

2023



**ALBERTA &  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**

Annual Report



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## President & Executive Director Report

We are pleased to report on the successes and challenges of the 2022-2023 business year. Our dedicated staff and volunteers have worked tirelessly to carry out our mission of preventing drowning and water-related injury. Together with our members and affiliate delivery partners, we have continued to make a real difference in the lives of individuals and families across Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

In training programs, we saw a 258% increase in program activity compared to the previous year and a 14% increase compared to pre-pandemic levels. This increase includes delivery partners transitioning to the Society’s Learn to Swim program and the continued expansion of our SwimAbilities program.

In public education, we expanded the number of sites with lifejacket loaner stations to 47, including 6 in the Northwest Territories. Our annual Water Smart campaign saw increased digital engagement from the target demographics.

In research, though our partnership with the University of Alberta’s Injury Prevention Centre, the 2022 non-fatal drowning report was published.

In safety management, we continued serving our members and the public through delivery of aquatic safety audits, lifeguard positioning analysis, aquatic amenity analysis, and other consulting services.

In lifesaving sport, we hosted the Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships in June 2022, the first Canadian championship since 2019. The Lifesaving World Championships took place in Riccione, Italy, on September 18 to October 2, 2022, in which our branch volunteers were instrumental in supporting the attendance of a national delegation comprised of over 100 athletes, officials, and volunteers.

Our year has not been without challenges. In Fall 2022, our board volunteers supported the leadership transition to our current Executive Director. During this transitional period, our goal was to provide stability for our existing operational staff while maintaining services and communication with our membership and partners. We engaged a third-party HR provider to consult on a recruitment and hiring process which included the public posting, screening, and interview for the Executive Director role. This process was completed successfully around the end of our business year.

An additional challenge over the past year has been rebuilding our operational capacity to pre-pandemic levels. At times, we observed unusual delays in shipping and award-processing services for our membership. Over the course of the year, our team capacity has increased, and our service levels have improved. We are pleased to report that the year ended with a return to the expected level of responsiveness and member service.

In governance, our volunteer Board of Directors completed our regular quarterly meetings as well as additional committee work and supplemental planning meetings. In March 2023, our board was thrilled to complete our annual workshop in-person with all directors meeting in Edmonton. We worked through the items in our annual work plan including completing a review and update of our governance policies. This policy work refreshed the framework for how the Board of Directors fulfills its stewardship role of providing organizational hindsight, oversight, and foresight.

Additionally, in June 2022, representatives of our board joined our peers from other provincial and territorial branches across the country in Winnipeg,

MB, for planning and partnering on a national level. We use these national meetings to share regional opportunities and lessons learned, with the goal of harmonizing the Canada-wide programs, policies, and public education elements that impact lifesaving and lifesaving sport. The meetings also serve as a time to strengthen relationships with our national counterparts and build a common understanding of the work and experiences shared by each branch.

This has been a rewarding year, and we are grateful for the trust and confidence placed in us as leaders in drowning and water-related injury prevention. We thank all the staff, volunteers, affiliate delivery partners, donors, and advocates who help us towards our goal of a Canada free from drownings.

  
Jonathan Kusyanto

  
Todd Carrson

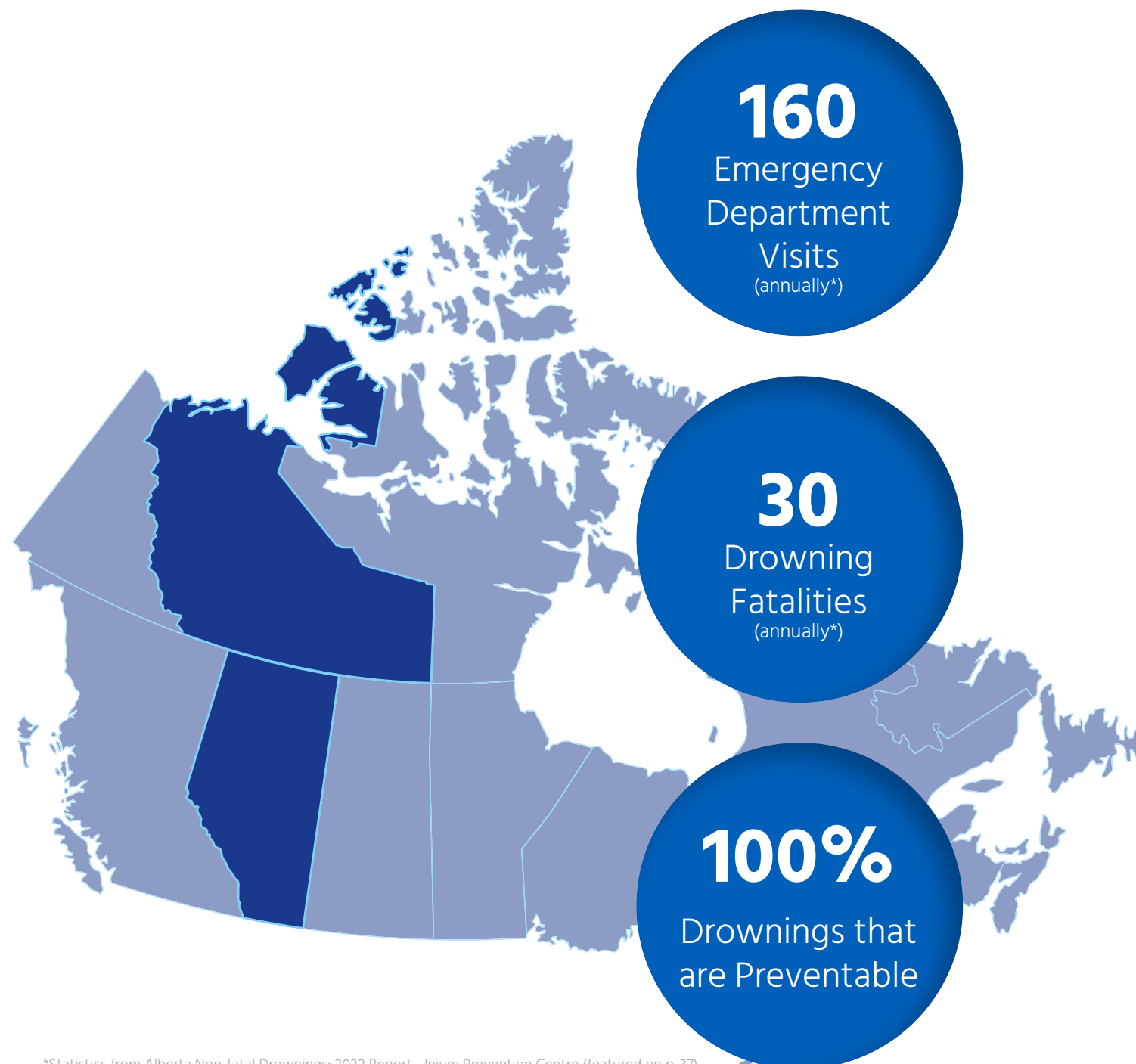


**Jonathan Kusyanto**  
Executive Director



**Todd Carrson, P. Eng.**  
President, Board of Directors

# Drowning in Alberta & Northwest Territories



\*Statistics from Alberta Non-fatal Drownings: 2022 Report—Injury Prevention Centre (featured on p. 37)



The Lifesaving Society is a national volunteer organization and registered charity. We are a full-service provider of programs, products, and services designed to prevent drowning.

The Society sets standards, collaborates with partners, and provides education to empower the residents of Alberta and Northwest Territories to be safe in, on, and around water.

**Mission:** Our mission is to save lives and prevent drowning and water-related injury through our training programs, Water Smart® public education, drowning research, aquatic safety management and lifesaving sport.

