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### **FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE**

CANADA SOCCER 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

### A MESSAGE FROM STEVEN REED, PRESIDENT

During my tenure as President, I have had the privilege to continue the momentum established this past decade to ensure that the foundation for Canada Soccer Nation would be further strengthened. Although this Annual Report reflects on the year of 2019, it is that solid footing that has guided us through an unprecedented time in not only our sport but our world.

When I reflect on what I will remember most fondly about my three years as President of Canada Soccer, it all comes down to one thing: the people. It is the people within the Canadian soccer community who have banded together to ensure that our players, coaches, officials, volunteers, fans and their families are safe and will return to the pitch and the sidelines when they are secure. It's about the team this organization has assembled over the last 10 years who, collectively, have brought us to where we are today – the proud co-hosts, with Mexico and the United States, of the 2026 FIFA World Cup<sup>TM</sup>. We are a country to which other FIFA nations now see as a leader in the soccer world.

It's about Peter Montopoli, who as General Secretary brought necessary professionalism to the organization that laid the foundation for all the successes that followed. It's about my predecessor and now Concacaf President, Victor Montagliani, who believed in—and advanced—our dream of hosting a men's FIFA World Cup™ on Canadian soil for the first time. It's about John Herdman, who revamped the women's program, taking our Women's National Team to back-to-back bronze medals at the Olympic Games and a place among the top countries in the world. Then, last fall, as Head Coach of the Men's National Team—oversaw Canada's first win over USA in 34 years. We would not be where we are right now without the entire Canada Soccer team. That team is not just the individuals who are involved at the national level but those who work and volunteer tirelessly at our Member Associations, professional level clubs and leagues, and across all the hundreds of districts and thousands of clubs.

As part of our decade in review, Canada Soccer compiled a list of 30 big moments in Canadian Soccer from the last 10 years. In the same spirit, I wanted to share a few of the moments that stand out for me during my time as President. Earlier this year, I was in Edinburg, Texas and watched Christine Sinclair—our Player of the Decade and one of the best athletes in the world—tie, and then break, the world's all-time international goalscoring record. Christine has been such an integral part of our soccer family, and a wonderful advocate for the sport. Just being around that moment was amazing.

I was also thrilled to witness Canada Soccer's Men's National Team win 2:0 over USA at BMO Field. After 34 years, that October 2019 win was really special.

Nothing, however, that I have ever experienced—barring the day of my wedding and the births of my three sons—can possibly compare to that June day in Moscow in 2018 when our United 2026 Bid won the right to host the FIFA World Cup<sup>TM</sup>. Looking back at the pictures and video, I'm smiling so big my face looks like it could break. A lot of people didn't think it was going to happen, that it was a dream, but that dream is a reality now. It was a watershed moment, the culmination of years of hard work and proving our country's mettle as a tier-one FIFA host. 2026 may seem like it is far away but our Canada Soccer Nation now has the responsibility and privilege to ensure that the next six years deliver on our promises of unity, certainty and opportunity for not only our country but the entire football world.

Given where Canada Soccer was a little over 10 years ago, it is amazing what we have accomplished as an organization. It's taken a lot of passion, a lot of commitment, and a lot of sleepless nights, but it's been an awesome achievement and a privilege to be a part of Canada Soccer Nation. Thank you.





### **STEVEN REED** PRESIDENT, CANADA SOCCER

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### A MESSAGE FROM PETER MONTOPOLI, GENERAL SECRETARY

Entering this new decade, our reflections on the accomplishments of the past decade may seem insignificant given the incredible challenges our country and the world are facing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, now more than ever, the strength of those achievements has positioned Canada Soccer to play an even more important role to unite and celebrate all that is good about our country and the world's game. How do you measure the impact of a single decade? Ten years might not seem like a long time when you consider that Canada Soccer, as an organization, has been around for more than 100 years, but in order to assess just how far we've come since 2010, you have to remember where we started.

Going into this past decade, we had limited international success on and off the pitch. There were no Canadian leagues and Canada's single Major League Soccer (MLS) team, Toronto FC, was still in its infancy. With our successful hosting of the FIFA U-20 World Cup Canada 2007 still fresh, we were starting to look ahead to a bolder, brighter future. We knew that woven deep into the fabric of Canada lay the heart and soul of a soccer nation. Canadians didn't know it at the time, but in a few short years, riding a wave of #CanadaRED, this sport would change the country forever.

Now, when Canada is at the international table, we are looked on with great respect. We have won back-to-back bronze medals at the Olympic Games—the only FIFA member to accomplish that in the women's game from 2012 to 2016. Our Women's National Team have become the standard bearers for women in sport in this country. We now have three robust Major League Soccer clubs and a domestic men's league with eight Canadian Premier League clubs from coast to coast that are an important piece of the development puzzle for the Men's National Team Program. Nike—the world's biggest sporting-goods brand—is our apparel sponsor. In October 2019, our Men's National Team defeated USA for the first time since 1985, which when combined with Men's National Youth Team victories over Costa Rica at the U-17 level and Mexico at the U-15 level, saw Canada defeat the top three nations in Concacaf in the same year for the first time.

Then, there are the events we have brought to Canadians. It's impossible to overstate the role that hosting has played in our success. The FIFA U20 World Cup Canada 2007 led to the building of what would become BMO Field, which, in turn, brought us MLS' first Canadian team, Toronto FC. We followed that up by bidding for and hosting the FIFA Women's World Cup Canada 2015<sup>™</sup>, which still holds the record for the largest attendance at a FIFA event outside of a men's FIFA World Cup<sup>™</sup>.

In 2018, with our partners Mexico and the United States, we were awarded the ultimate soccer prize—hosting the 2026 FIFA World Cup<sup>™</sup>. The 2026 FIFA World Cup<sup>™</sup> is a transformational event that will leave a strong legacy for many generations to come. We are confident that Canada is on the path to becoming a formidable country in men's international football and we will get the next six years right – and the solid foundation we've put in place over the last decade has set us up to achieve that goal. The 2026 FIFA World Cup<sup>™</sup> will be a multi-national, multi-generational event that will arguably represent the entire country in a way no other sport can. We are using football to show the world who we really are.

In the past decade, I have had the privilege to serve with three excellent Presidents: Dominic Maestracci, Victor Montagliani, and Steven Reed. I accord a great deal of credit to all of them. I would also like to personally thank two long-serving staff members who retired in 2019: Dorothy Hickey, as Competitions Manager, and Ray Clark, as Master Coach Developer, who both helped make this organization what it is today. I am very fortunate that I have had the honour to wake up every day and put the Canadian flag around my shoulders. A safe return to the pitch for all levels of the game is the light at the end of tunnel for many given what the world is now experiencing. Canada Soccer Nation will be ready and proud to play a role to bring Canadians and the world back together.





