paddlers that continued to be creative in helping make the season run as smoothly as possible. Resilience and flexibility have become the name-of-the-game in our organization at both the provincial and club level.

Big thanks go out to the CKBC staff. Kolin, Wes and Blake worked diligently throughout the season, and off-season to organize the events and plan for the busy 2022 season which included BC Summer Games and Canada Summer Games. Not to mention the huge amount of behind-the-scenes work they do for this organization! Also thanks to Rowan Hardy-Kavanagh and Dominic Crete, who joined us for the 2021 summer. They brought a vast amount of knowledge of the sport to our province and their visits to clubs was invaluable.

I also can't say enough about the people who volunteer at events. Having stepped into the role of volunteer coordinator at some of the regattas, I have come to see the vast array of skills and people our organization needs to run these. A huge thank you to those of you that step up time and time again to make our regattas run smoothly.

I have really enjoyed getting to know more of the board members and paddlers from the various clubs over this past year. Please continue to email and chat with me. I look forward to seeing everyone again next season.

Karen Tomlinson  
CKBC President

# Executive Director's Message

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As we finish off the 2021.22 season and move into the 2022.23 season, we are getting excited for a more traditional year of programming and racing in hopes we have left the pandemic behind. It also will be a busy year with the additional events and camps surrounding the BC Summer Games for our development athletes, and the Canada Summer Games for our high performance athletes. In review of the past season CKBC, much like many organizations, have had to continue to pivot operations due to COVID-19.

We have evolved as an organization and have fully embraced a virtual office, and have begun to address staffing shortages. The first move we have made is with the hiring of Drew Edwards as our Project Manager in February 2022. We are still looking for a Technical Director and will continue to search for this position as we move forward. I'd like to thank Blake Dalton our Provincial Coach, and Wes Hammer our Interim Sport Development Manager for their efforts throughout the past year. Both of these individuals have been asked countless times to help with duties outside their roles and responsibilities and have done so with plenty of enthusiasm and have kept the organizational needs front and center.

In amateur sport we cannot do the things we do without the efforts of our volunteers, officials, and everyone else who give up their time to assist in running paddle programming at the Local Sport Organization (LSO) and Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) level. To all of you, a special warm felt thank you!

Finally, I'd like to thank the CKBC Board of Directors for their continued support of our staff and office over the past year. Without their support and direction none of this would be possible.

We look forward to seeing you all out at the lake this coming spring/summer and here is to a great 2022.23 season!

Regards,  
Kolin Kriitmaa  
Executive Director

# Membership Services Report

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The 2021.22 season continued to see the effects of the pandemic and its impact on our operations. From a governance perspective, our new governance structure and model allows us to move our organization into the future. We do have an outstanding matter on membership standing which we are looking to solve at the 2022 AGM and this is living proof the new model is working as intended.

From a business operations perspective, CKBC has chosen to shut down and close our office in Burnaby at the Christine Sinclair Centre (formerly Fortius Sport & Health). This move will allow us to be more nimble with our operations, as well as a cost savings for an office that is no longer required after the pandemic has forced us to become completely virtual.

As we come out of the pandemic we are looking to fill a few key positions within the organization. First and foremost, a Technical Director, and a permanent Sport Development Manager for when Wes Hammer leaves us in September of 2022.

As noted in our membership engagement meetings throughout the past year, resilience building and safe sport will be two very important topics for the organization moving forward. Both of these are tied to funding requirements, but more importantly, will make us a stronger organization at the PSO and LSO levels moving into the future. We successfully held three member engagement meetings, and two membership best practices webinars through this past year. The details and/or recordings of these meetings can be found on the President's page on our website.