**Vision:** Our vision is a Canada free from drowning and water related injury.

**Values:** guided by humanitarian principles, we are the Canadian leader in the prevention of drowning and water-related injury:

- We are collaborative, innovative, and ethical.
- We operate with fairness, respect, trust, and integrity.
- We value diversity, flexibility, and creativity.
- We seek inclusiveness, driven by the needs of our community.
- We are a dynamic organization that succeeds through volunteerism, pro-active leadership, and the pursuit of excellence.

# Branch Governors and Patrons

## Branch Governors

Brigadier J.C. Jefferson.....	1965-1966
Maj. Gen. J.M. Rockingham.....	1966-1970
Kenneth A. McKenzie, QC.....	1971-1975
Jack Boddington.....	1976-1978
Dr. E.S.O. Smith.....	1979-1980
Terry Cavanagh.....	1980-1996
Bruce Hogle, CM, AOE, LLB.....	1997-2018
Barbara Costache.....	2018-Current

## Branch Presidents

Manny E. Power.....	1958-1959
R.A. (Paddy) Johnson.....	1960-1962
Jack Boddington.....	1963-1969
Harry Boddington.....	1970
Tell R.B. Stephen.....	1971-1972
Hobart J. Clark.....	1973
Carman Byler.....	1974
Rudy Berghuys.....	1975
Walter A. West.....	1976-1977
Bryce Gibson.....	1978
Brian Sullivan.....	1979
Gordon Wick.....	1980-1982
Dave Linman.....	1983-1984
Neil Riley.....	1985-1986
Dale Drummond.....	1987-1988
Tim Moorhouse.....	1989-1990
Doug Mylie.....	1991-1994
Barbara Kusyanto.....	1995-1996
Jeanie Hutton.....	1997-1998
Lisa Wolff.....	1999-2000
Alice Park.....	2001-2002
Colin Reichle.....	2003-2004
Kevin Feehan.....	2005-2006
Chris Burrows.....	2007-2009
Rob Campbell.....	2009-2011
Colin Reichle.....	2011-2013
Martin Evers.....	2013-2015
Bo Wolski.....	2015-2017

Patrick Mack CHRP, MHRM.....	2017-2018
Davi Grossi.....	2018-2020
Sean Curran.....	2020-2022
Todd Carson.....	2022-Current

## Branch Patrons

Hon. J. Percy Page.....	1959-1966
Hon. Dr. J.W. Grant MacEwan.....	1966-1974
Hon. Ralph G. Steinhaur.....	1974-1979
Hon. Frank Lynch-Staunton.....	1979-1985
Hon. Helen Hunley.....	1985-1991
Hon. Gordon Towers.....	1991-1996
Hon. Bud Olsen.....	1996-2000
Hon. Lois E. Hole.....	2000-2005
Hon. Norman L. Kwong.....	2005-2010
Hon. Donald S. Ethell.....	2010-2014
Hon. Lois E. Mitchell.....	2015-2020
Hon. Salma Lakhani.....	2020-Current

## Branch Vice Patrons

Hon. Helen Maksagak.....	1996-1999
Hon. Daniel Joseph Marion.....	1999-2000
Hon. Glenna Hansen.....	2000-2005
Hon. Anthony W.J. Whitford.....	2005-2010
Hon. George L. Tuccaro.....	2010-2016
Hon. Gerald W. Kisoun.....	2016-2017

## Board of Directors

### President

Mr. Todd Carson, P Eng.

### Past President

Mr. Sean Curran, LL.B.

### Director of Finance

Mr. Bo Wolski

### Corporate Secretary

Mr. Douglas Costigan

### Directors

Dr. Kathy Belton, Ph.D.

Mr. Nicholas Wiggins, BSc. (Hons)

Mr. Chris Burrows

### Governor (Ex-Officio)

Mrs. Barbara Costache

### Executive Director (Ex-Officio)

Mr. Jonathan Kusyanto

## Society Advisors

### Legal Advisor

Ms. Heather Barnhouse, BSc, LLB, MBA

### Medical Advisor

Dr. Anthony Seto, MD.

## Branch Personnel

### Chief Executive Officer

Kelly Carter

### Program Manager/Executive Director

Jonathan Kusyanto

### Executive Assistant

Lee Galusha

### Member Relations Manager

Madison Lalonde

### Member Services and Operations Manager

Carter Dalrymple

### Finance Manager

Merritt Gallagher

### Leadership Programs Coordinator

Alex Parker

### Drowning Prevention Coordinator

Kelsey Lalonde

### Lifesaving Sport Specialist

Lorraine Wilson-Saliba

### E-Learning Curriculum Developer

Elizabeth Assefa

### Community Water Smart Community (Seasonal)

Taylor Kaulbach

### Finance Assistant

Chad Kerr

### Receptionist

Martine Pertschy

Mohamed Ikar

### Shipper and Receiver

Ehteshamul Chowdhury

### Data Entry Clerk

Goranka Priljeva

# Financial Report

The summarized financial information presented here is derived from the Royal Life Saving Society Canada, Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2023 and independent auditor's report.

A letter was provided from Dentons Canada LLP confirming that as of May 19, 2023, there were no claims or possible claims outstanding.

This year we posted a profit of \$6,280.00. Although revenue has increased along with program participation, consumer inflation and challenges to the supply chain has also increased costs. The Society will continue to develop and enhance programs and services to meet the needs of residents of Alberta and the Northwest Territories and is well positioned to continue its mission to prevent drowning and reduce water-related injury.

A photograph of a woman and a young boy laughing joyfully in a swimming pool. The woman is wearing sunglasses and a red swimsuit, and the boy is shirtless. They are both raising their arms in the air. The background shows the blue water of the pool and a blurred outdoor setting.

**50/50**  
Drowning Prevention Raffle

# Grants, Donors & Fundraising

*Congratulations to our 2022 Summer Raffle Winner, Shandy Onishenko!*

## Casino Fundraiser

With the lifting of many COVID-19 restrictions, we were able to resume our annual Casino Fundraiser. Hosted at the Grande Villa Casino in downtown Edmonton, on August 15-16, 2022, the Casino Fundraiser brought in significant funds to support our humanitarian mandate of preventing drowning and water-related injury. This fundraiser would not have been a success without the support of our volunteers.

**Thank you to the volunteers who participated in our Casino Fundraiser:**

- Kathy Belton
- Brian Bowers
- Rob Campbell
- Todd Carson
- Adrianna Koziak Carter
- Kelly Carter
- Barbara Costache
- Sean Curran
- Johanna Durkin
- Bill Durkin
- Chad Kerr
- Madison Lalonde
- Madison Madsen
- Brandon Montgomery
- Shawn Owchar
- Sonia Parker
- Heidi June Paul
- Dolores Scott
- Bo Wolski

## Society Supporters

The Society acknowledges and greatly appreciates the partnership and support of our initiatives by the Alberta Government, the Government of the Northwest Territories, and the Government of Canada.

### Grants

- Government of Alberta, Culture and Status of Women - Sport, Physical Activity Donation Fund Program
- Government of Canada Operational Grant
- Government of Canada Summer Jobs Grant

We would also like to acknowledge the following individuals and organizations for their donations:

### Distinction Club

*Donations of over \$500*

Automated Aquatics  
Canadian Western Bank Community Program  
West Edmonton Mall

### Friends of the Society

*Donations up to \$99*

Barbara Costache  
Doug Costigan  
Cole Irvine



## Summarized Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2023

Net Assets	2023	2022
Net Working Capital	600,767.00	568,310.00
Investments	322,28.00	323,768.00
Capital Assets	743,935.00	768,672.00
	<b>1,667,030.00</b>	<b>1,660,750.00</b>
Fund Balances	2023	2022
Investment Capital Assets	743,935.00	768,672.00
Internally Restricted	475,000.00	475,000.00
General - Unrestricted	448,095.00	417,078.00
	<b>1,667,030.00</b>	<b>1,660,750.00</b>

## Summarized Statement of Operations

As of March 31, 2023

Revenue	2023	2022
Unrestricted	1,930,361.00	1,235,695.00
Restricted	116,993.00	304,667.00
	<b>2,047,354.00</b>	<b>1,540,372.00</b>
Expenses	<b>2,041,074.00</b>	<b>1,662,977.00</b>
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy		<b>72,166.00</b>
<b>Net Surplus for the Year</b>	<b>6,280.00</b>	<b>(50,439.00)</b>

# Training Programs

238,747  
Swim for Life  
Participants

4,936  
Swim to  
Survive  
Participants

7,057  
Leadership  
Participants

12,666  
First Aid/CPR  
Participants

Our training programs contribute to our mission by teaching Canadians swimming and lifesaving skills. Our programs support the development of knowledge and judgment Canadians need to safely enjoy being in, on, and around water, and to rescue themselves and others in an emergency.





