



Fall 2007

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Apollo Friends in Sports

www.apollocalgary.com

Come Out and Play with us!

Message from the President

Don Buckley, President

I moved to Calgary with CP Railway from Minneapolis in June 1996. Now just over 11 years later, CP will be moving me back to Minneapolis in September.

In the 11 years I have been here, I have seen Calgary grow and change and maybe more importantly I have seen our community in Calgary grow and evolve. When I first came to Calgary, I recall the Pride festivities were held in a small park behind city hall so "no one would know where we were".

Having come from a city that already had partner benefits in place for gay & lesbian couples in 1996, this was rather interesting & different. Now the Pride Street Fair is held at Olympic Plaza across from City Hall in the heart of Calgary. In those 11 years there have been growing pains and many ups and downs, but over-all great progress has been made within & around our community.

I have been involved with Apollo, Friends in Sport for most of those 11 years and have been on its board for the last 7 years. Like Calgary and our community in general, I have seen Apollo grow and evolve. We have grown from a winter only sports schedule to a year-round schedule of sport activities. We have gone from four board sports to potentially eight, if Calgary Front Runner's request to join Apollo is approved at the September AGM. We have increased the size and scope of Western Cup to include other sports and the Apollo Idol competition. We have increased our

involvement and visibility in the community and have involved other organizations, such as ARGRA & ISCCA, and provided them with opportunities to fundraise at Apollo events, especially Western Cup. Just like our community as a whole, we have experienced growing pains. There have been ups and downs over these past years. But again, I feel that Apollo, like our community, is overall a larger & stronger organization.

Unfortunately, due to my leaving Calgary, I will not be able to remain on the Apollo board. If I was not moving, I would definitely remain involved. I truly believe in the mission statement of Apollo and the opportunities it provides to its members. I am proud to be involved in one of the few organizations in North America to be equally open to all sexes and all sexual preferences and to have the longevity that Apollo has been able to maintain.

Without Apollo, I probably would not have had the pleasure of meeting many of you and developing so many friendships. I ask each of you to take a moment and think of all of the friends and acquaintances each of you have made through Apollo, especially those that probably would not have happened otherwise.

This September a new Executive will be elected with the responsibility to continue moving Apollo onward. There will be changes as Calgary, our community, & Apollo continue to evolve, but I believe that the members of this organization are up to those challenges.

Thanks and goodbye (for now).

Apollo AGM

September 23, 2007

The Apollo Annual General Meeting for 2007 will be held on Sunday September 23, 2007 at 7:30 pm at the Old Y Common Room – 223 12th Avenue S.W. This year's AGM will be dealing with numerous by-law changes, including the addition of the Calgary Front Runners as a Board Sport within the Apollo Calgary organization. This year we will be electing 7 officers to the Apollo Board for 1 and 2 year terms. Apollo Calgary would like to thank the current executive for their dedication and commitment to the organization and wish them well in their future endeavors. Without their time and support Apollo would not have continued to grow and evolve. For more information on the AGM and the proposed by-law changes please go to www.apollocalgary.com/apollo/others/bylaws.asp

Apollo, Friends in Sports was founded in 1981 and currently has over 400 members!

Western Cup XXV – A great success for a landmark anniversary!

Brad Bostock, Western Cup Director

April 2007 celebrated a landmark anniversary for Apollo and the Calgary LGBT community – the 25th Anniversary of Western Cup. This year's event saw over 600 athletes participating in 7 sports, with the addition of Ice Hockey this year. Participants traveled from all over North America and included International Visitors to some sports. Apollo and

Western Cup would like to thank Different Strokes and the Calgary Front Runners for joining us this year in our planning again, and hosting swimming and running, respectively, as well as the numerous new volunteers who were involved in the Ice Hockey.

Registration this year was again hosted at the Westin Calgary, with some sports commencing that evening. Friday morning saw the full swing of the sports. Competition was friendly, but fierce, with swimming setting new Canadian records!

On Friday evening Cowboys and Queens kicked off at the Westin Calgary with the 4th annual Apollo Idol. 15 people competed in the finals, all vying for the title of the 2007 Apollo Idol, which was won by Greg Dow. Along with the excitement of our own 'Idol' competition, the Fun Money casino was in full swing and attendees enjoyed some amazing fancy footwork and great dance moves by Cross Fire and IGGLE WIGGLE.