- Membership Engagement Meetings (May 10, 2021, December 5, 2021, March 7, 2022)
- Membership Webinar - Google Workspace for Non-Profits
- Membership Webinar - Club Toolkit - Best Practices

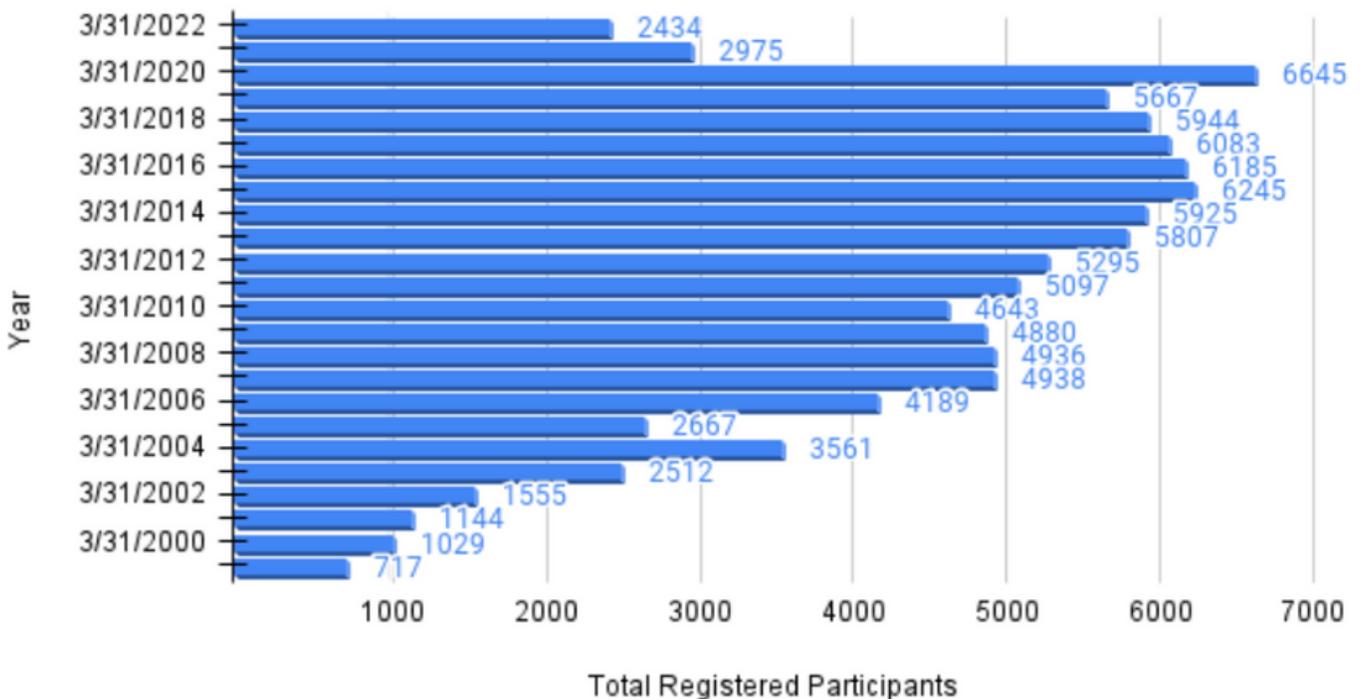
# Registration Report

With the continued global uncertainty, COVID-19 restrictions and overall difficult times throughout the world, the year was not kind to our registration numbers. Registration is down 19% over the course of the year.

As we come out of the pandemic, we anticipate that being an outdoor recreational pursuit and sport there will be an increase in registration, but it is uncertain how long it will take for our registration to bounce back to pre-COVID-19 numbers. We are taking a conservative approach to rebuilding and will be looking at this as a multi year plan.

- Total 2021.22 Membership: 2434
- Number of Clubs Registered - 20

## CKBC Registration Through the Years



# Performance Development Report

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After a season without any major competitions or training opportunities due to the pandemic, the 2021 season was filled with excitement.

## **CKBC Regattas:**

CKBC hosted four major regattas. After a spring of canceled races due Covid restrictions, the first race was the 2021 Provincial Championships/BC Cup #2 (July 31-1). It was excellent to celebrate the first major regatta with 134 athletes in Burnaby.

Two weeks later, BC Cup #3 was held in Nanaimo. In addition to the standard BC Cup races, there were a number of fun challenges for all levels of athletes, including 1000m mass start races (these races featured a turn at the 500m) and some entertaining balance and skill challenges. Another highlight was the BBQ and desserts at the end of the day.

Despite restrictions on international travel, the 2021 Pacific Cup/U14 Provincial Championships featured 157 enthusiastic paddlers from BC. It was enjoyable to walk along the beach to see the crowd cheering on the racers, athletes working on their balance in the swimming area and parents manning various BBQs. The sights, sounds and smells were incredible.