# Swim Transition

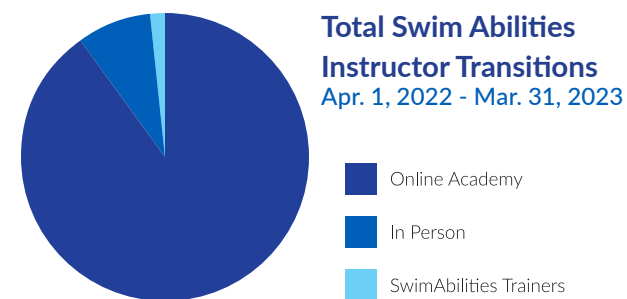
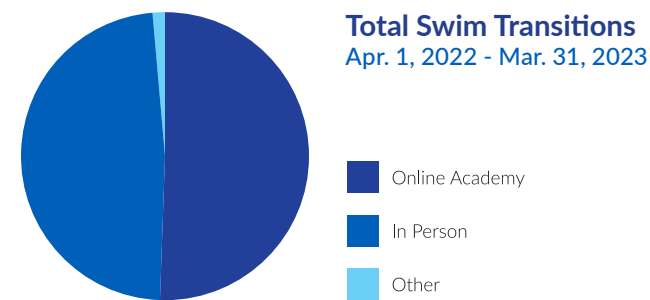
In January 2022, the Canadian Red Cross announced their winding down of swim and lifeguard programming to allow a shift in focus to other humanitarian issues.

To ensure Canadians continue to have access to critical water safety programs, the Red Cross and the Lifesaving Society partnered together to support a successful transition period. The Red Cross recommended its program delivery providers transition to the Society's Learn to Swim, Leadership, and Lifeguarding Programs.

The Lifesaving Society supported multiple facilities across Alberta and the Northwest territories transitioning to its programming and we look forward to continuing to do so.



In order to further support our members, and to make our swim program more accessible to those who require additional support in the water, we launched the Online Academy SwimAbilities Instructor Transition.



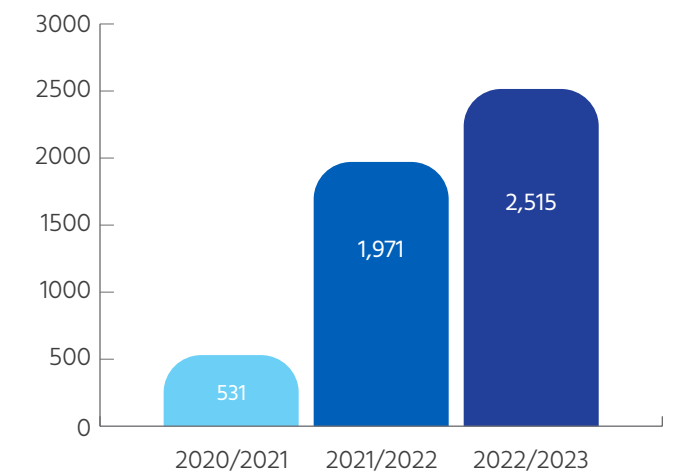
# Online Academy & Program Growth

The Online Academy is a learning platform that provides members and the public with access to Lifesaving Society training programs. This e-learning option has increased the accessibility and reach of the Society's programs, and greatly helped support our affiliates in the swim transition.

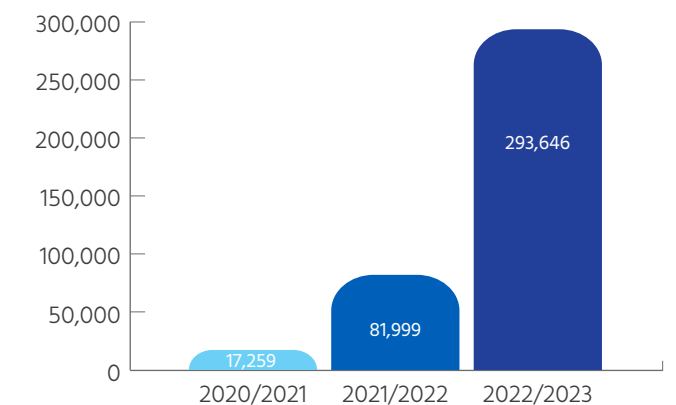
This year, the Society hosted the following courses on our Online Academy:

- Bronze Medals 2021 Mandatory Update
- Community Official
- National Lifeguard Instructor Recertification
- Pool Official
- Swim and Lifesaving Instructor Recertification
- Swim Instructor Transition
- SwimAbilities Transition
- Trainer Course
- Trainer Recertification

**Lifesaving Society Online Academy Enrollment Growth**



**Overall Program Growth (all programs 2020 - 2023)**



# Leadership

The Lifesaving Society began recruitment for multiple new National Trainers. We look forward to training and introducing them to our members in the 2023-2024 year.



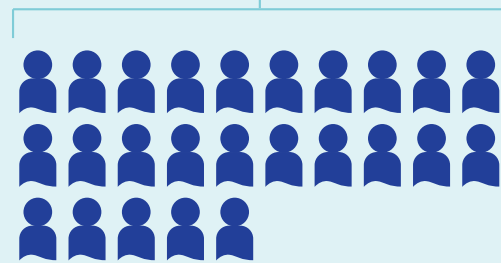
## Lifesaving Instructor 16 Hour Course

In response to the swim transition, the Lifesaving Society launched the 16-hour Lifesaving Instructor course to reduce barriers for members and make the course more accessible for members and affiliates.

## Trainer Courses and Trainer Re-Certifications

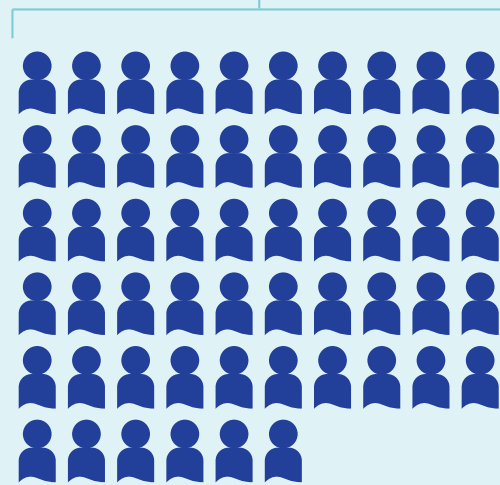
The Online Academy is a learning platform that provides members and the public with access to Lifesaving Society training programs. This e-learning option has increased the accessibility and reach of the Society's programs, and greatly helped support our affiliates in the swim transition. This year, the Society hosted the following courses on our Online Academy:

**2** Trainer Courses



15 Participants Certified

**6** Trainer Re-Certifications



56 Participants Re-Certified

# Officials Training

## Officials Training

The Lifesaving Society continued to offer its Officials Training online to support the growth of Lifesaving Sport, maintaining the Community Official course as a free program to all members.

