



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Date: October 21, 2013

To: Minor Hockey Associations
Zone Administration Teams
Hockey Alberta Board of Directors
Hockey Alberta Staff
Hockey Alberta Leagues

From: Greg Nesom
Chair, Female Council

SUBJECT: ALBERTA FEMALE HOCKEY REVIEW

This bulletin is to advise you that the Hockey Alberta Board of Directors have approved an Alberta Female Hockey Review which is to take place over the course of the next six weeks. The review was designed by Female Council, in consultation with the Executive Director, and then approved by the Hockey Alberta Board of Directors.

The objective of this review is to speak with the stakeholders in the female game in Alberta, and chart a course for what is best for female hockey in Alberta. Recommendations from this independent review will be put forth to the Hockey Alberta Board and Operations Council for discussion, direction and/or approval.

An independent facilitator, Rick Polutnik will be overseeing the review by interviewing female stakeholders across the province of Alberta. Rick comes with a wealth of experience which includes;

- Assistant and Head Coach of our national women's team (1990 – 1992) where he was part of two world championship teams.
- Member and Chairperson Hockey Canada Coaching Committee: 1986 – 1996
- Master Coach Mentor Hockey Alberta : 2000 – 2008
- Currently a member of the IIHF Ambassador and Mentorship program where he works with the Slovakian female national program.

We believe by having Rick conduct these interviews and collecting information that we will be able to;

1. To gather information on the current state of the female game in Alberta and gather information on best practices throughout Canada.
2. To determine observations/themes based on the information gathered that will provide the foundation for the forward progress of the female game in Alberta.
3. To present the observations/themes at the 2013 Semi-Annual meeting in November.

Through this process, the goal is for Rick to speak with a variety of people including but not limited to;

- League Presidents
- Minor Hockey & Sport School Teams
- Hockey Alberta Staff
- University & College Coaches
- Hockey Alberta Volunteers
- Hockey Canada
- Volunteers
- Athletes (current & former who played both inside and/or outside of Alberta)
- Parents
- Coaches
- LMHA's

We believe by Rick speaking with such a cross section of people in female hockey that we will be able to achieve Hockey Alberta's ultimate goal of hearing from the stakeholders in an unbiased manner. This will lead to a move forward plan where Hockey Alberta intends to act on the recommendations of this review and do what is best for the female game in Alberta in which an athlete focused approach will be shared by all stakeholders.

Greg Nesom
Chair, Female Council