Saturday brought the 2nd and final day of competitions, and the big party – Silver. This year's dance was held at the Telus Convention Centre and provided the perfect setting for the biggest party in Western Cup's history! Over 1500 individuals danced the night

away in the Great Hall or caught up with old and new friends in the Grand Foyer with sweeping views of the Olympic Plaza and Stephen Avenue. Though DJ Tracy Young was not able to perform that evening due to an airline incident beyond everyone's control the music was loud, thumping and kept the dance floor hopping!

The celebration ceremonies kicked off on Sunday morning at a reception and concert at the Jack Singer Concert Hall. Hosted by Veena Sood, and featuring entertainment by Carole Pope, Velocity and our own Vong Sundara. Hundreds of participants, supporters and partners celebrated 25 years of success, history and friendship.

I would like to personally thank the dozens of volunteers, sports directors and committee members for their time, enthusiasm and dedication to hosting this amazing weekend. Without their support, this event would not be possible. I would also like to thank our sponsors, whose unwavering commitment ensured that this Western Cup was a financial success and will provide the needed foundation for Western Cup XXVI. A further update, including financials, will be given at the AGM Sunday September 23, 2007.

Apollo Board of Directors – Get involved and make a difference in your organization.

Election will be held for the following roles at the AGM Sunday Sept 23, 2007

- President – 2 year term
- Vice President – 1 year remaining of 2 year term
- Treasurer – 2 year term
- Secretary – 1 year remaining of 2 year term
- Western Cup Director – 2 year term
- Communications Director – 1 year remaining of 2 year term
- Social Director – 2 year term

For More information on the various positions go to www.apollocalgary.com

Outdoor Pursuits gears up for Fall 2007

*Michael Leboldus
OP Communications Guy*

Outdoor Pursuits events are planned by the members not by me alone or committee. So if you want to get out in the great outdoors, drop me a line and we'll try to get a group together and make it happen.

This past summer was a little slower than last. I'm starting to think that Calgarians are just too busy to relax. I do want to again thank everyone who did organize and lead a camp out, a hiking, biking, rollerblading, or other event this past summer.

Fall is traditionally a slow time but it doesn't have to be. The fall colors are great in the mountains for some lower level hikes and there's still plenty of opportunity for mountain biking, city biking or urban walks. If your interested in leading an event over the next couple months, get in touch with me.

Keep an eye on the Outdoor Pursuits calendar on the Apollo Calgary website and make sure your myapollo.org account is updated so that you get the latest updates on sports you're interested in.

Rainbows Riders bowl into 21st Season

Bill Moore, RR Secretary

The 21st season of bowling for the Rainbow Riders Bowling League is about to get underway. Once again we are bowling at Let's Bowl (Calgary's only 10-pin facility), located at 2916 5 Avenue NE on Wednesday nights.

Wednesday, September 5th
Regular league bowling commences.

We bowl a total of 15 weeks prior to Christmas and 15 weeks in the New Year. Over the course of the season, we give away a total of \$4,000 in weekly prizes and everyone wins at least 40% of their prize fund contributions when we divide up our estimated \$14,000 prize fund at season's end.

The weekly cost to bowl is \$16 ... this includes three games plus a contribution to the season end prize fund. In addition there is a one time fee of \$15 for an Apollo membership (if you are not a member already) plus \$18 to become a member of the Canadian Tenpin Federation. The League also belongs to the International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO), making you a participant in the world's largest gay sports group!

For more details, please check us out at www.apollocalgary.com ... click on the "winter sports" tab, we are on the bowling page or contact me at wc.moore@shaw.ca.
See you soon at Let's Bowl ..

Fall Member Appreciation Dance

Come out and Cut a rug at our new venue!

This year's Member Appreciation Dance will be held September 29, 2007 at Art Space located at the Cross Roads Market at 1235 26th Avenue S.E. Doors open at 9:00 pm, and will include munchies during the night, and cash bar service. Phoenix Show Services will be providing the tunes and lights. This event is **free** to current members of Apollo. Non-members can pick up tickets at Priape and Money Pennies and the cost is \$10.00 each. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Upcoming Events

Sunday September 23, 2007
Old Y Common Room, 223 12th Avenue SW 7:30 pm
Annual General Meeting

Proposed By-Law Changes
Election of Officers
Appointment of Auditor

Saturday Sept 29, 2007
Art Space, Cross Roads Market
1235 26th Avenue S.E. 9:00 pm
Fall Member Appreciation Dance

Fall Member appreciation dance
Free to current members of Apollo. \$10.00 non-members.
Tickets available at Money Pennies and Priape.

Visit www.apollocalgary.com for updates and schedules for all Fall and Winter sports programs including Yoga and Squash