Community Officials have the basic competitive lifesaving officiating skills needed to officiate community-level Lifesaving Sport competitions. Pool Officials have developed further experience, knowledge, skills and judgment and are qualified to officiate sanctioned Lifesaving Sport pool competitions.



Community Officials Certified



Pool Officials Certified

## Other Courses and Programs



### First Aid

The Lifesaving Society received Government of Alberta Workplace First Aid Program approval for another 5 year term.



### NCCP Swimming Applications

The Lifesaving Society continues to collaborate with the National Coaching Certification Program to allow Swim and Lifesaving Instructors to be recognized as meeting the prerequisite requirements for the Swimming Teacher pathway for NCCP.



### BOAT

The Lifesaving Society maintained accreditation with Transport Canada to provide training and testing as part of the Pleasure Craft Operator Competency Program. The Society remains committed to this partnership, appointing branch staff to an advisory group to review and make recommendations on new boating safety test questions. Affiliates are encouraged to offer the BOAT program and Transport Canada Boating Safety Tests at their facilities.

## Top-Line Summary: Programs

	2022-2023	2021-2022	2020-2021
BOAT	411	104	140
Bronze Medals	6,551	5,523	1,078
Canadian Swim Patrol*	16,664	6,662	1,244
Education & Proficiency	419	335	25
First Aid/CPR	12,666	14,328	6,382
First Responder	6	46	24
Leadership	7,057	4,975	2,059
Lifesaving Sport*	2,787	2,289	728
National Lifeguard	3,402	3,734	1,993
Swim for Life*	238,747	41,865	3,226
Swim to Survive*	4,936	2,610	360
<b>Totals</b>	<b>293,646</b>	<b>82,471</b>	<b>17,259</b>

\*Items include data that is self-reported by affiliate delivery partners. These numbers may be adversely affected due to the pandemic and facility closures as well as lack of reporting.

### In Person Courses

To support our affiliates in building their internal capacity, we ran the following courses this year:

- Aquatic Safety Inspector, Brookfield Residential YMCA, Calgary
- First Aid Instructor, Lifesaving Society AB NWT Branch Training Facility, Edmonton
- National Lifeguard Instructor, Leduc Recreation Centre, Leduc
- SwimAbilities Instructor, Okotoks Recreation Centre, Okotoks
- Swim for Life Lessons, Lake Chaparral, Calgary

# Recreation & Sport



ALBERTA & NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
**LIFESAVING  
SPORT**

Lifesaving Sport contributes to the Society's mission by engaging and inspiring youth in our humanitarian mandate. It provides an incentive for lifesaving skill development and lifeguard training, encourages innovation in lifesaving and lifeguarding techniques, and offers unique opportunities for volunteer recruitment, retention, and leadership development. The Lifesaving Society Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch is the provincial governing body for Lifesaving Sport (Provincial Sport Organization).



# Lifesaving Sport Events

The Lifesaving World Championships 2022 were held in Riccione, Italy. The National Team championship was from 27 September to the 2 of October. There were a total of six Alberta athletes representing Canada on the national team, in the open and youth categories:

- Lydianna O’Neil
- Kayla Vogel
- Ethan McArthur Verbaas
- Meadow Liversuch
- Nancy Morrow
- William Allaway-Brager

## Sanctioned Competitions

The Lifesaving Society is focused on affiliate club development and sanctioned competition. Thanks to the commitment of the hosts and volunteers, 8 sanctioned regional competitions were held throughout the 2022-2023 season:

- 2022 Alberta and Northwest Territories Pool Junior Games and Pool Lifesaving Championships: April 2-3, 2022
- Max Bell Mantas Lifesaving Sport Competition: November 18-20, 2022
- Hinton Stingray’s Claire Jones Memorial Meet: November 26, 2022
- Tri Leisure Candy Cane Meet: December 3, 2022
- Cochrane Water Ninja’s Dash to the New Year: December 10, 2022
- Wetaskiwin Chill: January 21, 2023
- Lacombe Sea Lions Tri-Meet: February 18, 2023
- Camrose Tsunami Splash: March 10-11, 2023

## Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships

The Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championships were hosted from June 3-5, 2022, at the Syncrude Aquatic Centre, MacDonald Island Park in Fort McMurray, Alberta. The event was followed by an awards banquet to celebrate all participating athletes.

## Provincial/Territorial Pool Lifesaving Championships

The Alberta and Northwest Territories Pool Lifesaving Championships and Junior Games were hosted from April 2-3, 2022, at the Max Bell Regional Aquatic Centre, University of Lethbridge, in Lethbridge, Alberta.

# Lifesaving Sport Provincial Records

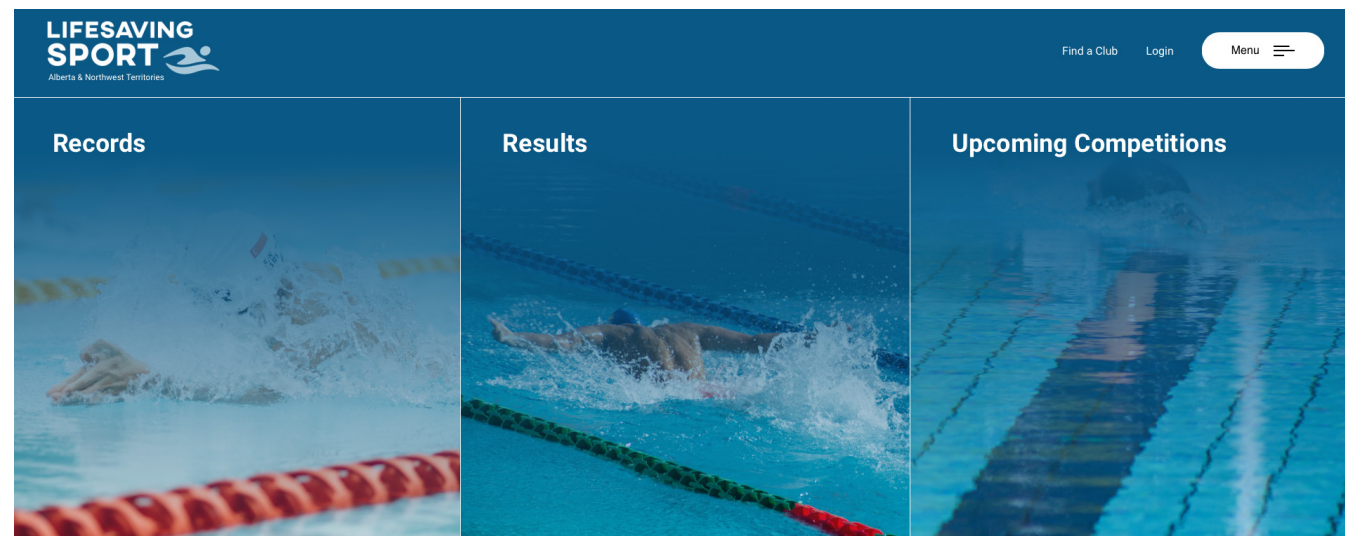
*Congratulations to the following athletes for setting provincial records in their respective events during the 2022-2023 Lifesaving Sport Season:*

