



Invitation to Support The WHISTLER ADAPTIVE SPORTS PROGRAM

The Whistler Adaptive Sports Program Society has just completed its **10th** year with a record number of 1238 lessons taught in nine adaptive sports. We now offer sports, therapeutic programming and recreation to individuals with a wide range of physical and cognitive disabilities in skiing, snowboarding, Nordic skiing, hiking, trail riders, hand-cycling, canoeing, kayaking, rowing, gymnastics, and alpine ski racing. Sport builds socialization, leadership skills, healthy growth and development for everyone, whether they have recently acquired a disability or have been active all their life.

Only 3% of Canadians with a disability are involved in organized sport, compared to 31% of able-bodied Canadians.

Source: 2009 Active Healthy Kids Report (AHKR), Active Healthy Kids Canada

We want to change that statistic. The Whistler Adaptive Sports Program is committed to introducing as many individuals with a disability as possible to sports and recreation. We truly believe in breaking down the financial, physical and social barriers to sport and recreation as well as creating skills that will lead to future employment within sport and beyond.

With your support, individuals with a disability will not only experience innovative, quality sports and recreational programming they will be increasing their self-confidence, motivation and independence. **Our goal is to create sport for life.**



"Don, a.k.a. Captain Holiday, has a vast knowledge of paddling, an infectious laugh and above all else, he doesn't presume to know what's best for each individual. He was open-minded and curious about my abilities and strength and the result, was a dramatic improvement in my paddling and my confidence. Yeah, Captain Holiday!"

"Thanks for all the great activities you did this summer with my son Avery. He thoroughly enjoyed the kayaking with Captain Don as well as the hike he went on with Nick. It is such a valuable social time as well for them and getting to learn great sports that he otherwise isn't exposed to is fantastic! Thanks so much and we look forward to more programs in the future!"

"It cannot be stated too strongly that without the support of WASP my two children would not have had the opportunity to ski, canoe, and hike these last 2-3 years. In terms of organizing and supporting (with enthusiastic volunteers and bursary funding), WASP has been first class."

OUR NEED FOR SUPPORT

Help Us Meet Our Vision

Whistler is the number one destination ski resort in North America. We envision an organization that provides year-round, sports, therapeutic and recreational programs for people with disabilities that equals that reputation, as well as a center for learning and sports excellence that has a local, regional, national and international clientele.

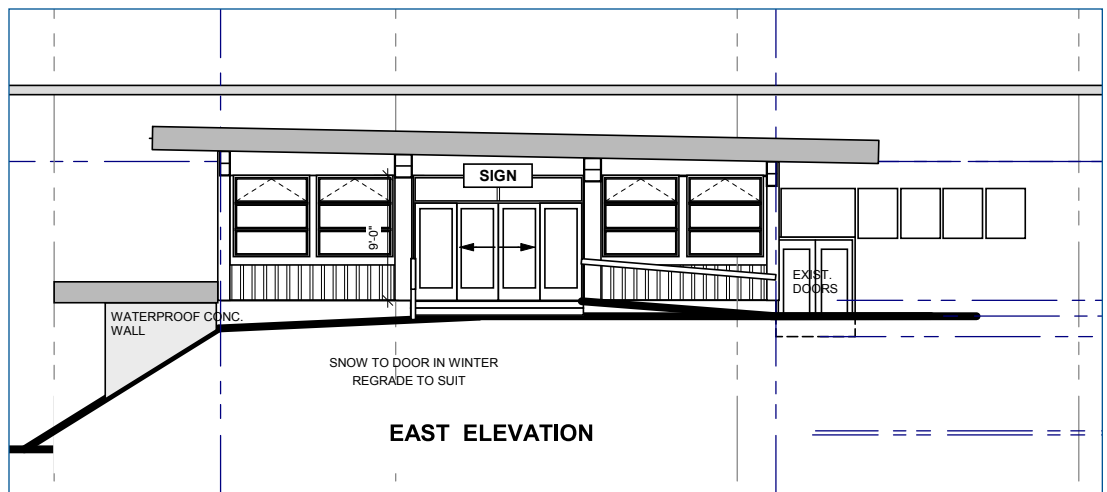
Funding Requirements for 2010

With your support we will be able to expand the scope of our audience and broaden the opportunity for unique experiences for people with disabilities by:

- Continuing to expand and maintain our winter and summer equipment inventory, by increasing and acquiring the range of innovative adaptive equipment that we have available, as well as maintaining existing equipment
- Expanding our program facilities by completing the Jeff Harbers Adaptive Sports Centre at Olympic Station on Whistler Mountain and moving into the Whistler Athletes Centre.
- Increasing the knowledge of our adaptive sports instructors and volunteers by increasing the number of training clinics we hold. This in turn will provide an increased level of service to our students.
- Expanding all nine of our Adaptive Sports Programs and creating new adaptive sports initiatives in pilot sports such as indoor climbing, biathlon and outrigger canoeing.
- Increasing the number of bursary places that we can offer to our students with a financial need both in summer and winter and increase the number of specialist groups that we can bring to Whistler.
- Supporting our core operational needs to keep our program fees as low as possible for our program participants.

The Whistler Adaptive Sports Program Society also made **2 major infrastructure announcements this year:**

1 The **Jeff Harbers Adaptive Sports Centre**, a new facility, to be located at Olympic Station on Whistler Mountain, will allow for the Whistler Adaptive Ski and Snowboard Program, Adaptive Alpine Race Program and our Alpine Hiking/Trail Rider Programs to thrive. We are continually grateful to the Harbers Family for helping to create this community legacy. The Whistler-Blackcomb Foundation, the American Friends of Whistler, Whistler-Blackcomb, Scotiabank, Borden Ladner and Gervais, and Andrew Terret Architecture have all been instrumental in creating the foundation for this project.