### **PETER MONTOPOLI** GENERAL SECRETARY, CANADA SOCCER

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### A DECADE OF SOCCER

It has been an incredible decade of growth for the beautiful game in Canada, from winning a Concacaf Women's Championship and reaching the podium in back-to-back Olympic Games to hosting the world's biggest women's sporting event, setting international and national attendance records, and securing the bid to co-host the 2026 FIFA World Cup<sup>TM</sup>.



20th international "A" goal



#### 2015

### 2016

### 2017

### 2018

#### 2019

#### CANADA HOSTS THE RECORD-SETTING FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP CANADA 2015™ FROM COAST TO COAST

- From winning the 2014 Canadian Championship, the Montréal Impact made a historic run all the way to the 2014-15 Concacaf Champions League Final
- Canada Soccer launched the Futsal Canadian Championship with an inaugural two-match series in October 2015

CANADA SOCCER MADE HISTORY WITH BACK-TO-BACK MEDAL PERFORMANCES AT SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES

- Canada Soccer set the national record for the largest in-stadia attendance to a national team event of any sport at the FIFA World Cup Qualifiers match on 25 March at BC Place in Vancouver
- Carol Anne Chénard was appointed referee for the Gold Medal Final at the Rio 2016 Women's Olympic Football Tournament
- Canada Soccer and MLS established Homegrown Player rule to ensure Canadian players who come through the Canadian player development system will be considered a domestic player upon signing his first professional contract with an MLS club.

JOHN HERDMAN BECAME THE FIRST SOCCER COACH TO WIN THE JACK DONOHUE COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM THE COACHING ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

- Kadeisha Buchanan became the first Canadian to win UEFA Women's Champions League, her first of three successive titles with FCF Olympique Lyonnais
- A back-to-back champion with Besiktas JK, Atiba Hutchinson helped his Turkish club qualify for the Round of 16 of 2017-18 UEFA Champions League

CANADA, MEXICO AND USA WIN THEIR UNITED 2026 BID TO HOST THE FIFA WORLD CUP™

- Toronto FC became the second Canadian team to reach the Concacaf Champions League Final following their treble-winning 2017 season (Canadian Championship, MLS Shield, MLS Cup)
- Former Canadian national youth team star Alphonso Davies moved from Vancouver Whitecaps FC to FC Bayern Munich in an MLS-record transfer deal
- Rhian Wilkinson became the first Women's National Team alumni to lead Canada as Head Coach at a FIFA youth competition

CANADA SOCCER'S MEN'S NATIONAL TEAM BEAT RIVALS USA 2-0 IN AN INTERNATIONAL "A" MATCH FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 34 YEARS

- On 27 April 2019, the Canadian Premier League kicks off their inaugural season at Tim Hortons Field in Hamilton, ON
- At France 2019, Canada reached the knockout phase of the FIFA Women's World Cup™ for the third time in program history
- Canadian Para Soccer star Samuel Charron was named Player of the Tournament at the 16-nation IFPFC World Cup in Spain



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### **CHRISTINE SINCLAIR: PLAYER OF THE DECADE**

Christine Sinclair was named the Canada Soccer Player of the Decade after an unparalleled 10 years of world-class performances in which she continued to build a legacy as of one of Canada's greatest athletes of all time. A Concacaf champion in 2010 and back-to-back Olympic Bronze Medal winner from London 2012 and Rio 2016, she was the 2012 Lou Marsh Trophy and Bobbie Rosenfeld Award winner, the 2011 WPS Championship MVP, and seven-time Canada Soccer Canadian Player of the Year.

The flag bearer at the London 2012 Closing Ceremonies, Sinclair was also a four-time professional club playoff champion, five-time FIFA Women's World Cup participant, four-time Concacaf medal winner, and four-time finalist for the FIFA World Player of the Year. She scored 64 goals for club and 84 goals for country, notably moving within two goals of setting the world's all-time international goalscoring record, which she officially broke on 29 January 2020 with her 185th international goal.











### **CANADIAN MEN'S NATIONAL TEAM**

It was another leap forward for Canada Soccer's Men's National Team in 2019, a year that was highlighted by an historic 2:0 October victory over USA for the first time in 34 years. Canada set or tied Men's National Team records for competitive wins in a season (six), goals in a season (28), goals at a Concacaf Gold Cup (14), and goals in a home match (six). They also set or tied records for consecutive wins (six) and consecutive games with a goal (13), both set across 2018 and 2019. Across nine matches in Concacaf Nations League and Concacaf Gold Cup action, Canada's international "A" record was six wins and three losses.

Lucas Cavallini, Jonathan David and Junior Hoilett were the first trio of Men's National Team players to score four or more goals in a year, with eight, eight, and six goals, respectively. David and Cavallini also established a new record for goals in a year and were the first Men's National Team players to both score a hat trick in the same match, while Hoilett was the first in 27 years to score a hat trick in a home match. Goalkeeper Milan Borjan, meanwhile, was the first to post five shutout wins in a year.

David won the Golden Boot and was named an All-Star at the Concacaf Gold Cup, while Alphonso Davies was named an All-Star in Concacaf Nations League A. The teenagers, named Canadian Players of the Year in back-to-back seasons (Davies in 2018, David in 2019), were two of five U-23 aged players who featured in the October victory over USA along with Derek Cornelius, Kamal Miller and Liam Fraser. Of the 40 players who were part of Canada Soccer's Men's National Team in 2019, there were 11 players born 1997 or later and four debutants (Stephen Eustáquio, Liam Fraser, Richie Laryea, and Kamal Miller).

Canada reached the quarter-finals of back-to-back Concacaf Gold Cups for the first time since 2009 and finished second in their group of the inaugural Concacaf Nations League A (tied on points with USA, but second on goals difference). In FIFA/Coca-Cola World Rankings, Canada picked up the most ranking points of any nation in Concacaf Nations League A (19.74 points). Canada also qualified for the 2021 Concacaf Gold Cup and the next season of Concacaf Nations League A.





DATE	МАТСН	RESULT	МАТСН ТҮРЕ	LOCATION	VENUE
24 MAR	CANMNT V GUF	4:1	CONCACAF NATIONS LEAGUE QUALIFYING	VANCOUVER, BC	BC PLACE
15 JUN	CANMNT V MTQ	4:0	CONCACAF GOLD CUP	PASADENA, CA	ROSE BOWL
19 JUN	CANMNT V MEX	1:3	CONCACAF GOLD CUP	DENVER, CO	BRONCOS STADIUM
23 JUN	CANMNT V CUB	7:0	CONCACAF GOLD CUP	CHARLOTTE, NC	BANK OF AMERICA STADUIM
29 JUN	CANMNT V HAI	2:3	CONCACAF GOLD CUP	HOUSTON, TX	NRG STADIUM
7 SEP	CANMNT V CUB	6:0	CONCACAF NATIONS LEAGUE	TORONTO, ON	BM0 FIELD
10 SEP	CANMNT V CUB	1:0	CONCACAF NATIONS LEAGUE	GEORGE TOWN, CAY	TRUMAN BODEN SPORTS COMPLEX
15 OCT	CANMNT V USA	2:0	CONCACAF NATIONS LEAGUE	TORONTO, ON	BM0 FIELD
15 NOV	CANMNT V USA	1:4	CONCACAF NATIONS LEAGUE	ORLANDO, FL	EXPLORIA STADIUM





CLEAN SHEETS CANMNT

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GOALS

### **CANADIAN WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM**

Canada Soccer's Women's National Team took part in the FIFA Women's World Cup™ for the seventh time in 2019 and reached the knock-out phase for the third time. The FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™ also marked the second time they secured six points in the group phase, the first time they opened with back-to-back wins, the first time since 2007 they scored in all three group matches, the first time they beat a Confederation champion at the FIFA Women's World Cup™, and the first time they reached the knockout phase in back-to-back tournaments. Canada ultimately finished in 11th place after a 1-0 loss to Sweden in the Round of 16.