The final event was BC Cup #4 in October at False Creek. 52 athletes paddled either 5km, 10km or 15 km. It was an excellent event to close off a successful regatta season.



# Performance Development Cont'd

## **Performance Programming:**

In addition to the above events, performance athletes - including members of the Provincial and NextGen Team - were busy with a number of training and educational activities.

After the 2021 Spring Camp in Burnaby (March), restrictions were tightened until the end of June. In turn, CKBC held monthly virtual events, including 2km time trials, a month-long KM challenge and an athlete favourite, 50m and 100m competition. The latter culminated in a speed development webinar with Olympic medalists and World Champions Laurence Vincent Lapointe and Mark de Jonge.

Once restrictions were eased, Provincial Team athletes came together in the first week of July. As part of Canoe Kayak Canada's Team RED testing, athletes completed a number of time trials and training sessions. It was amazing to have former National Team athletes Dominique Crete and Rowan-Hardy Kavanagh at the event and help athletes fine tune their technique and pacing strategies in preparation for a number of key regattas, including the 2021 National Championships in Ottawa.

The 2021 National Championships saw 52 athletes from BC compete in a unique modified format. Athletes were segregated into discipline cohorts and raced singles events (200m, 500m and 1000m) in three half-day blocks. This certainly had a different feel than previous National Championships. However, this didn't deter BC athletes from performing. Overall, BC athletes had 7 top 3 results and 27 top 9 placings.

Following the week of racing in Ottawa, five BC athletes were nominated to various CKC international teams:

- Brian Malfesi (Ridge) - Senior World Championships
- Ydris Hunter (False Creek) - U23 World Championships
- Cassidy MacPherson (Ridge) - Junior World Championships
- Keisa Bleiler (False Creek) - Olympic Hopes
- Veronica So (False Creek) - Olympic Hopes

While the slalom activities were curtailed due to COVID-19, three Chilliwack Centre of Excellence Paddling Club athletes were nominated to the Junior and U23 World Championship Team: Nathan Christensen, Finn Wakeling and Isabel Taylor. This is an outstanding achievement.

# Performance Development Cont'd

One of the biggest highlights of the year was Brian Malfesi (Ridge) competing at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics in the K2 1000m event. Brian was the first sprint male athlete from BC to qualify for the Olympics in the past 33 years. Impressively, Brian placed 14th with his partner Vincent Jourdenais.

As you can imagine, it was phenomenal to have Brian attend the 2021 Fall Training Camp. Just over 40 athletes attended the Camp and were able to paddle with Brian, as well as have a fun Q&A session with him. Other highlights included the surfski session at Cates Park in Deep Cove with Bob Putnam and his fantastic Coast Outdoors staff and the orienteering challenge put on by the Greater Vancouver Orienteering Club.

Shortly after the Fall Training Camp, 31 sprint and slalom athletes were nominated to the 2021-2022 Provincial Team and 22 athletes were selected to the 2021-2022 NextGen Team. Athletes were selected to the two teams based on their respective performances during the 2021 season.

During the winter and early-spring, Provincial Team and NextGen athletes were involved in several activities each month - from strength and power testing to on-line educational sessions. These sessions centered around nutrition, injury prevention and mental performance. The goal was to set a strong foundation for success at the 2022 Canada Summer Games and other key performance events.

CKBC also held several coach performance webinars during the season. Topics ranged from pacing and speed development on the water to developing off-water strength and power in the weight room during the specific preparatory phase.

After a year without any major competitions or training camps, seeing the smiles on our athletes' faces throughout the 2021 season reinforced how special our paddling community is.

A big thank you to our athletes, coaches, clubs, officials and volunteers for a memorable and successful year.

# Sport Development Report

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The 2022.23 season continued to face challenges as varying levels of personal pandemic comfort led to a reduced number of sport development offerings. Early season events were canceled or adjusted to account for pandemic concerns. Staffing challenges also proved to be an obstacle as CKBC operated without a dedicated Sport Development manager for the majority of the 2021 competition season.