<p><b>Cochrane Water Ninjas</b></p> <p>Kyle Basaraba</p> <p>Allyson Billings</p> <p>Danielle Billings</p> <p>Hannah Billings</p> <p>April Bushrod</p> <p>Sydney Carnegie</p> <p>Jack Dunse</p> <p>Alex Fisher</p> <p>Eli Fitzsimmons</p> <p>Brad Gilbert</p> <p>Corbin Gilbert</p> <p>Csenia Irvin</p> <p>Oliver Johnson</p> <p>Matt Johnston</p> <p>Ian Kruger</p> <p>Brady Malley</p> <p>Alana Martens</p> <p>Tony Moores</p> <p>Marlee Palmer</p> <p>Caebri Smith</p> <p>Joel Smyke</p> <p>Roxanne Smyke</p> <p>Aaron Swedlo</p> <p>Amy Swedlo</p> <p>Isaac Thibodeau</p> <p>Susan Watkins</p> <p>Marlee Palmer</p>	<p><b>City of Wetaskiwin Orcas</b></p> <p>William Allaway-Brager</p> <p><b>Town of Claresholm Vikings</b></p> <p>Lydianna O’Neil</p> <p>Dallas Walker</p> <p><b>Town of Drayton Valley Lifesavers</b></p> <p>Abbygael Birnie</p> <p>Brooklyn Janzen</p> <p>Meadow Liversuch</p> <p>Yolanda Martens</p> <p>Nancy Morrow</p> <p>Acadia Musiyowski</p> <p>Jennifer Walker</p> <p><b>Town of Okotoks Sharks</b></p> <p>Andrew Moss</p> <p>Rhys Peddlesden</p> <p>Brandon Wink</p> <p>Nicholas Babott</p>
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## Lifesaving Sport Advancements

The Lifesaving Society's new Lifesaving Sport website was fully launched and available for use for this season. We look forward to collecting feedback from coaches to further enhance the website for future competitions. Check it out at:

<https://sport.lifesaving.org>



### Wylas

The Lifesaving Society invested in upgrading to the Wylas Swim Timing System making competition timing much more efficient, as it is easily transportable and wireless.

### Alberta and Northwest Territories Competition Manual

The Lifesaving Society released the updated Alberta and Northwest Territories Competition Manual.

## Lifesaving Sport Camps & Carnival

On August 20, 2022 the Lifesaving Society, led by Jonathan Kusyanto, hosted 2 Lifesaving Sport Camps at Mahogany Lake. The 17 participants in attendance gained fundamental surf and beach skills along with hands-on experience using Lifesaving Sport equipment. We would also like to give a special thank you to Heather Barr for volunteering.



# Public Education

Our public education and advocacy activities increase awareness of the risks associated with activities in, on, and around water and ice. The Lifesaving Society delivers Water Smart® education through our swim programs, promotional materials, social media, and various community activations. We strive to support Alberta and Northwest Territories residents in changing at-risk behaviors to eliminate drowning and water-related injury.

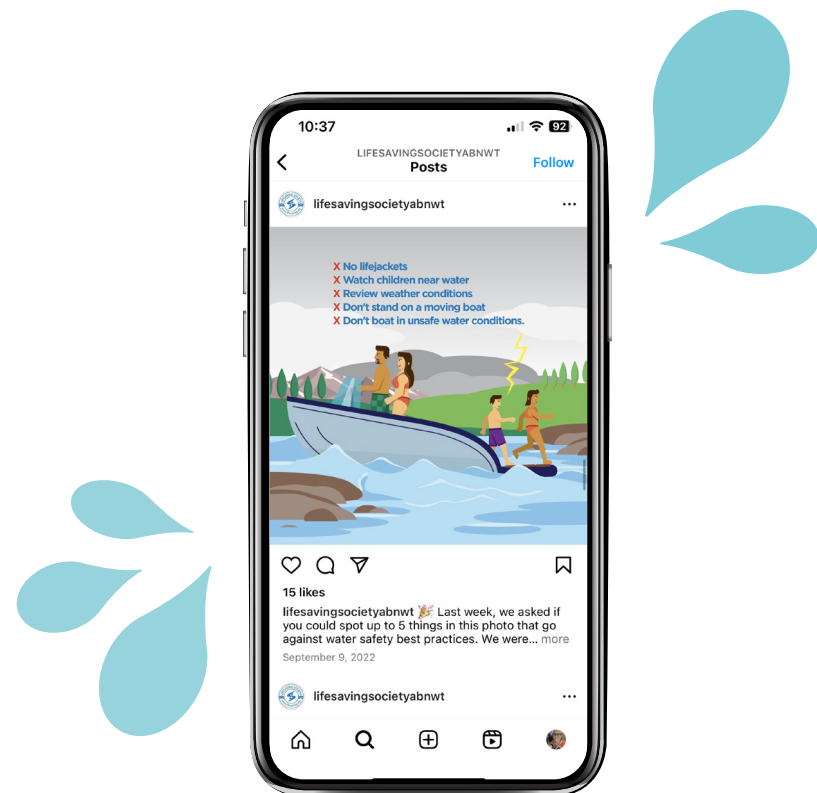


# Water Smart® Campaign



The Water Smart® Campaign is an annual campaign designed to raise awareness about drowning and water-related injury prevention. Informed by research and best practices, Water Smart® focuses on standardized messages for individuals most at risk, such as boaters or beach-goers with children. We deliver Water Smart® messages through our Swim for Life® program, media, and community action.

This year, the Society continued with two digital Water Smart® Campaigns. Over the summer months, we ran a Water Safety Contest to foster engagement with members of the public and the Lifesaving Society's mandate. In the winter, we ran a 'Do One Thing' campaign to align with the World Health Organization's theme for World Drowning Prevention Day.



# Lifejacket Loaner Stations

The Lifesaving Society collaborated with partners to provide the Lifejacket Loaner Station program at 6 sites including 6 in the Northwest Territories. Water Smart® rack cards were also provided at these locations as an additional resource for loaner station users. The Society would like to thank our affiliates, Alberta Parks, the Governments of Alberta and the Northwest Territories, and our volunteers for their continued support of this valuable program.



### Northwest Territories Locations

- Dettah, Yellowknives Dene First Nation
- Fred Henne Beach Territorial Park, Yellowknife
- Hay River Territorial Park
- Town of Fort Smith
- Ndilo, Yellowknives Dene First Nation
- Town of Inuvik

\*Pin locations are approximate.



# Lifejacket Loaner Stations



\*Pin locations are approximate.

# Lifejacket Loaner Stations

## Alberta Locations

- Aspen Beach Provincial Park
- Athabasca Regional Multiplex
- Auburn Bay, Calgary
- Bear Lake, Yellowhead County
- Beauvais Lake Provincial Park, Pincher Creek
- Beaver Lake Provincial Recreation Area, Lac La Biche
- Carson-Pegasus Provincial Park
- Canadian Forces Base Edmonton
- Chestermere Lake
- Cochrane Public Library
- Crimson Lake Provincial Park
- Cypress Hills Provincial Park
- Dillberry Provincial Park
- Fish Creek Provincial Park, Sikome Lake
- Ghost Reservoir Provincial Recreation Area
- Glenmore Reservoir Heritage Park
- Gregoire Lake Provincial Park
- Harbour Pool, Fort Saskatchewan
- Harmony Lake Owners Association
- Henderson Lake Park, Lethbridge
- Hilliards Bay Provincial Park, Slave Lake
- Kinbrook Island Provincial Park
- Lac La Biche County, MacArthur Place
- Lake Summerside, Edmonton
- Mahogany Lake Owners Association, Calgary
- Medicine Hat YMCA
- Moonshine Lake Provincial Park
- Nicholas Sheran Park, Lethbridge
- Pigeon Lake Provincial Park
- Pinehurst Lake Campground, Lakeland Provincial Recreation Area
- Quarry Lake, Canmore
- Saddletowne YMCA, Calgary
- Shiningbank Lake, Yellowhead County
- Sir Winston Churchill Provincial Park, Lac La Biche
- Touchwood Lake
- Town of Beaverlodge
- Town of Coronation
- Town of Grande Cache
- Wabamun Lake Provincial Park
- Wabasca Water World & Fitness Centre
- Young's Point Provincial Park, Sturgeon Lake