From FIFA's detailed review of the 24 finalists at France 2019, Canada led the way in statistical averages for possession (61%), passes (581) and opponents bypassed (419). In a nine-month run after qualifying in October 2018, Canada posted seven wins, three draws and three losses in 13 international matches, with their only losses to the world's top-three nations USA, Netherlands and Sweden. That string also included a 10-match unbeaten streak, the second longest in program history.

Fullback Ashley Lawrence led Canada in minutes played and assists and was the Canadian Player of the Year for the first time. Goalkeeper Stephanie Labbé tied the Women's National Team record with eight clean sheets in a single year, while Canada's 10 clean sheets and five consecutive clean sheets were both the second most in program history. Of the 30 players who were part of Canada Soccer's Women's National Team in 2019, there were 10 players born 1996 or later including four rookies (Jessica De Filippo, Vanessa Gilles, Jade Rose and Olivia Smith) and one debutant (Smith).

Christine Sinclair continued her incredible chase of the world's all-time international goalscoring record, scoring her 183rd goal in Canada's last win of the season. Sinclair, who has led Canada in goalscoring in 16 of her 20 seasons, was just two goals away from setting the new record at the end of 2019. She led Canada with six goals in 15 matches and became just one of two players to score in five FIFA Women's World Cups (both Marta and Sinclair achieved the feat from 2003 to 2019).







Car III	DATE	МАТСН	RESULT	МАТСН ТҮРЕ	LOCATION	VENUE
	22 JAN	CANWNT V NOR	1:0	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	LA MANGA, ESP	LA MANGA STADIUM
	27 FEB	CANWNT V ISL	0:0	ALGARVE CUP	LAGOS, POR	ESTADIO MUNICIPAL DE BELA VISTA
CANADA	1 MAR	CANWNT V SCO	1:0	ALGARVE CUP	LAGOS, POR	ESTADIO MUNICIPAL DE LAGOS
	6 MAR	CANWNT V SWE	0:0	ALGARVE CUP	SAO JOAO DA VENDA, POR	ESTADIO ALGARVE
	5 APR	CANWNT V ENG	1:0	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	MANCHESTER, ENG	ACADEMY STADIUM
	8 APR	CANWNT V NGA	2:1	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	SAN PEDRO DEL PINITAR, ESP	PINITAR ARENA
	18 MAY	CANWNT V MEX	3:0	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	TORONTO, ON	BM0 FIELD
	24 MAY	CANWNT V ESP	0:0	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	LOGRONES, ESP	ESTADIO LAS GAUNAS
	10 JUN	CANWNT V CMR	1:0	FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP FRANCE 2019™	MONTPELLIER, FRA	STADE DE LA MOSSON
	15 JUN	CANWNT V NZL	2:0	FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP FRANCE 2019™	GRENOBLE, FRA	STADE DES ALPES
	20 JUN	CANWNT V NED	1:2	FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP FRANCE 2019™	REIMS, FRA	STADE AUGUSTE DELAUNE
	24 JUN	CANWNT V SWE	0:1	FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP FRANCE 2019™	PARIS, FRA	PARC DES PRINCES
20 /	6 OCT	CANWNT V JPN	0:4	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	SHIZUOKA, JPN	IAI STADIUM NIHONDAIRA
CANWNT	7 NOV	CANWNT V BRA	0:4	INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT	YONGCHUAN, CHN	OLYMPIC SPORTS CENTER
PLAYERS	10 NOV	CANWNT V NZL	3:0	INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT	YONGCHAUN, CHN	OLYMPIC SPORTS CENTER
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### **CANADIAN MEN'S NATIONAL YOUTH TEAM**

Canada participated in their seventh FIFA U-17 World Cup at Brazil 2019, their first qualification for a FIFA men's youth tournament in six years. Canada qualified for the FIFA tournament after reaching the Semi-finals at the 2019 Concacaf Men's Under-17 Championship in May. In the all-important qualification match, Canada won 4-3 on kicks from the penalty mark, with Gianfranco Facchineri scoring the winning kick.

For the first time ever, Canada defeated the top three Concacaf nations in 2019. The Men's National Team 2-0 victory over the USA was accompanied by Canada Soccer's Men's National Youth Teams posting top-four finishes in two Concacaf tournaments, eliminating Costa Rica at the U-17 level and Mexico at the U-15 level. Just three months after their success at the U-17 tournament in USA, Canada reached the Semi-finals at the Concacaf Boys' Under-15 Championship in August.

Canada Soccer's Men's EXCEL Program channels our nation's exceptional players into the best soccer environments. The Canada Soccer Pathway works in collaboration with our provincial and territorial partners as well as the professional clubs and academies. For Canada's elite players, the program emphasizes player development on the pathway to representing Canada's Men's National Team in international soccer.

Alongside eight national youth camps, Canada Soccer also worked hand-in-hand with professional clubs and provincial member associations during NEX-PRO Integration Camps throughout the year. At MLS clubs Vancouver, Toronto and Montréal, Canada Soccer worked with more than 140 different players at the U-15 and U-17 age groups. The Men's EXCEL Program also worked with more than 250 youth players across the country through the Regional EXCEL Integration Program with Provincial Member Associations.