## **Coaching:**

Coaching clinics during the summer of 2021 were presented virtually. A total of 63 individuals took part in virtual coach training during May and June of 2021. Two sessions of Canoe Kids (NCCP Community Coach) certified 14 and 24 participants respectively. An additional 25 participants completed their Entry Level Competitive Coach (ELCC) training (NCCP Competition Introduction). In person ELCC evaluations were put on hold due to pandemic concerns and participants will need to complete at a future date.

## **Volunteer Training:**

A virtual and in-person hybrid model allowed for successful training of new officials and motorboat volunteers. Training occurred in September in advance of the Pacific Cup to allow new volunteers the opportunity to practice their skills soon after the training occurred. The hybrid model allowed different people to instruct both the virtual and in-person sessions allowing for additional insights. 11 participants completed their Level 1-2 officials training and eight participants completed the motorboat training. Feedback from participants supported the hybrid model. Next steps in volunteer training and recruitment would be to allow more position shadowing opportunities for new volunteers.

## **Club Outreach:**

The hiring of two former national team athletes for the summer allowed for club outreach to occur. The CKBC summer staff were able to spend time at each of the CKBC sprint clubs to work with their athletes and coaches. In addition to club outreach, summer staff provided support during the BC Cup regattas and were essential to their success after a pandemic hiatus.

# Sport Development Report Cont'd

## **Indigenous Programs:**

Indigenous outreach was also affected in 2021 due to ongoing pandemic concerns. CKBC was able to work with two Indigenous groups in 2021. Ongoing work with the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw School in Port Hardy led to a successful canoeing session in the Fall of 2021. Approximately 60 students in 4 different sessions were instructed on how to safely participate in canoeing. CKBC was able to bring National and Provincial team members to help support the program and share their stories with the students.

A second Indigenous outreach occurred in March 2022. CKBC presented both theory and practical skills to a group of Indigenous foster children as they prepared for a canoe journey. The mix of both classroom and a pool session allowed for positive discussion and feedback from attendees.

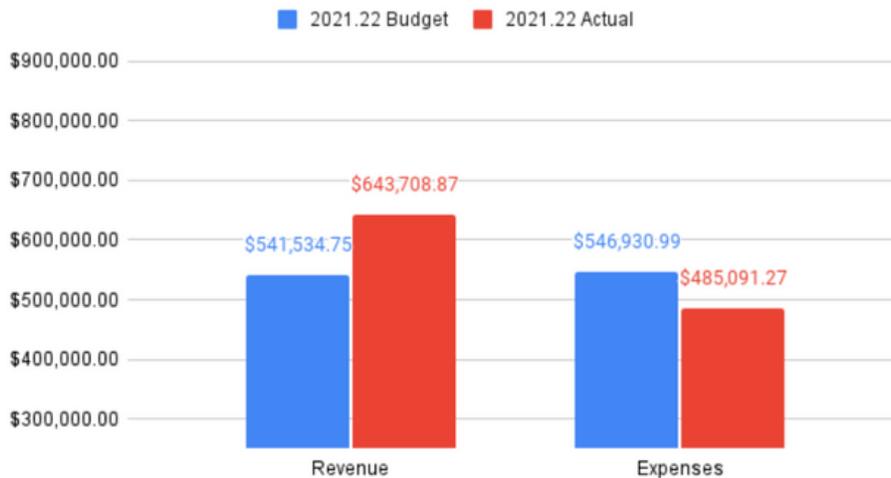
## **Overall:**

Although the 2021.22 season came with a number of challenges and pandemic obstacles, feedback from the members was positive. As restrictions were lifted throughout the season, members were able to once again participate freely in sport and spirits were high.