# National Drowning Prevention Week

# World Drowning Prevention Day



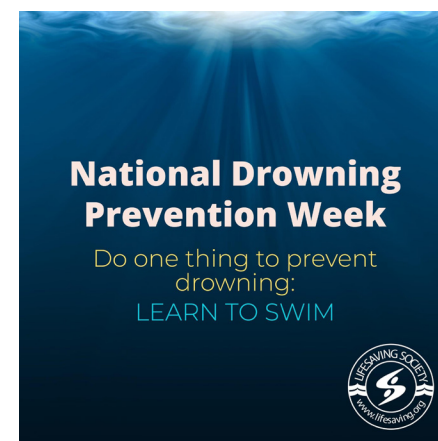
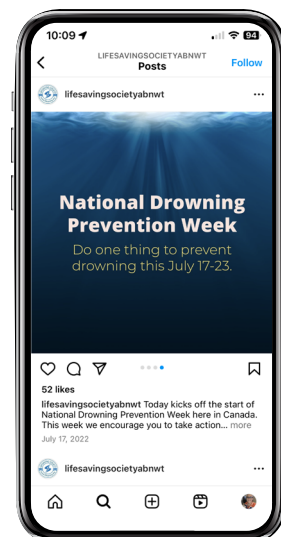
Statistically, the third week of July is the highest week for drownings in Canada. As such, the Lifesaving Society designates this week as National Drowning Prevention Week (NDPW) to focus community and media attention on the drowning problem and its prevention. Community Water Smart® educators may plan news releases, television and radio interviews, deliver public education, and host other events. During this week, the Society, with the support of our affiliate members, strives to increase awareness of the need for drowning prevention and remind people to make Water Smart® choices while in, on and around the water.

The Society prepared and coordinated a social media plan for Alberta and Northwest Territories that promoted daily themes and standardized messages that align with the Water Smart® Campaign messaging and the 20 Year Drowning Analysis of AB Infographic and Northwest Territories Water-Related Injury Analysis. The 2022 National Drowning Prevention Week continued to focus on key messages such as Learn to Swim, Wear a Lifejacket, Stay Sober, Get Trained, and Donate.

On April 28, 2021, The United Nations General Assembly declared July 25 World Drowning Prevention Day to raise awareness of the importance of drowning prevention and the need for urgent action as a collective to improve water safety and reduce preventable deaths and injury.

We hosted a flag raising ceremony at the Federal Building on July 25, 2022, with an address from Dr. Kathy Belton, Associate Director of the Injury Prevention Center, and Todd Carson, President of the Lifesaving Society, Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch. We were honored to have a panel of influential speakers, many with a personal connection to drowning:

- Her Honour, the Honourable Salma Lakhani, AOE, B.Sc., LL.D (hon), Lieutenant Governor of Alberta
- Christopher Mosely, RCMP Detachment Commander Sargent
- Clayton Tiedemann, EPCR Vice President
- Tiffany Edgecomb, City of Edmonton Deputy Fire Chief



On July 25 we went blue across our social media platforms in support of World Drowning Prevention Day. We also worked with municipalities across Alberta, increasing participation in Going Blue for World Drowning Prevention Day. The following landmarks were lit blue in recognition of this significant day:

- High Level Bridge, Edmonton
- Calgary Tower
- Lethbridge City Hall

# Research & Advocacy

Our work in research and advocacy maintains awareness of the drowning problem as it relates to Alberta and the Northwest Territories. By ensuring that relevant, recent data is available to our partners, affiliates, members, and the public we continue to raise awareness around drowning and water related injuries, and support informed decisions for drowning prevention. This information is further shared through our participation in the recreation community, and through special events that raise awareness of our drowning prevention mandate.



# Research & Advocacy

## Research

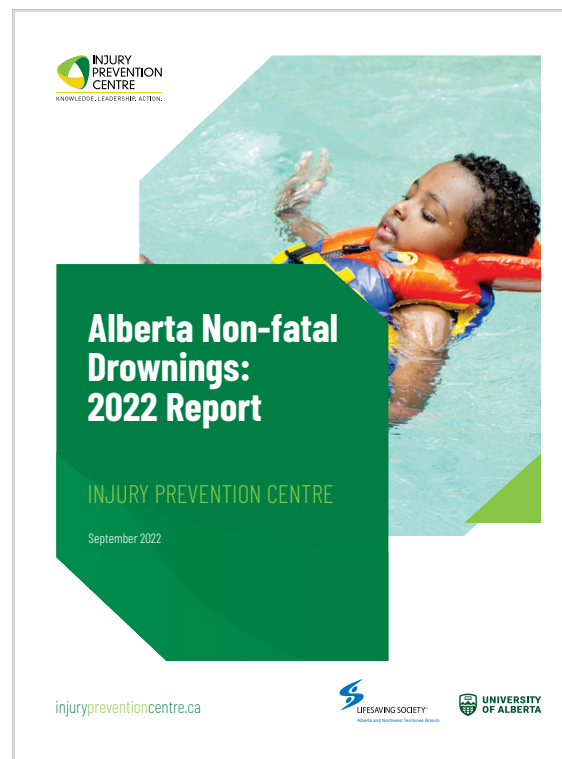
The Lifesaving Society researches and reports provincial, national, and international drownings and preventable water-related deaths. Our drowning research provides a comprehensive fact base on drowning to guide the Society and other organizations in developing effective drowning prevention solutions. Our ongoing research and analysis supports the Society's evidence-based water rescue training and drowning prevention education.

The information developed for the annual drowning reports provides some of the most comprehensive and publicly accessible information on drownings within Canada.

This year, the Society collaborated with the University of Alberta's Injury Prevention Centre to publish the following drowning reports:

- 20 Year Drowning Analysis of AB - Infographic
- Northwest Territories Water-Related Injury Analysis
- 2022 Alberta Non-Fatal Drownings Report

The Society continued to face obstacles in collecting drowning data from Medical Examiner and Coroner Offices. We will continue to advocate for access to this high-quality data in future years.



## Advocacy

### Partnerships and Presentations

The Lifesaving Society staff and leadership volunteers offered various presentations and attended meetings to support our humanitarian mission to prevent drowning and water-related injury with the following partners:

- Alberta Association of Aquatic Professionals
- Alberta Association of Recreation Facility Personnel
- Alberta Health Services
- Alberta Parks and Recreation Association
- Edmonton Aboriginal Senior's Centre
- Government of Northwest Territories

## Events

### Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal

The Lifesaving Society was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II but was honoured to carry on Her memory in recognizing individuals who have dedicated their lives to voluntary service.

On January 25, 2023 the Lifesaving Society Alberta & Northwest Territories held a ceremony celebrating recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal. This award was created to honour the Queen and her lifelong service to Canada, and Albertans who, like Her Majesty, have devoted their lives to the betterment of Alberta. Congratulations to the following recipients:

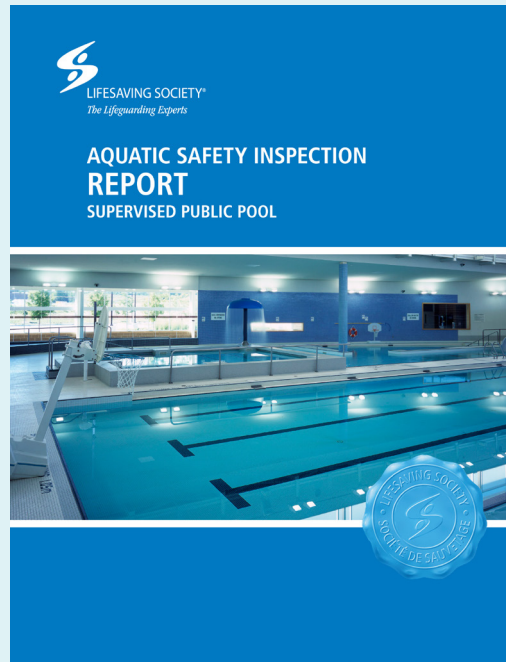
- Kathy Belton
- Chris Burrows
- Sean Curran
- Desiree Janzen
- Jonathan Kusyanto
- Cameron Mitchell
- Cory Rasmuson
- Heather Rasmuson
- Anthony Seto
- Bogusz Wolski

# Safety

Our Aquatic Safety Management Services contribute to our mission by establishing the safety standards for aquatic environments and providing the Society's position on trending topics related to aquatic safety. Our recommendations, positions, and standards assist pool owners and agents in identifying risk and choosing potential strategies to reduce drowning and water-related injuries.



