

AOA Executive Director's Report - 2020 Annual General Meeting

Submitted by Bogi Gyorfı on April 21, 2020

Overview

This is the last year of the approved the 2018-20 Strategic Plan delivery and we can say that we have successfully progressed will all of our main priorities.

The focus was on quality sport delivery at grassroots level and to improve our internal procedures, including communication and policy manual updates.

The achieved the 2019 goals, which included the following:

- Outreach in new Zones including program development
- Collaboration with other organizations to promote orienteering within multi-sport programs and building grassroots involvement
- Improvement of communications with clubs and members
- Continued development of coaches, officials and mappers

To all our volunteers, board members, coaches, officials, mappers and staff– thank you for your continued support of orienteering. Your dedication, passion and many hours of time spent to organize events make it possible for our sport to be successful in providing a positive outdoor sport experience for all.

Yearly reports

2019 Roadmap:

The detailed report of the achieved goals can be found in the **2019 Roadmap** which is available on our website <https://www.orienteeringalberta.ca/agm-meetings.html>

2020 Roadmap:

This detailed plan outlines goal setting for this year can be found here:

https://www.orienteeringalberta.ca/uploads/1/0/2/2/102233682/roadmap_2020-q1_updates.pdf

Unfortunately, the first (and most likely the second) quarter programs and events are majorly affected by the situation with the Corvid 19 pandemic and restrictions.

Funding

1. Alberta Sport Connection – Provincial Association Development Grant

We haven't got the confirmation about our annual funding contract with the AB government which use to be administered by the Alberta Sport Connection (ASC). ASC has been disbanded and its activities incorporated into the ministry of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women under Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation (SPAR).

The Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Branch is being re-organized into three primary units comprised of:

- SPAR Partnerships led by Tim Bjornson,
- Multi-Sport and Games (includes Alberta Games and High-Performance Sport) led by Don Wilson
- SPAR Policy and Strategy led by Brad Babiak

In 2019 and 2020 we continued working with our very supportive ASC sport consultants and achieved to meet all our requirements and received positive feedback and endorsement of our work.

- *Need to track activities and members in additional Zones.*
- *Need to improve our programming in additional Zones. (Min 4 Zones)*
- *Need to improve AOA financial diversity*
- *Need to improve communications with members*
- *Need to implement new Sport Policies: Concussion/ Volunteer screening / Safe sport policies*

As of now unfortunately the provincial funding budget have not been released and we do not have any information on the timeline either.

2. Casino

AOA casino scheduled for March 17-18, 2020 in Edmonton. It was a challenging time because the restrictions just started to take in place. The first casino date was opened than closed within an hour and second day cancelled. We were informed that we will be included in the first quarter funding distribution. It is a great news however we expect the amount be about 15% less than usual. Many thank for the EIOC club members and Garry Atchison for his outstanding support to make the event happen.

Other Grants:

The remaining amount (\$2500) of the **Recreation and Physical Activity Project - Micro Grant Program 2019/2020 is extended to until Nov 2020.**

The main goal of this project is to provide affordable, inclusive, developmentally appropriate programming for school aged children that meets a need for alternative, outdoor, multi-sport programming in rural Alberta communities. This addresses our goal of bringing more programming to Zones outside Calgary & Edmonton. This grant enabled AOA to deliver programming to Red Deer and Rocky Mountain House, as well as initial mapping in Grande Prairie. For the fall we are hoping to deliver the programming in GP.

We have applied for the Red Deer Community Enhancement grant and the Major Events support grant for WCOC but unfortunately both grants are on hold for now due to pandemic.

CEWS subsidy:

We are in the process of applying for the Canadian Emergency Wage Subsidy which would help covering the loss of programming income.

2019 Highlights

2019 AGM report can be found here: <https://www.orienteingalberta.ca/agm-meetings.html>

2020 Highlights

The unique situation changing our AGM for the spring brings us to have the first quarter report for 2020. Much work was done to prepare for the spring programs and summer events which are now canceled due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Detailed report on the strategic portfolios can be found here:

Sport Delivery:

- Both Clubs organized O100 officials' courses and EOOO completed a coaching course
- Spring programs, outreach programs and coaching courses all had to be cancelled. We will reschedule them as things get back to normal.
- WCOC registration were set up and permits were obtained and now looking for new dates for 2021
- We are still hoping that we will be able to run some smaller events at the end of summer and help EOOO to organize the Alberta Orienteering Championships (AOC) in September near Edmonton.
- Mapping projects will move forward as identified. EOOO started a new map near Bruderheim FWOC will complete the Barrier Lake- Lust creek map and a new map will be created for next year event in Crowsnest.
- New on-line programs were launched on our website which created a good opportunity to showcase orienteering and opportunities to be active outside in a safe way.
- Neighborhood adventure: <https://www.orienteingalberta.ca/neighbourhood-adventure.html>
- Self-guided park adventure: <https://www.orienteingalberta.ca/park-adventure.html>
- AOA will continue working promoting collaboration for events and other projects with the clubs, Orienteering Canada and other sport partners.