DATE	МАТСН	RESULT	МАТСН ТҮРЕ	LOCATION	VENUE
2 MAY	CANM17 V POR	2:3	CONCACAF MEN'S U17 CHAMPIONSHIP	BRADENTON, FL	IMG CENTER
4 MAY	CANM17 V GUA	4:2	CONCACAF MEN'S U17 CHAMPIONSHIP	BRADENTON, FL	IMG CENTER
6 MAY	CANM17 V BRB	4:0	CONCACAF MEN'S U17 CHAMPIONSHIP	BRADENTON, FL	IMG CENTER
9 MAY	CANM17 V CUW	4:0	CONCACAF MEN'S U17 CHAMPIONSHIP	BRADENTON, FL	IMG CENTER
12 MAY	CANM17 V CRC	1:1	CONCACAF MEN'S U17 CHAMPIONSHIP	BRADENTON, FL	IMG CENTER
14 MAY	CANM17 V USA	0:4	CONCACAF MEN'S U17 CHAMPIONSHIP	BRADENTON, FL	IMG CENTER
16 OCT	CANM17 V ARG	1:2	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	BUENOS AIRES, ARG	PREDIO JULIO GRONDANA
19 OCT	CANM17 V MEX	1:2	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	BUENOS AIRES, ARG	PREDIO JULIO GRONDANA
26 OCT	CANM17 V BRA	1:4	FIFA U17- WORLD CUP BRAZIL 2019	BRASILIA, BRA	ESTADIO WALMIR CAMPELO BEZERRA
29 OCT	CANM17 V ANG	1:2	FIFA U17- WORLD CUP BRAZIL 2019	BRASILIA, BRA	ESTADIO WALMIR CAMPELO BEZERRA
1 NOV	CANM17 V NZL	0:1	FIFA U17- WORLD CUP BRAZIL 2019	BRASILIA, BRA	ESTADIO WALMIR CAMPELO BEZERRA
4 AUG	CANM15 V SLV	7:0	CONCACAF BOYS U15 CHAMPIONSHIP	BRADENTON, FL	IMG CENTER
5 AUG	CANM15 V SVN	0:3	CONCACAF BOYS U15 CHAMPIONSHIP	BRADENTON, FL	IMG CENTER
7 AUG	CANM15 V GLP	4:0	CONCACAF BOYS U15 CHAMPIONSHIP	BRADENTON, FL	IMG CENTER
8 AUG	CANM15 V MEX	2:0	CONCACAF BOYS U15 CHAMPIONSHIP	BRADENTON, FL	IMG CENTER
10 AUG	CANM15 V SVN	1:2	CONCACAF BOYS U15 CHAMPIONSHIP	BRADENTON, FL	IMG CENTER



### **CANADIAN WOMEN'S NATIONAL YOUTH TEAM**

On the heels of a fourth-place finish at the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup Uruguay 2018, Canada Soccer's Women's National Youth Teams began preparations for the next cycle of FIFA competitions in 2020. Across the U-17 and U-20 age groups, Canada played a handful of international matches including a 2:1 win over England and a come-from-behind 2:2 draw with Mexico.

Canada Soccer's Women's Excel Program brings together the best with the best at the national youth level from the U-14 to U-20 age groups. The program delivers an aligned talent structure that progresses players from the youth levels to the Women's National Team. Across Concacaf, FIFA, and other youth competitions, players develop through the Women's Excel Program Playing Model and benefit from invaluable tournament expertise.



From coast to coast across the nation, Canada Soccer's Regional EXCEL Centres align Canada's player pool to ensure talent is identified and nurtured so that players have a clear pathway towards the Women's National Team. In 2018-19 and 2019-20, more than 300 players took part in Canada Soccer's Regional EXCEL Centres.







DATE	МАТСН	RESULT	МАТСН ТҮРЕ	LOCATION	VENUE
9 JUL	CANW20 V ENG	2:3	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	BURTON, ENG	ST. GEORGE>S PARK
11 JUL	CANW20 V NIR	2:0	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	LEEK, ENG	HARRISON PARK
16 JUL	CANW20 V ENG	2:0	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	BURTON, ENG	ST. GEORGE>S PARK
29 NOV	CANW20 V MEX	1:3	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	MEXICO, MEX	CAR
1 DEC	CANW20 V MEX	2:2	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	MEXICO, MEX	CAR





### **CANADIAN FUTSAL NATIONAL TEAM**

Canada Soccer's Futsal National Team Program spent 2019 in preparations for the 2020 Concacaf Futsal Championship. Head Coach Kyt Selaidopoulos also continued work to expand the player pool for selection ahead of qualification for the FIFA Futsal World Cup Lithuania 2020. Of note, the team came within one point of qualification for the 2016 FIFA Futsal World Cup.

Selaidopoulos attended identification camps in the Yukon and Northwest Territories in 2019. The camps sought to identify senior players to expand the player pool while simultaneously communicating the program's playing philosophy to coaches working at the grassroots level as futsal continues to develop as the official indoor game.

In addition, the program held two National Team player pool camps in 2019. The first, in Montréal, Québec, brought 26 players together with the goal of setting a baseline for fitness and tactical progress. The second camp took place in Laval, Québec and was pared down from the broader pool, with the roster trimmed to 22 players.

Luis Rocha was named the 2019 Canadian Futsal Player of the Year after he was Most Valuable Player and Top Scorer at the Futsal Canadian Championship. Rocha, a member of Canada Soccer's Futsal National Team, scored 11 goals with three assists at the Futsal Canadian Championship in April. In the final match, he scored the championship-winning kick as Toronto Idolo Futsal beat Sporting Montréal FC for the second year in a row.





### **CANADIAN PARA SOCCER NATIONAL TEAM**



DATE	МАТСН	RESULT	МАТСН ТҮРЕ	LOCATION	VENUE
7 JUL	CANPARA V NED	0:3	IFCPF WORLD CUP SEVILLA 2019	SEVILLA, ESP	ESTADIO JESUS NAVAS
9 JUL	CANPARA V RUS	0:4	IFCPF WORLD CUP SEVILLA 2019	SEVILLA, ESP	ESTADIO JESUS NAVAS
11 JUL	CANPARA V THA	4:0	IFCPF WORLD CUP SEVILLA 2019	SEVILLA, ESP	ESTADIO JESUS NAVAS
13 JUL	CANPARA V ESP	3:0	IFCPF WORLD CUP SEVILLA 2019	SEVILLA, ESP	ESTADIO JESUS NAVAS
16 JUL	CANPARA V IRL	1:3	IFCPF WORLD CUP SEVILLA 2019	SEVILLA, ESP	ESTADIO JESUS NAVAS
18 JUL	CANPARA V AUS	2:4	IFCPF WORLD CUP SEVILLA 2019	SEVILLA, ESP	ESTADIO JESUS NAVAS
30 NOV	CANPARA V AUS	0:5	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	CROMER, AUS	CROMER PARK
1 DEC	CANPARA V AUS	0:1	INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY	CROMER, AUS	CROMER PARK





Canada Soccer's Para Soccer National Team finished in 12th place at the IFCPF World Cup Sevilla 2019. Their record included wins against both Thailand and Spain while captain Samuel Charron was named the Player of the Tournament, a remarkable milestone for a Canadian player on the international stage.

In November 2019, the Para Soccer National Team played their 100th and 101st international matches since 2005. Head Coach Drew Ferguson became the first Canadian coach with more than 100 international matches to his record. Para Soccer player Dustin Hodgson, an original member before Canada's first international match back in 2005, played his program-leading 85th international match.

With six goals in eight matches in 2019, Charron remains Canada's all-time leading scorer with 43 goals in 51 international matches. He scored in four consecutive matches at the IFCPF World Cup Sevilla 2019, starting with a hat trick against Thailand and then singles against Spain, Republic of Ireland, and Australia. In December, he was named Canadian Para Soccer Player of the Year for the second time in four years.



### **AWARDS & RECOGNITION**





The Canadian Players of the Year award celebrated Canada's top two footballers in recognition of their achievements with both the National Teams and their respective clubs. The two winners are recognized as co-winners of the award. Voting was conducted by Canadian coaches and media.

Jonathan David was voted the Canadian Player of the Year for the first time after a recordbreaking season with Canada Soccer's Men's National Team and professional club KAA Gent in Belgium and UEFA Europa League. Ashley Lawrence was voted the Canadian Player of the Year for the first time after a terrific season with Canada Soccer's Women's National Team and professional club Paris Saint-Germain FC in France and UEFA Women's Champions League.





### **AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

CANADA SOCCER PRESIDENT'S AWARD



**DR. DOMINIC MAESTRACCI** 

AUBREY SANFORD MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD



**DICK HOWARD** 

INTERNATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



MARIE-SOLEIL BEAUDOIN

CANADA SOCCER AWARD OF MERIT



HELDER DUARTE





HONOURED MEMBER - PLAYER RANDEE HERMUS



ONOURED MEMBER - PLAYER KEVIN MCKENNA



HONOURED MEMBER - BUILDER TERRY QUINN

#### **ORGANISATIONS OF DISTINCTION**

Vancouver St. Andrews FC of British Columbia

Calgary Callies FC and Edmonton Scottish FC of Alberta

Winnipeg United Weston FC of Manitoba

Darlington SC and Toronto Scottish FC of Ontario

Holy Cross FC and St. Lawrence Laurentians of Newfoundland and Labrador



## DEVELOP



The Development Department had a highly productive 2019-20 with significant progress in developing and implementing the revised Coach Education Pathway and the continued roll-out of the Club Licensing Program, as well as the initiation of essential initiatives aligned to the Safe Sport Roster, amongst other highlights presented below.

#### Canada Soccer Club Licensing Program

Building off the successful introduction of the Club Licensing Program in 2018, work continued on implementation in 2019-20. In July 2019, 39 organizations from Alberta, British Columbia, and Ontario were recognized as the first recipients of provisional approval for the National Youth Club Licence, the highest award within the amateur Club Licensing Program. In addition to recognizing organizations that began the licensing process in 2018, a new intake of applications was received from organizations across Canada. This resulted in another 8 organizations in British Columbia and Ontario being awarded a provisional National Youth Club Licence, bringing the total number of clubs with this designation to 47.

Beyond the National Youth Club Licence, Canada Soccer continued to work with its Member Associations to implement the other categories of the Club Licensing Program. Nearly every MA is now active with the Club Licensing Program and processes have been established to support applications, reviews, and approvals of organizations within each category of the program. This culminated in two announcements of licenced organizations outside of the National Youth Club Licence, which included 12 organizations receiving the Provincial/Territorial Youth Club Licence (Level 1) in Ontario and 25 organizations being awarded the Quality Soccer Provider designation across Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia, and Ontario. In total, 85 organizations have now received licences from six Member Associations.



#### **Member Engagement**

In order to move the game forward nationally, strong alignment with Member Associations is essential. Engagement with, and support to, all levels of the soccer system in Canada has become a foundational principle of Canada Soccer's Development Department.

In addition to ongoing informal connections and topic-specific meetings, the Development Department has committed to convening two in-person meetings per year with MA Executive Directors and Technical Directors. These meetings provide opportunities to share information and experience, discuss national direction and regional initiatives, and workshop the implementation of future opportunities. In 2019, these meetings took place in May in Québec City prior to the Annual Meeting of the Members and in October in Toronto.

Development Department Staff also support the Member Associations outside formal meetings through participation in coaching summits and symposiums, membership meetings, and by delivering presentations outlining the national direction in various settings. In 2019-20, these engagement opportunities included:

- Presentations at the Soccer New Brunswick Annual General Meeting, and Coaches' Symposium;
- An open forum presentation to the members of Alberta Soccer in Calgary and Edmonton as well as joint presentations with Alberta Soccer at Alberta Youth Soccer League Identification events;
- Delivery on the Ontario Soccer Technical Director's Diploma and during the Ontario Soccer Summit; and
- Meetings with a number of youth districts, clubs, and academies in conjunction with BC Soccer in preparation for the 2020-21 BCSPL playing season.





#### Safe Sport

Following the unanimous support of the Canada Soccer Safe Sport Roster by Member Association leaders at the Canada Soccer Annual Meeting of the Members, the Development Department has been heavily involved with education and implementation initiatives. The Safe Sport Roster, which focuses on training and education to empower coaches with the tools to provide a safe environment for young players, is provided with organizational direction on supporting guidelines, policies, and processes through the Club Licensing Program.

Taken collectively, our approach to driving the safe sport movement through people and organizations has positioned Canada Soccer as a leader in this essential area. This leadership role has been cemented through Development Department staff being asked to present on Canada Soccer safe sport initiatives at the Sport for Life Summit and Dave Nutt, Canada Soccer's Manager of Development – Operations, being appointed to the Coaching Association of Canada Mandated Safe Sport Training Task Force.







#### COACHING

After a successful pilot in 2018, the new Children's Licence course was successfully rolled out nationally with 213 participants across nine workshops delivered in 10 venues: Burnaby, British Columbia; Calgary and Edmonton, Alberta; Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Winnipeg, Manitoba; London, Kitchener-Waterloo, Pickering, and Ottawa, Ontario; Laval, Québec; and Halifax, Nova Scotia.



Building on the implementation of the new Coach Education Pathway, the Youth Licence course was successfully piloted to a group of 26 coaches over two seven-day training blocks in Vaughan, Ontario. Following the Children's Licence model, the Youth Licence was scheduled to be rolled out nationally in 2020.

Within the Senior Performance Stream of the Coach Education Pathway, a B Licence Part 2 workshop was delivered to 39 candidates in Burnaby, British Columbia. The second part of the A Licence was also delivered to 27 candidates in English in Vaughan, Ontario and, for the first time ever, in French to 20 candidates in Laval, Québec. Candidates completed classroom and field components and were later observed and evaluated in their home environments either in person or via video by Canada Soccer staff and facilitators. In addition, following a successful Context Approval Review by the Coaching Association of Canada, the B Licence Part 1 received conditional approval within the National Coach Certification Program (NCCP). Coaches completing this workshop and the associated evaluation will now be recognized as Competition Introduction trained or certified within the NCCP.

Manager of Coach Education, Stuart Neely, delivered a C Licence workshop to eight members of the Indigenous soccer community in Cowichan, British Columbia, in June. The workshop was the first step towards making coach education more accessible and inclusive to members of the Indigenous community, with more workshops planned for future delivery. In addition, Canada Soccer supported the delivery of C Licence workshops in Whitehorse, Yukon, and Winnipeg, Manitoba, and piloted a new Coach Evaluator Training in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in conjunction with Soccer Nova Scotia. These Coach Developer education opportunities support building capacity in coach education across the country, with enhanced workshop offerings planned for the future.

In total, Canada Soccer and its team of National Learning Facilitators delivered workshops to 333 candidates in 2019.





In addition, work continued on the revision of the Community Stream (Active Start, Fundamentals, Learn to Train, and Soccer for Life) workshops, with Master Coach Developer Jim Loughlin leading a small working group in the design and development of new content to supplement existing material. Once completed, these new workshops will be piloted in 2020-21 in a blended format, with the first component of the workshop to be completed online, followed by an in-person practical workshop. This revision will make the Community Stream workshops more accessible to more coaches from coast to coast. In addition, to further the aim of developing a more inclusive coach education system, the framing of future national Futsal and Goalkeeping Workshops is well underway, with pilots planned for 2020. Online mentorship of learning facilitators and coaches is also taking place on an ongoing basis with community and licensing stream courses.

Finally, the launch of the new Canada Soccer Pro Licence and Executive Leadership Program was also confirmed for 2020, with plans for content development and piloting now in place. These essential workshops will complete the Canada Soccer Coach Education Pathway and target soccer leaders from both professional and amateur youth organizations, respectively.

### Coaching by the Numbers **30,23,4** TRAINED COACHES IN CANADA M: 22,285 W: 7,949



#### REFEREES

As expected, the launch of the Canadian Premier League (CPL) challenged refereeing and referee development at the highest levels throughout Canada. To meet its goal of building a strong base of elite prospects within Member Association ranks, the Referee Program conducted numerous activities throughout 2019 to support Member Association initiatives and lead its own development strategies. Assessors, instructors and referees at all levels were given development opportunities while participating in regional and national events.



#### **National Program**

The National List experienced considerable turnover in 2019 through six retirees and five additions by the Referee Committee, bringing the 2019 roster to 42 officials. The high rate of turnover positively impacted the program as it opened opportunities for top prospects while also supplying the assessing and instructor ranks with recently retired elite match officials.

The launch of the CPL brought unprecedented opportunities for officials operating within the National Program as it contributed to a 400% increase in matches at the elite level in Canada. Training and development in 2019

started with a National Camp in Bradenton, FL, where all National List and NextGen officials participated in fitness testing, practical training and technical sessions. Instruction was led by Canadian FIFA instructor Michelle Pye along with guest FIFA instructor Peter Prendergast (Jamaica) and supported by select instructors from the National program. As part of the CPL's launch preparations, additional pre-season opportunities were provided to a select group of officials who attended the league's pre-season camp in the Dominican Republic. The referee delegation was led by Manager of Referees Isaac Raymond, who gave presentations to all CPL players and coaches on refereeing and the Laws of the Game.

#### **FIFA Futuro III**

Concacaf selected Bob Sawtell, Joe Audi, John Nielsen, and Kevin Wildfong (fitness) to attend the FIFA Futuro III instructors' course in Guatemala with Michelle Pye and Héctor Vergara attending as instructors. The most current material and methodologies gained were then shared by Canada Soccer at an instructor clinic in November to transfer this knowledge to Member Associations.





#### NextGen Program

Canada Soccer's NextGen program identifies top prospects from Member Associations and brings them into an elite training environment where they receive ongoing feedback and support from National Program referees and assessors. With the launch of the CPL, the program grew considerably, as did the opportunities available. All 18 members received appointments to professional matches throughout the season and the bulk of them also attended the Toyota National Championships to continue their development within a tournament setting. In 2019, the NextGen program celebrated its first graduate to the National List, Filip Dujic.



#### **International Appointment Highlights**

Internationally, Canada Soccer's referees continue to excel. Our referees and assistant referees officiated at all major tournaments and competitions in our region and beyond, including at two FIFA World Cup tournaments. Highlights include:

- FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019<sup>™</sup>: Referees Carol Anne Chénard and Marie-Soleil Beaudoin; Assistant Referee Chantal Boudreau; Video Assistant Referee Drew Fischer. Beaudoin officiated four games including the knockout match with host France v Brazil and the Semi-final featuring Netherlands v Sweden; Boudreau officiated two matches including the Round of 16 match featuring Netherlands v Japan.
- FIFA U-17 World Cup Brazil 2019: Assistant Referee Micheal Barwegen (three matches including the Quarter-final with Italy v hosts Brazil); Video Assistant Referee Drew Fischer (six matches including the Quarter-final featuring Italy v hosts Brazil).
- Concacaf Gold Cup: Micheal Barwegen (two matches)
- FISU Universiade (Napoli, Italy): Myriam Marcotte
- As a result of her great work at the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019<sup>™</sup>, Marie-Soleil Beaudoin caught the eye of the French Football Federation and was invited to referee the women's Trophée des Championnes.



#### **Provincial Promotion Course**

Canada Soccer hosted the annual Provincial Promotion course in Laval, Québec. Eight Member Associations provided 25 candidates who aspire to reach the Provincial level within the next year. Instruction was led by National instructors Dave O'Neill, José Branco, Daniel Belleau, and Isaac Raymond.

#### Women's Seminar

Canada Soccer hosted a women's seminar in Ontario in April. Twelve women used the forum to discuss the unique challenges women face in refereeing while also receiving technical training from FIFA instructors Michelle Pye and Héctor Vergara. They also completed fitness tests in preparation for the upcoming season.

#### **Concacaf Program of Referee Excellence**

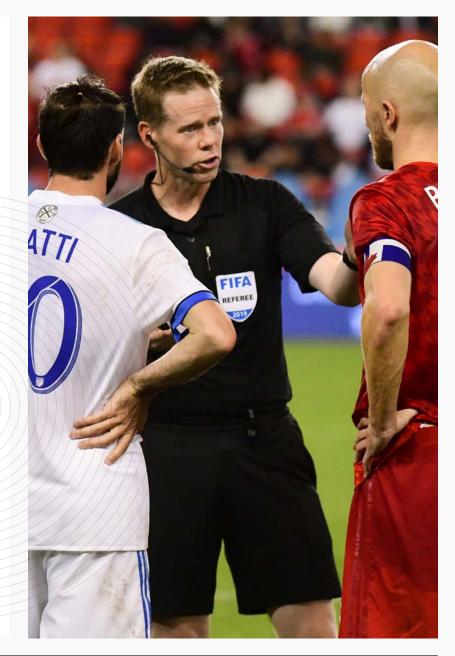
Canada had three referees selected to be a part of Concacaf's Program of Referee Excellence: Sebastian Noshinravani, Brad Doubrough, and Cole Shoemaker. They successfully completed two, three-week courses of intensive training and received high praise for their work.

#### **Futsal National Championships**

Canada Soccer appointed 12 referees, representing four Member Associations, to officiate at the Futsal National Championships, including two assessors.

#### Toyota National Championships

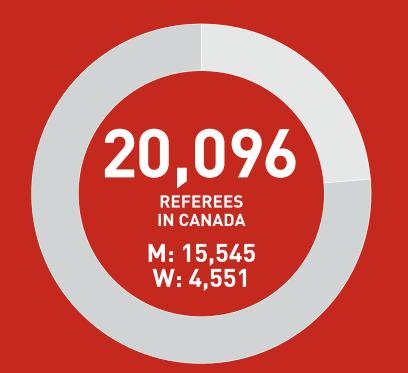
Over the course of six days in three cities across Canada, approximately 150 referees and 17 assessors experienced this prestigious event. A total of 612 match appointments offered referees an opportunity to develop within the Canada Soccer umbrella while receiving education and training from National program assessors and instructors.



#### **AMM Referee Development Officers Workshop**

Referee Development Officers from all Member Associations attended a two-day workshop as part of Canada Soccer's Annual Meeting of the Members in Québec City. Canada Soccer staff were able to share and exchange ideas with Referee Development Officers for recruitment, retention and development and to agree on a pathway for ongoing training and development of instructors, assessors and referees at all levels.

#### **Refereeing by the Numbers**













#### **Toyota National Championships**

The Canada Soccer Toyota National Championships wrapped up 13 months of competition in which more than 10,000 players, coaches and administrators from 615 teams set their sights on a national title. From the 62 teams that reached the final stage in October 2019, six champions were crowned in three cities during Teck Finals Days over Thanksgiving weekend: the adult amateur champions in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador; the U-17 Cup champions in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island; and the U-15 Cup champions in Edmonton, Alberta.

The Canada Soccer Toyota National Championships once again delivered huge digital audience numbers. In 2019, Canada Soccer's website attracted 575,000+ page views during the six-day coverage from 9-14 October.

For the fourth year in a row, matches were streamed live at CanadaSoccer. com every day of the Canada Soccer Toyota National Championships. A record of 98 matches were streamed, including all Championships Finals over the Thanksgiving weekend. The streams drew more than 89,000 unique viewers across the three competitions.

A truly coast-to-coast-to-coast competition, online visits to CanadaSoccer. com/Nationals were geographically dispersed evenly across the country.









#### **CHALLENGE TROPHY**

- Central City Breakers FC from Surrey, British Columbia won 2:0 over Ottawa St. Anthony FC of Ontario on Teck Finals Day to win their first Challenge Trophy. Bobby Jhutty of Surrey was the Most Valuable Player of the tournament.
- United DFC from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia won Bronze after a 2:0 win over Edmonton Scottish SC of Alberta.



#### JUBILEE TROPHY

- **Royal-Sélect Beauport** of Québec won their second Jubilee Trophy after a 1:0 win over Alberta's Edmonton Northwest United in the Championship Final. Royal's Gabrielle Lapointe of Lévis was the Most Valuable Player of the tournament.
- **Coquitlam Metro-Ford SC** of British Columbia won Bronze after a 1:0 win over Feildians AA of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.







#### U-17 CUP

- Calgary Foothills SC of Alberta won the U-17 Cup Boys title after beating Woodbridge SC of Ontario on Teck Finals Day. CS St-Laurent of Québec won the Bronze Medal.
- Ottawa TFC Academy of Ontario won the U-17 Cup Girls title after beating Lakeshore SC of Québec on Teck Finals Day. Surrey United SC of British Columbia won the Bronze Medal.

#### U-15 CUP

- **St. Albert Impact** of Alberta won the U-15 Cup Boys title after beating provincial rivals Calgary Foothills SC on Teck Finals Day. CS St-Laurent of Québec won the Bronze Medal.
- **Calgary Foothills SC** of Alberta won the U-15 Cup Girls title after beating AS Brossard of Québec on Teck Finals Day. Surrey United SC of British Columbia won the Bronze Medal.



### **2019 CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP**

Montréal Impact won their fourth Canadian Championship after defeating Toronto FC to lift the Voyageurs Cup and qualify for the 2020 Scotiabank Concacaf Champions League. After both sides won their respective home legs by 1:0 scores, Montréal won the 2019 Canadian Championship Final presented by Allstate with a 3-1 victory on kicks from the penalty mark.

Ignacio Piatti won the George Gross Memorial Trophy as the tournament's Most Valuable Player. The Best Young Canadian Player Award—a new addition in 2019 that recognizes the player 21 or younger who made the biggest impact in the Canadian Championship went to Zachary Brault-Guillard of the Montréal Impact. The 2019 Canadian Championship was the largest and longest to date, expanding to 13 teams across five leagues and five rounds of competition. A new record for attendance was set with 154,398 spectators attending in 2019, bringing the total attendance to over one million since the competition's inception in 2008.

The expanded 2019 Canadian Championship provided more opportunities than ever before for Canadian players. A record 170 Canadians took part in the 2019 edition, making up 60% of the 283 players that dressed for the 24 matches.





DATE	HOME	RESULT	AWAY	LOCATION	VENUE					
QUALIFYING ROUND 1										
15 MAY	VAUGHAN AZZURI	2:3	HFX WANDERERS	VAUGHAN, ON	ONTARIO SOCCER CENTRE					
15 MAY	PACIFIC FC	0:2	CAVALRY FC	LANGFORD, BC	WESTHILLS STADIUM					
15 MAY	AS BLAINVILLE	0:0	YORK9 FC	BLAINVILLE, QC	PARC ÉQUESTRE BLAINVILLE					
22 MAY	HFX WANDERERS	0:1	VAUGHAN AZZURI	HALIFAX, NS	WANDERERS GROUNDS					
22 MAY	CAVALRY FC	2:1	PACIFIC FC	CALGARY AB	SPRUCE MEADOWS					
22 MAY	YORK9 FC	1:0	AS BLAINVILLE	NORTH YORK, ON	YORK UNIVERSITY					
QUALIFYING ROUND 2										
4 JUNE	FORGE FC	1:1	CAVALRY FC	HAMILTON, ON	TIM HORTONS FIELD					
5 JUNE	HFX WANDERERS	2:1	VALOUR FC	HALIFAX, NS	WANDERERS GROUNDS					
5 JUNE	YORK9 FC	3:1	FC EDMONTON	NORTH YORK, ON	YORK UNIVERSITY					
11 JUNE	CAVALRY FC	2:1	FORGE FC	CALGARY, AB	SPRUCE MEADOWS					
12 JUNE	VALOUR FC	0:2	HFX WANDERERS	WINNIPEG, MB	INVESTORS GROUP FIELD					
12 JUNE	FC EDMONTON	4:0	YORK9 FC	EDMONTON, AB	IMG CENTER					
			QUALIFYING ROUND 3							
10 JULY	HFX WANDERERS	2:3	OTTAWA FURY FC	HALIFAX, NS	WANDERERS GROUNDS					
10 JULY	CAVALRY FC	0:0	VANCOUVER WHITECAPS FC	CALGARY, AB	SPRUCE MEADOWS					
10 JULY	YORK9 FC	2:2	IMPACT DE MONTRÉAL	NORTH YORK, ON	YORK UNIVERSITY					
24 JULY	OTTAWA FURY FC	2:2	HFX WANDERERS	OTTAWA, ON	TD PLACE					
24 JULY	VANCOUVER WHITECAPS FC	1:2	CAVALRY FC	VANCOUVER, BC	BC PLACE					
24 JULY	IMPACT DE MONTRÉAL	1:0	YORK9 FC	MONTRÉAL, QC	STADE SAPUTO					
SEMI-FINAL STAGE										
7 AUG	OTTAWA FURY FC	0:2	TORONTO FC	OTTAWA, ON	TD PLACE					
7 AUG	IMPACT DE MONTRÉAL	2:1	CAVALRY FC	MONTRÉAL, QC	STADE SAPUTO					
14 AUG	TORONTO FC	3:0	OTTAWA FURY FC	TORONTO, ON	BM0 FIELD					
14 AUG	CAVALRY FC	0:1	IMPACT DE MONTRÉAL	CALGARY, AB	SPRUCE MEADOWS					
CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL										
8 SEPT	IMPACT DE MONTRÉAL	1:0	TORONTO FC	MONTRÉAL, QC	STADE SAPUTO					
15 SEPT	TORONTO FC	0:!	IMPACT DE MONTRÉAL	TORONTO, ON	BM0 FIELD					