# Safety Management Services



## Comprehensive Safety Audits

Aquatic Safety Audits are one of our core safety management services. We assess safety in aquatic facilities and offer recommendations for safety enhancement with the goal of reducing drowning and aquatic-related injuries. Owners or agents are encouraged to have an Aquatic Safety Audit completed at their facility every 5 years.

## Topical Audits

Managing a facility can come with a variety of challenges. Concerns may arise about specific problems or facility areas, operational or facility changes may be required, or new facilities may need to be developed. For all these cases, our specific issue topical audits can be the critical step towards a solution. Topical audits evaluate an issue(s) and provide recommendations to enhance staff and public safety. Common specific issue topical audits include:

- Lifeguard Positioning Analysis
- Lighting Analysis
- Aquatic Facility Design Consultation
- Signage Consultation
- Safety and Supervision Review
- Amenity Analysis

## In-Services

Aquatic In-service Training Sessions are one of the safety management and program support services offered by the Lifesaving Society. In-service training is critical in preparing aquatic staff for their safety management role, and the Society has the expertise in developing, accrediting, implementing, and facilitating professional programs and services to meet community and public safety needs.

In-service packages available:

- Scanning and Recognition
- Rescue Response
- Instructor Excellence
- Lifesaving Sport Development (JLC)

## Topical In-Services

In addition to our in-service options, the Society offers customizable topical in-service training to meet a facility's unique needs. Our topical in-services have a variety of delivery methods and cover a wide range of topics. They can also be delivered separately or combined with one of our available in-service options.

In 2022-2023 the Lifesaving Society completed:

- Comprehensive Safety Audits – 2
- Lifeguard Positioning Analysis – 1
- Aquatic Amenity Analysis – 0
- Signage Consultations – 3
- Aquatic Facility Design Consultations – 0

# Member Services

Member Services develops and maintains the corporate functions, systems, and infrastructure required to support and service the Society's members.



## Affiliates

The Society hosted 4 Affiliate Webinars in November 2022. 50 Affiliate Delivery Partners across Alberta and the Northwest Territories participated in these webinars, engaging with both the Lifesaving Society and each other. Affiliates received updates on staffing, service standards, new products, and the swim transition.

A blue graphic with rounded corners. At the top is the Lifesaving Society logo, which consists of a stylized 'S' and the text 'LIFESAVING SOCIETY® The Lifeguarding Experts'. Below the logo, the word 'AFFILIATE' is written in a white, bold, sans-serif font. Underneath that, the number '215' is written in a very large, white, bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, a white rounded rectangle contains the text 'DELIVERY PARTNERS!' in a blue, bold, sans-serif font.

## Member Services



### Investiture

This year's Lifesaving Society Investiture of Lifesaving Honours was hosted by Her Honour, the Honourable Salma Lakhani, AOE B.Sc., LLD (Hon) at Government House on October 14, 2022.

#### Rescue Commendation Certificate:

- Reef Caulder
- Nathan Grimble
- Shannon Koch
- Airin Kostiuik
- Sean Swart

#### Service Commendation:

- Andrea Barrett
- Dr. Kathy Belton
- Kerry Brager
- Todd Carson
- Kerry Shakura
- Connor Shaw

#### Service Medal:

- Dr. Anthony Seto
- Bar to Service Cross:
- Norman Baldry
- Todd Reade



## Governance

### Board of Directors

The Lifesaving Society Alberta and Northwest Territories is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors and appointed representatives. Thank you to Bo Wolski, Chris Burrows, Doug Costigan, Dr. Kathy Belton, Nicholas Wiggins, Sean Curran, and Todd Carson for your continued support and dedication to Society. We also thank Barbara Costache who represented Alberta and the Northwest Territories on the Lifesaving Society Canada Board of Directors.

### Annual General Meeting and Branch Recognition Awards

The 2022 Annual General Meeting was held on June 17 in Calgary at the Brookfield Residential YMCA at Seton. This was the first time since 2019 that the AGM could be held in person. 60 members attended to reconnect and participate in the vote for our new Board of Directors. It was an honour to have our affiliates present to receive their recognition awards, as well as many athletes to receive their awards for breaking records during the sport season.

### National Membership

We continued to maintain our membership in the Royal Lifesaving Society Canada, a national organization comprised of 10 member branches representing each province and territory. The Lifesaving Society Canada is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors nominated by the provincial and territorial member branches. It maintains five national commissions and committees (Aquatic Safety Standards, International Relations, Lifesaving Sport, and Training Programs), and an additional management team committee comprised of a senior staff from each of the 10 member branches.

## Social Media



### Facebook

Posts: 78  
Likes: 5,860  
Followers: 1,992 (↑419)  
Reach: 480,289



### Instagram

Posts: 90  
Likes: 1,542  
Followers: 1,340 (↑290)  
Reach: 30,796



### YouTube

Subscribers: 147  
Views: 18,263



### Twitter

Followers: 1,307

# Branch Recognition Awards

The Society recognizes affiliate members who deliver the Society's training programs and promote Water Smart® public education in support of the Society's drowning prevention mission.

## INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

### Jack Boddington Award

The Jack Boddington Award recognizes one or more deserving individuals who have contributed to the success of the Branch in any given year. To be eligible for this award, the recipient must be an active volunteer.

#### 2022 Recipient

Tany Rangen

## AFFILIATE RECOGNITION AWARDS

### Dr. Edward Montgomery Education Institute Recognition Award

Awarded to the University, College or Technical Institute affiliate delivery partner with the largest Lifesaving Program.

#### Class 7 [Largest program overall]

1. MacEwan University (25395)
2. University of Alberta (17465)
3. Mount Royal University (10115)

#### Class 7 A [Student enrollment of less than 15,000]

1. Mount Royal University (10115)
2. University of Lethbridge (4775)
3. Burman University (1495)

### Paul (Skip) Hayden Canadian Swim Patrol Recognition Award

Awarded to affiliate delivery partner with the largest Canadian Swim Patrol program.

#### Class 12 [Largest program overall]

1. City of Calgary (386)
2. City of St. Albert (335)
3. YMCA of Northern Alberta (312)

#### Class 12 A [Community less than 100,000]

1. St. Albert (335)
2. Town of Okotoks (104)
3. University of Lethbridge (12)

#### Class 12 B [Community less than 15,000]

1. City of Lacombe (80)
2. Town of Hinton (18)
3. Town of Canmore (18)

#### Class 12 C [Community less than 7,500]

1. Town of Claresholm (62)
2. Town of Nanton (48)
3. Town of Rocky Mountain House (34)

#### Class 12 D [Operating a single indoor pool]

1. Town of Okotoks (104)
2. Westside Regional Recreation Society (88)
3. City of Lacombe (80)

#### Class 12 E [Operating an outdoor pool]

1. Town of Nanton (48)
2. Town of Castor (24)
3. Town of Fort Macleod (10)

### Governor Bruce Hogle Lifesaving Program Recognition Award

Awarded to the affiliate delivery partner with the largest Lifesaving program.

