

Dear ANB members,

I am extremely pleased, proud, and honored to have been named head coach for the 2017 games for NB. Ever since I moved to New Brunswick in 2012 I have been energized and motivated to be part of such a forward thinking and resilient athletics community. Athletics New Brunswick and every single member that makes it up registered or not is a part of it. Athletes from every age group, coaches of all levels, officials, administrators, clubs, board members, parents, support staff, fans, and sponsors should all view themselves as an integral part of the success that comes to ANB no matter where they are. This can be summed up as.... #WeAreANB.

Over the coming months the 2017 CSG plan is going to be developed. The call of managers and staff coaches will be made shortly with selections to follow. From there "the plan" will seek input from a wide range of stakeholders but what comes out of this will be a strategic plan that will aid us in our preparations. The four pillars of this plan **Training - Competition - Education - Culture**. At times certain pillars may be prioritized higher than others but the end goal is to create a sustainable pathway for success that aids in the long-term development of our athletes. The Jeux Canada Games while a major event is not the end but merely a competitive opportunity along the performance pathway.

It has been over 500 days since the 2013 games ended in Sherbrooke. While some of the memories and events from these games are still fresh in our minds the results are still very clear... 9 medals! Best NB athletics finish ever! However, as the past is still remembered and celebrated the future is quickly approaching. The 2017 games will be upon us in a blink of an eye. If we want to get very specific the 2017 Jeux Canada Games in Winnipeg are just over 900 days or 131 weeks away. While perception allows us to view any time period as either short or long it is my belief that it is always best to view it as a shorter time period so you don't get stuck in a holding pattern. No matter how long you have that time period must be fully utilized and taken advantage of.

The most important thing at the moment for our athletes is the following. If you are born in 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998 then you make up the primary age demographic for 2017 team selection. If you are younger you are part of the secondary demographic, still eligible for 2017 but can also look towards 2021. So for those born from 1995-1998 I ask a question what are your goals for 2017? What are you doing now to achieve them?

Thank you for your time in reading this letter and thank you for your support in being put in charge of this program. I am excited and proud to be a part of it. If you ever have any questions or thoughts that require discussion please do not hesitate to contact me. I love talking about athletics especially as it relates to our future.

Thank you!

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