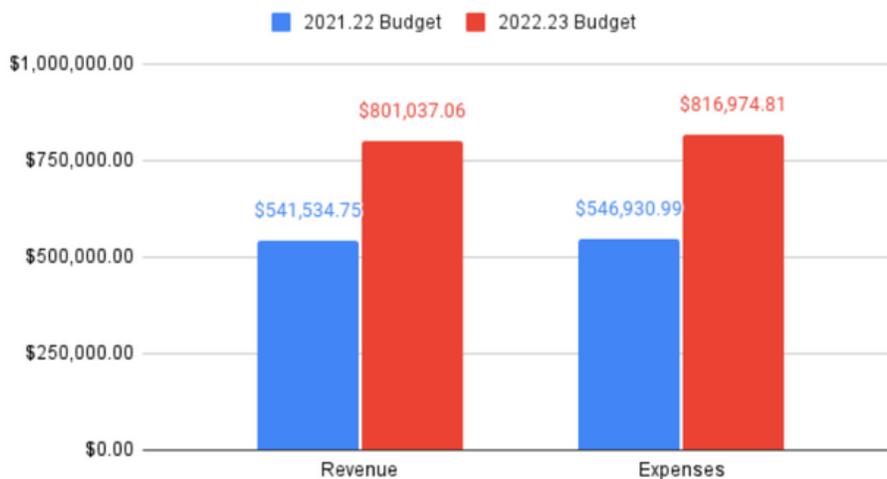


# Financial Snapshot

2021.22 Budget vs. 2021.22 Actual



2021.22 Budget vs. 2022.23 Budget



## Financial Report Key Notes:

- We show a profit at the end of the fiscal year. This is due to having 2 years worth of gaming grants in one year and limited expenses due to COVID-19. We have been “saving” to have as much deferred revenue as possible to assist with the 2022.23 season where we have two big events (Canada and BC Summer Games) that require additional funding.
- We also have been saving to hire additional staff to support programming in the 2022.23 season.
- During the 2021.22 fiscal CKBC continued to take advantage of government and relief programs, as well as applied for numerous grants to assist in generating additional funds.
- \$106K grant was received to assist over a 3-year period as relief and assistance to build our BC Cup Race Series back up. This fund has restrictions attached to it.

# About CKBC

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen Tomlinson - President  
Sara Hopkins - Secretary/Treasurer  
Edmond Duggan - Whitewater Chair  
Scott Decker - Marathon Chair  
Kim Houston - Sprint Chair/Flag Officer  
Jody Neuls - Director at Large  
Gillian Helliwell / Quintin Neuls - Athlete Reps

## STAFF AS OF MARCH 31, 2022

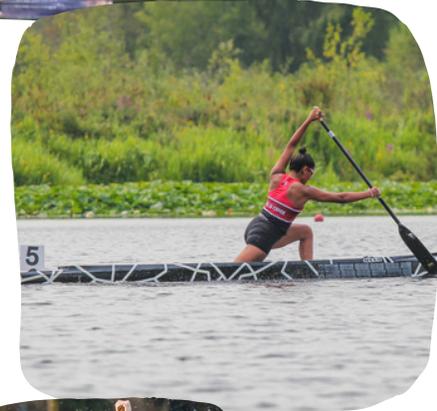
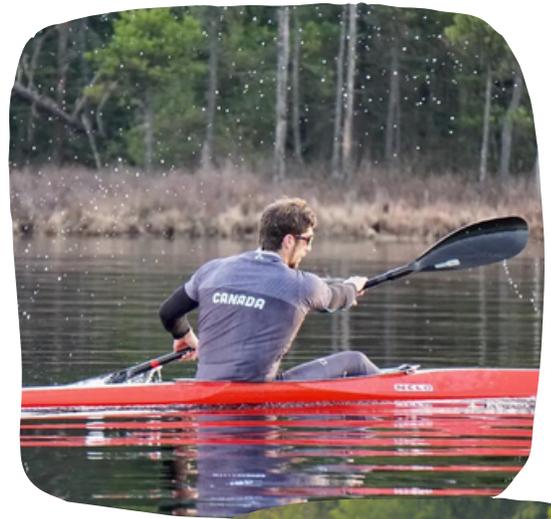
Kolin Kriitmaa - Executive Director  
Wes Hammer - Sport Development Manager (Interim)  
Drew Edwards - Project Manager  
Blake Dalton - Provincial Coach  
Kelly Cioffi - Bookkeeper

## OUR MISSION:

Encourage and promote personal growth and success for members through participation and performance in paddle sports.

## OUR VALUES:

Champion **FAIR PLAY**  
Be **INCLUSIVE** in programming and leadership  
Embrace **INNOVATIVE** solutions  
Demonstrate **INTEGRITY** in all aspects of the organization  
Be **SUPPORTIVE** of member clubs and participants





## Thank you to our partners:



Canoe Kayak BC  
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 Burnaby, BC V5H 4M9



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