#### Class 1 [Largest program overall]

1. City of Calgary (60420)
2. City of Edmonton (54540)
3. Calgary YMCA (23265)

#### Class 2 [Community less than 100,000]

1. Strathcona County (20600)
2. City of Airdrie (11365)
3. City of St. Albert (8505)

#### Class 3 [Community less than 15,000]

1. City of Lacombe (5315)
2. Town of High River (4315)
3. Town of Canmore (4170)

#### Class 4 [Community less than 7,500]

1. Town of Devon (2465)
2. Town of Peace River (2105)
3. Town of Drayton Valley (1940)

#### Class 5 [Operating a YMCA]

1. Calgary YMCA (23265)
2. YMCA - Northern Alberta (11340)
3. Medicine Hat YMCA (1950)

#### Class 6 [Operating an outdoor pool]

1. Town of Devon (2890)
2. Town of Fox Creek (1045)
3. Town of Redcliff (965)

#### Class 8 [Operating a one indoor pool]

1. MNP Community and Sport Centre (18945)
2. West Edmonton Mall (10135)
3. Calgary Jewish Centre (9455)

#### Class 9 [Operating a camp or waterfront]

1. Camp Kuriakos (285)
2. Gull Lake Centre (150)
3. Camp Kiwanis' (110)

#### Class 10 [Individual or associate delivery partner]

1. Sean Nickerson - Waterman 5 (775)
2. Christina Vitalis (750)
3. Jane Chapman (675)

### BOAT Pleasure Craft Operator Competency Recognition Award

Awarded to the affiliate delivery partner with the largest BOAT program.

#### Class 13 [Largest program overall]

1. Samantha Wulff (615)
2. Richard Klem (130)
3. Jean Marc Michaud (10)

#### Class 14 [Individual affiliate delivery partner, offering only the BOAT program, with the largest amount of BOAT tests]

1. Samantha Wulff (615)
2. Richard Klem (130)
3. Jean Marc Michaud (10)

## Terry Cavanagh Junior Lifeguard Club Recognition Award

Awarded to affiliate delivery partner with the largest Junior Lifeguard program

### Class 11 [Largest program overall]

1. City of Calgary (371)
2. City of Lacombe (165)
3. YMCA Calgary (107)

### Class 11 A [Community less than 100,000]

1. Tri Leisure Centre (88)
2. Town of Okotoks (50)
3. Town of Camrose (47)

### Class 11 B [Community less than 15,000]

1. City of Lacombe (165)
2. City of Wetaskiwin (82)
3. Town of Hinton (37)

### Class 11 C [Community less than 7,500]

1. Town of Claresholm (69)
2. Town of Pincher Creek (56)
3. Municipality of Jasper (44)

### Class 11 D [Operating a single indoor pool]

1. City of Lacombe (165)
2. Tri Leisure Centre (88)
3. MNP Community and Sports Centre (85)

### Class 11 E [Operating an outdoor pool]

1. Town of Castor (14)

## Anne Resek Swim for Life Recognition Award

Awarded to the affiliate delivery partner with the largest Swim for Life program.

### Class 16 [Largest program overall]

1. City of Calgary (7140)
2. Town of Okotoks (5129)
3. City of St. Albert (3714)

### Class 16 A [Community less than 100,000]

1. Town of Okotoks (5129)
2. City of St. Albert (3714)
3. YMCA Lethbridge (792)

### Class 16 B [Community less than 15,000]

1. Town of Edson (375)
2. Town of Hinton (145)
3. City of Wetaskiwin (30)

### Class 16 C [Community less than 7,500]

1. Town of Claresholm (885)
2. Town of Rocky Mountain House (661)
3. Town of Nanton (458)

### Class 16 D [Operating a single indoor pool]

1. Town of Okotoks (5129)
2. MNP Community and Sport Centre (1208)
3. Town of Claresholm (885)

### Class 16 E [Operating an outdoor pool]

1. Town of Nanton (458)
2. Town of Fort Macleod (256)
3. Town of Coronation (219)

## William (Bill) Patton First Aid Recognition Award

Awarded to the affiliate delivery partner with the largest Lifesaving First Aid program.

### Class 17 [Largest program overall]

1. City of Calgary (25580)
2. City of Edmonton (21805)
3. MacEwan University (12405)

### Class 17 A [Community less than 100,000]

1. County of Strathcona (6945)
2. City of St. Albert (4480)
3. City of Airdrie (3075)

### Class 17 B [Community less than 15,000]

1. City of Lacombe (2610)
2. Town of Highriver (1785)
3. Town of Canmore (1430)

### Class 17 C [Community less than 7,500]

1. Town of Devon (1130)
2. Municipality of Jasper (995)
3. Town of Peace River (930)

### Class 17 D [Operating a single facility]

1. MNP Community and Sport Centre (5650)
2. West Edmonton Mall (4350)
3. Westside Regional Recreation Facility (2280)

### Class 17 E [Operating an outdoor pool]

1. Town of Devon (980)
2. Town of Fox Creek (510)
3. Town of Hanna (165)

### Class 18

#### [Individual or associate affiliate delivery partner]

1. Hope Mission (1010)
2. Christina Vitalis (750)
3. Jane Chapman (675)

## Marlin Moore National Lifeguard Recognition Award

Awarded to the affiliate delivery partner with the largest National Lifeguard program.

### Class 19 [Largest program overall]

1. City of Calgary (11395)
2. Calgary YMCA (7850)
3. City of Edmonton (7205)

### Class 19 A [Community less than 100,000]

1. County of Strathcona (4410)
2. City of Medicine Hat (3050)
3. City of Airdrie (2160)

### Class 19 B [Community less than 15,000]

1. City of Lacombe (1655)
2. Town of Canmore (1200)
3. Town of Taber (1190)

### Class 19 C [Community less than 7,500]

1. Town of Peace River (860)
2. Town of Stettler (655)
3. Town of Claresholm (650)

### Class 19 D [Operating one indoor pool]

1. MNP Community and Sport Centre (4160)
2. West Edmonton Mall (3770)
3. Calgary Jewish Center (2275)

### Class 19 E [Operating an outdoor pool]

1. Town of Devon (515)
2. Town of Provost (440)
3. Town of Redcliff (240)

## Jordan Neave Swim to Survive Recognition Award

Awarded to the affiliate delivery partner with the largest Swim to Survive program.

### Class 20 [Largest program overall]

1. City of Calgary (451)
2. Rocky Mountain House (441)
3. Okotoks (312)

### Class 20 A [Community less than 100,000]

1. Town of Okotoks (312)
2. YMCA Lethbridge (25)
3. City of Fort Saskatchewan (12)

### Class 20 B [Community less than 15,000]

1. City of Lacombe (308)
2. City of Wetaskiwin (76)
3. Town of Olds (15)

### Class 20 C [Community less than 7,500]

1. Town of Rocky Mountain House (441)
2. Town of Hay River (104)
3. Town of Claresholm (83)

### Class 20 D [Operating one indoor pool]

1. Town of Rocky Mountain House (441)
2. Town of Okotoks (312)
3. City of Lacombe (9308)

### Class 20 E [Operating an outdoor pool]

No applicable affiliate delivery partner.



Visit [LifeSaving.org](https://www.lifesaving.org) for detailed information on Lifesaving Society recognition awards.

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The Lifesaving Society is Canada's lifeguarding expert. The Society works to prevent drowning and water-related injury through its training programs, Water Smart® public education initiatives, water-incident research, aquatic safety management services, and lifesaving sport.

Annually, well over 1,200,000 Canadians participate in the Society's swimming, lifesaving, lifeguard, and leadership training programs. The Society sets the standard for aquatic safety in Canada and certifies Canada's National Lifeguards.

The Society is an independent, charitable organization educating Canadian lifesavers since the first Lifesaving Society Bronze Medallion Award was earned in 1896.

The Society represents Canada internationally as an active member of the Royal Life Saving Society and the International Life Saving Federation. The Society is the Canadian governing body for lifesaving sport - a sport recognized by the International Olympic Committee and the Commonwealth Games Federation.

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Publications of the Lifesaving Society are available from any Branch office. Inquiries from outside Canada should be directed to the National Office.

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LIFESAVING SOCIETY®

*The Lifeguarding Experts*

Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch

