

AOA Executive Director's Report - 2026 Annual General Meeting

Submitted by Bogi Gyorfi

2025 Overview

In 2025, the Alberta Orienteering Association made significant progress on its 2024–2027 Strategic Plan, offering inclusive programs, hosting major events, and achieving record levels of participation across the province. We recorded over 25,000 participations through club activities, outreach, and school programs, supported by funding from SPAR, the Every Kid Can Play grant, casino proceeds, and program revenues. Notable highlights included EOOO hosting the Alberta Championships and the collaboration with FWOC for the Canadian Orienteering Festival 2025, which featured nine high-level races, including world-ranking events and extensive officials' mentoring, as well as support for the national training camp and more social and fun activities. We also expanded the "Try It" and school programs in various communities and updated maps and permanent courses. Although regular club membership saw a slight decline, overall participation reached record levels, largely due to the Every Kid Can Play grant, which contributed \$57,500 over two years. With 951 regular members and a total of 25,057 participants, along with an expanding social media presence, 2025 demonstrated the strength of our volunteer-driven community and our partnerships with FWOC, EOOO and provincial supporters especially from Red Deer. Our next key goal is to transform this participation growth into sustained membership growth across our clubs. A big thank you to our dedicated volunteers, clubs (FWOC and EOOO), and supporters for another impactful year!

Annual Reports and Plans

The AOA Board of Directors met in December 2025 and completed our annual strategic planning session in Red Deer, evaluating 2025 outcomes and outlining priorities for 2026 and beyond. This aligned with the Government of Alberta's SPAR accountability requirements, incorporating club feedback from FWOC and EOOO to refine our goals.

New Strategic Plan (2024-26): Progressed well, with key achievements in sport awareness and Government of Alberta Every Kid Can Play grant program success.

- **2025 Roadmap:** Fully executed, including evaluations and adaptations based on year-end reflections.

Funding

AOA's finances were stable in 2025, bolstered by Alberta Government SPAR grants, EKCP grant, AGLC Casino funds, and program revenues. These enabled program sustainability and growth in outreach.

- **SPAR - AB Government Provincial Association Development Grant (\$41,800):** Received at consistent levels by meeting Funding and Accountability Framework (amount aligned with prior year).
- **Casino:** Funds from the 2024 event received in February 2025(**\$79,762**); next casino planned for August 11-12, 2026 in Calgary.
- **Other Grants:**
 - **Every Kid Can Play (EKCP) Grant (\$27,500):** Year 2 successfully wrapped up, supporting over 25,000 participations across AOA and clubs, funding youth programs in multiple locations.
- **Other Revenue (\$11,500)** Outreach program income reinvested into expansions and outreach events support.

2025 Activities and Highlights

- **Canadian Orienteering Festival 2025:** Hosted successfully with completed with major mapping funding (Beaver Lake, Blackfoot, Fort Saskatchewan); The 2025 Western Canadian Orienteering Championships and Canadian Championships offered 9 high level competition with a 2 world ranking event and additional social and fun activities extended over 9 day of orienteering in Alberta. The events were highly successful, with international level competitions, and national training camp We received a very positive participant feedback thanks to the outstanding volunteer contributions. Important part of the COF was not only the events but including opportunities for multiple officials mentoring and gaining O300 experience. However, organizing as part of the Canadian Orienteering Festival increased communication and budgeting complexity, and the event ran a notable financial deficit largely due to the national levy structure and mapping costs, prompting recommendations for better project management tools, clearer event charters, and revised Orienteering Canada financial support and levy practices. Huge thank you for the event directors (Marsha Fehr, Geraint Edmonds, Mary-Lou Hogg and Dorothy Penner) and the amazing course planners, controllers and many more volunteer roles for the hundreds of hours of work.
- **Training Camp:** Focused on supporting the Sass Peepre National Camp in conjunction with COC's. with ED serving as support staff /coach; promoted junior engagement.
- **Alberta Championships (AOC):** Organized by EOOOC with AOA BBQ; successful event with usual in province participation (Middel and Long 120 participation)