*We need your support to complete this capital campaign and raise the final **\$250,000**. The Whistler Adaptive Sports Program is looking forward to breaking ground on this project in spring of 2010. We are accepting gifts of cash or in-kind services and materials for this capital project.*

2 World Class "Centre for Excellence"

The Whistler Adaptive Sports Program and Whistler 2010 Sports Legacies signed a Memorandum of Understanding on January 29th, 2009 that outlines the commitment to partner in the creation of a 2010 Paralympic Games legacy for athletes with a disability. At the centre of the partnership is the **Whistler**

Athletes' Centre, part of the Whistler Athletes' Village, located in Whistler's new Cheakamus Crossing neighbourhood. The fully accessible complex includes: a High Performance Centre featuring: a strength and conditioning gym and a gymnastics hall, along with office space for the headquarters of Whistler 2010 Sport Legacies, the Whistler Adaptive Sports Program and other partner groups; an Athletes' Lodge featuring up to 96 accessible beds and restaurant space; and 20 Townhomes. The Whistler Adaptive Sports Program will be able to significantly expand its range of programs through the use



of the centre and accommodations to athletes with a disability and teams who will train, compete, and live in the Sea to Sky region after the 2010 Games.

OVERVIEW OF THE WHISTLER ADAPTIVE SPORTS PROGRAM

Our Mission

To enable individuals with any disability access to the recreational facilities in Whistler and to help increase their self-confidence, motivation and independence through outdoor recreation.

Background

Access to sport and recreational activity has increasingly opened doors to endless possibilities, renewed self-confidence and new levels of independence for people with disabilities. The Whistler Adaptive Sports Program is firmly founded on the principal to get individuals physically active by giving them access to one of the world's best mountain resorts. We provide the environment, support and opportunity for people with disabilities to focus on their ability. Our programs are accessible to children and adults with both cognitive and physical disabilities. We serve people from Whistler, the Sea to Sky Corridor, the Lower Mainland, the rest of British Columbia, Canada and from all over the world.

Today, people from all over British Columbia, Canada and the world can tell at a glance what we do. We open the door on a new world of adventure and learning by teaching people to ski or snowboard, kayak, Nordic ski, row, do gymnastics, ski race, hand-cycle, canoe and hike. On every chair lift, gondola ride, ski run, lake, river and hiking trail, people tell us what a great program we have and want to know more about it. It is no longer just the participants who learn to see the possibilities. We have only begun to harness the resources and the potential is at our fingertips.

1169	Winter
1008	Whistler Adaptive Ski and Snowboard Program
71	Adaptive Alpine Race Program
45	Racers at the Rotary GS
36	Cross-Country
9	Gymnastics
79	Summer
33	Hiking / Trail Rider
20	Kayaking
11	Hand cycle
7	Canoeing
8	Rowing

Whistler Adaptive Sports Program: Board of Directors

President, Ed Lee

Vice President, Sarah Macleod

Treasurer, John Walker

Secretary, Bianca Matheson

Member at Large, Donovan Tildesley

Member at Large, James Peters

Member at Large, Jennifer Erickson

Member at Large, Rob McSkimming

Member at Large, Steve Bayly

Member at Large, Valerie Plourde

Why is our program unique, and why do we believe we are well on our way to becoming a world-class program, ready to show case to the world in 2010 and secure our position as a leader in recreation for people with disabilities for years to come?

By harnessing the legacy of the 2010 Games, the Whistler Adaptive Sports Program will continue to champion the need



for grass-roots to competitive sports and recreational opportunities in the Whistler area for individuals with a disability, as well as the commitment of Whistler to being the most inclusive mountain community in the world.

We want to be ready. By capitalizing on the **2010** opportunity we will be setting ourselves and our partners up for continued success

long after the Games are gone. Here are some examples of the opportunity that the Whistler Adaptive Sports Program is pursuing:

- The attraction of sports and recreational enthusiasts, both able-bodied and disabled, from around the world to one of the world's finest mountain resorts. This unique asset is proved by the growing number of clients and volunteers alike.
- The unique opportunity to make a year round recreational destination accessible to everyone and create a world-class centre for excellence for people with disabilities.
- The increase in the number of our grass roots athletes who are trying their hand at high performance sports and some of whom are now on the Provincial and National Teams.
- The abundance and close proximity of year-around recreational and adventure opportunities available in the Whistler area and the abundance and high skill level of enthusiasts to recruit volunteers from.
- The dedication and determination of a strong volunteer Board of Directors that will take our program to the next level in growth, as well as a burgeoning volunteer core of instructors, particularly those with disabilities themselves, to deliver our programs.
- Innovative partnerships with local businesses and organizations which allow the Whistler Adaptive Sports Program to continue operate with mainly volunteers and one full time, year round employee.



- The support we have from the Whistler and Vancouver communities, the host resort and other sport and recreation organizations for the growth of our program and development of facilities at this world-class location.
- Our ability to be an excellent partner.
- The prestige and attention that we are harnessing from the lead up to the 2010 Games

To achieve our vision for 2010 we need support that includes financial resources, in kind services and above all, successful partnerships.

WASP's vision will be a great legacy for Whistler and Vancouver that comes out of the 2010 games and lives way beyond this! **We look forward to opening a discussion on partnership with your organization and discussing your support of a prosperous and effective program that has an ever-growing reach in continuing to help individuals with disabilities.**



**HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE –
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