Organizational capacity

- High priority to meet Alberta Government requirements for implementing policies: Safe Sport framework and other policies
- AOA Board finished a full policy review: updated all of the old policies and created the necessary policies to be compliant with requirements. Thanks for Kitty Jones and David Campden and all the AOA board members to supporting this very important and extensive work.
- All of the AOA policies can be found here: <https://www.orienteingalberta.ca/aoa-policies--grants.html>
- Safe Sport framework can be found here: <https://www.orienteingalberta.ca/safe-sport-framework.html>
- AOA need to share it with the clubs and ask for identifying first steps to complete a policy review for their organization.
- Collaboration project to share information and resources and support the orienteering community remains a high priority for AOA. This year we were involved with the OC – National Team selection policy review. Many meetings, comprehensive assessment and lots of work was done to create new National Team selection policies for the international events. AOA will continue working with OC Officials committee and initiated steps to progress with coaching certifications.

Communication and sport awareness

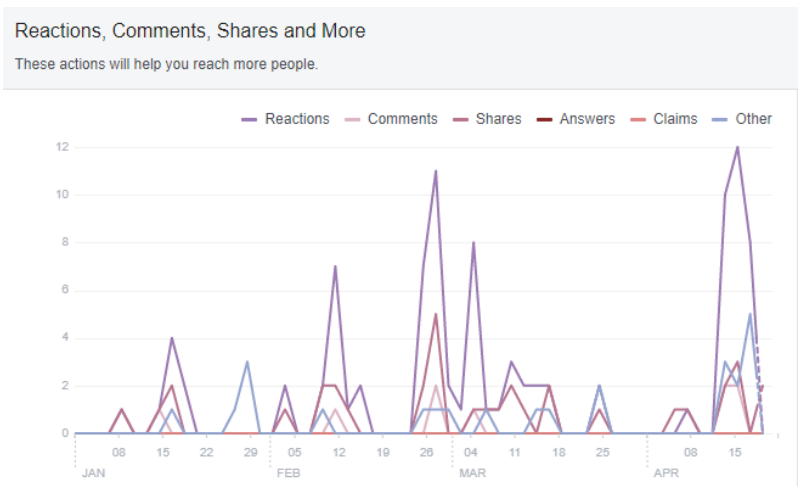
- The spring programs advertisement was launched which were going well before they had to be cancelled.
- Newsletters were sent out for officials and membership.
- With the new online programs, the social media reach was expanded, and the website views have a significant growth. (8000 people reached on social media with our most popular post). Almost 2000 unique visits on our website in the first Quarter.

Check it out here: <https://www.orienteingalberta.ca/neighbourhood-adventure...>
#AOAMap... See More



7,801 People Reached **502** Engagements [Boost Post](#)

You and 11 others 24 Shares



- Website views:

- Social Media reach:
Most popular Facebook post: almost 8000 views

2020 Membership numbers

- Membership numbers for 2020 are very low due to early season date and because of all the programs and events cancellations happening due to pandemic.
- FWOC regular member as of April 20, is 49 individuals with **39 Voting** members for the AOA AGM
- EIOC regular members as of April 20, is 204 individuals with **139 Voting** members for the AOA AGM
- **Total Voting members as of April 26, 2020 is :178 individuals**
- **AOA AGM quorum is 5% of voting members: 9 individuals**

AOA Membership and Participation numbers as of 2019

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
FWOC membership	219	842	978	1264	1022	1098
EOOC membership	78	359	481	495	433	443
AOA Program member				45	192	266
Member for a Day EOOC	515	476	326	204	352	269
Member for a Day FWOC				29	36	75
School FWOC				332	4020	2900
School EOOC				2056	3083	4947
School AOA				131	1271	1970
Total Participants	816	1684	1793	4556	10409	11968