- **AOA Outreach & “Try It” Programs:** AOA delivered 14 “Try It” sessions (Calgary 5, Red Deer 8, Airdrie 1). Outreach in Red Deer ongoing with 8 community events and 3 school programs; Airdrie and other areas supported with the annual youth program. No Crowsnest Pass program due to lack of interest and resources. Permanent courses updated in outreach locations. Collaborated with Special Olympics via Edmonton Club/Dorothy, funded by EKCP.
- **AOA School Programs :** Served students across 11 Calgary high schools, 3 Airdrie outreach schools, 3 Red Deer schools, and 1 Sylvan Lake school (spring and fall sessions) over 3300 participation. The EKCP grant supported many free school programs.
- **Coaching & Officials:** Supported NCCP course organized for Manitoba to establish coaching training for their needs. ED offered facilitation and the trip was funded by Manitoba. The planned High School NCCP course training initiative did not proceed due to time and cost constraints First aid reimbursements provided through EKCP for program coaches. FWOOC ran O100 course in Calgary. COF preparation supported O200/O300 training, mentorship for certifications, and annual updates to officials
- **Mapping:** Completed major projects for COF 2025 over 2 years (Beaver Lake, Blackfoot, Fort Saskatchewan) Many outreach updates with EKCP grant. Mapper’s clinic run by Jeff Teutsch in Conjunction with he Fort Saskatchewan map. AOA maintained mapping equipment and OCAD licenses.
- **Collaboration / Other Achievements:** Updated permanent courses and website. Initiated new permanent course with Red Deer with Sport Hall of Fame display/activity). Collaborated with clubs on capacity building, including FWOOC hiring committee and EOOOC financial support for outreach. Promotional video created via Sports Calgary, free collaboration work, and Edmonton local support . Air quality monitors acquired for clubs and events to use in conjunction with the new Air Quality Policy
- **Policy reviews and Alberta Safe Sport Complaint Mechanism:** AOA has recently updated many of its sport policies to align with current national and provincial standards. The new Air Quality policy and webpage has been updated to help with guidance for air quality and orienteering events: [Navigating Air Quality Risks](#). We are also pleased to announce the implementation of the Alberta Safe Sport Complaint Mechanism (ABSSCM) and a third-party independent mechanism to help keep sport

in our province safe for everyone. To learn more about our Safe Sport framework and related policies, please visit [the Safe Sport page on the AOA website](#).

- **Athletes' success:** Albertans participated actively in local, national, and international events, including COF. Congratulations to Team Canada athletes and all who represented Alberta (Robyn Astridge, Gavan Winn, Grace Mahoney). Many posts celebrated performances on social media.
- **Volunteer Recognition:** Celebrated at the Red Deer appreciation event. Volunteer pictures initiative successfully organized and a fund day with a new map.
- **AOA Website:** new design and many updates completed with events, policies, and resources.

AOA Social Media

- **Facebook:** Active with posts on programs, athlete successes, and videos.
- **Instagram:** Increased presence with event highlights
- **Find communication SM engagement** stats at the end of the report

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2025

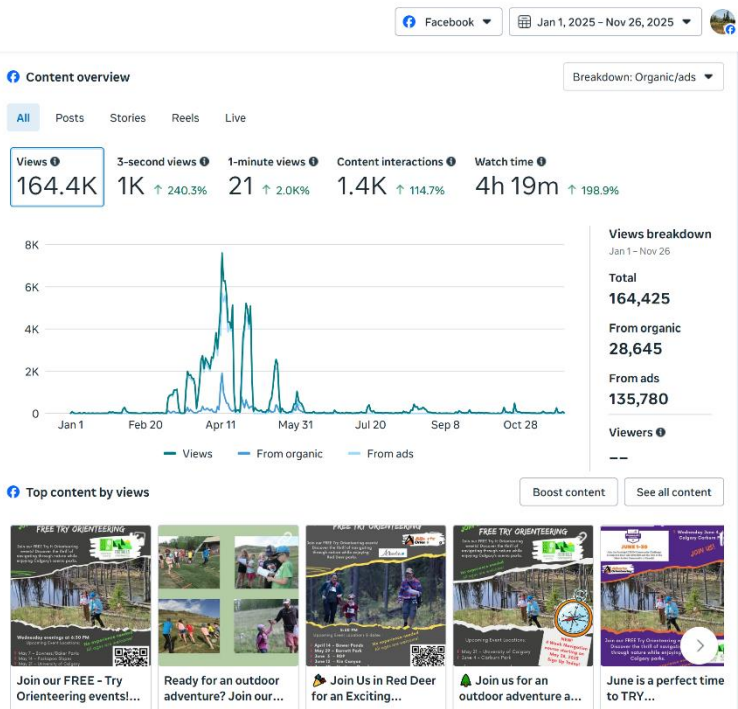
AOA Members 2025	Junior	Adults	Day members	Participation numbers (schools, groups, partnerships)
FWOC	320	235	322	7567
EOOC	87	207	415	14183
AOA	49	40	315	3307
Total Alberta	456	482	1052	25057
Honorary Members	13			
Total Regular Members	951			
Total Participants	25057			

Annual comparison	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
FWOC membership	869	766	651	625	555
EOOC membership	386	339	311	238	294
AOA Outreach membership	118	125	114	112	89
FWOC Day member		192	395	374	322
EOOC Day member		183	135	744	415
AOA Day member	270	259	381	312	315
Other Participants/Schools FWOC	1065	0	3000	4504	7567
Other Participants/Schools EOOC	3338	11881	8496	12085	14183
Other Participants/Schools AOA	520	1421	1739	2640	3307
Honorary members	12	13	13	13	13
Total Participants	6566	15178	15234	21646	25057
Regular members	1373	1230	1088	987	951

AOA Website 2025:



Facebook 2025



Instagram 2025