## **2019 FUTSAL CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP**

Toronto Idolo Futsal repeated as Canadian champions after winning the 2019 Futsal Canadian Championship on 14 April in Kingston, Ontario. Toronto defeated Sporting Montréal FC in the final for the second year in a row, albeit this time after a 3-2 win on kicks from the penalty mark following a 5:5 draw through extra time. Toronto's Luis Rocha won both Most Valuable Player and Top Scorer honours.

Across 16 matches, the eight clubs scored a record 229 goals. For the competition's fifth year, first-time teams were Calgary Villains Elite, Winnipeg Pioneers FC, and Concord's GTA Futsal. Behind the winners from Toronto and runners up from Montréal, GTA Futsal finished third while Saskatoon Olimpia SK FC finished fourth.



Alongside Toronto Idolo Futsal, previous Futsal Canadian Championship winners are Sporting Montréal FC in 2017 (at the time known as Montréal Sporting Outlaws FC), Toronto United Futsal in 2016, and Futsal Club Toronto in 2015.



## **2019 ACTIVE START SOCCER FESTS**

Canada Soccer's Active Start Soccer Fests 2019 season wrapped up with 141 community soccer clubs hosting fun-filled festivals in nearly every Province and Territory from coast-to-coast-to-coast. Over the past year, Canada's largest grassroots soccer program connected nearly 100,000 Active Start participants under the age of 12 and over 215,000 total onsite attendees including families, volunteers and coaches across the Canadian soccer community.

As Canada's leading grassroots soccer program, Active Start Soccer Fests deliver financial, promotional and technical resources that contribute to the hosting of community soccer celebrations in collaboration with community soccer clubs. Canada Soccer recognizes and thanks the program's community club partners who contribute significant time and energy to create the best possible experience, encouraging lifelong participation in the beautiful game.



The 2019 festival season featured Canada Soccer national sponsors Toyota and Allstate contributing to the positive participant experience by activating at more than 45 festivals combined, with highlights including the opportunity to participate in national contests such as the Allstate 'Win A Trip' contest and sharp shooting activation, Toyota's interactive vehicle displays and other activities. Festival participants enjoyed giveaways from Canada Soccer and its partners including Canada Soccer string bags, temporary tattoos and participation certificates.

PROVINCE	NUMBER OF FESTIVALS
Alberta	19
British Columbia	20
Manitoba	6
New Brunswick	5
Newfoundland & Labrador	5
Nova Scotia	5
Northwest Territories	1
Ontario	56
Prince Edward Island	6
Québec	14
Saskatchewan	3
Cushatenerrain	J



## **2019 ACTIVE START SOCCER FESTS**

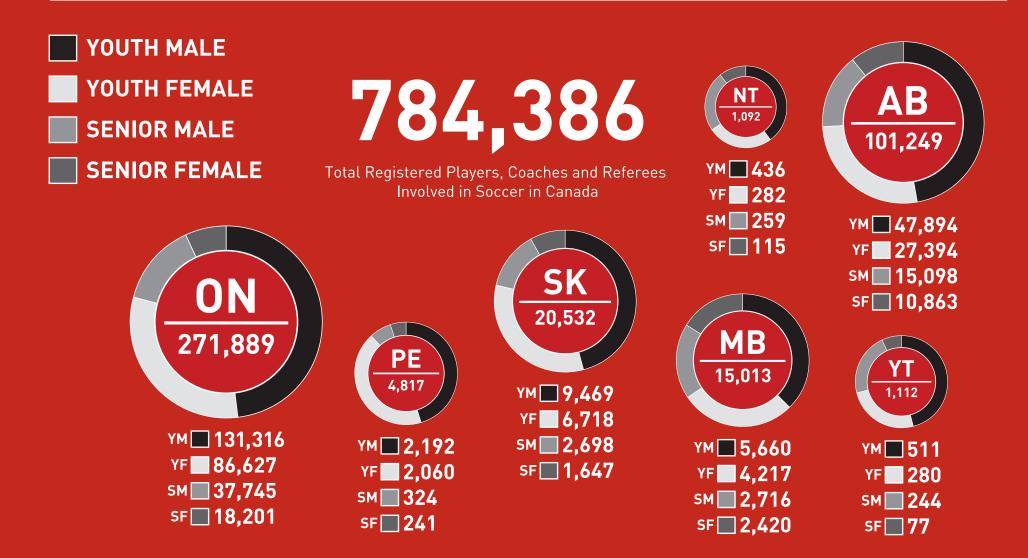








## **DEMOGRAPHICS**





			PROVINCE	COACHES	REFEREES
	<u>NL</u> 10,977		AB	5,774	2,319
QC		12,717	BC	2,881	2,715
164,377	YM 5,443	YM 6,436	MB	840	615
	YF 3,947	YF 4,388	NB	1,971	338
	sм <b>⊡ 996</b> sf <b>⊡ 591</b>	sm <b>1,310</b>	NL	285	433
YM 🔜 91,662 YF 🔜 48,765	5.071	sf <b>583</b>	NS	1,141	555
ѕм 🛄 14,550			NT	27	19
sf <b>9,400</b>	BC		NU	38	3
	109,411	20,559	ON	6,572	5,754
NU			PE	168	116
311			QC	7,066	6,583
YM <b>160</b>	YM 🔜 55,105 YF 🔜 33,056	YM 🔜 8,861 YF 🔜 7,833	SK	618	590
YF 151	sm <b>12,688</b>	sм <b>2,051</b>	ΥT	52	56
	sf 🗖 8,562	sf <b>1,814</b>	TOTAL	30,234	20,096



## PROFESSIONAL SOCCER AROUND THE WORLD

At the professional club level, Canadian players earned accolades both at home and abroad, with notably several Men's National Team and Women's National Team players winning championships in their professional leagues.

In Europe, Kadeisha Buchanan of FCF Olympique Lyonnais won her third UEFA Champions League title, her third Championnat de France, and her second Coupe de France. Buchanan was one of four Canadians that played in the UEFA Women's Champions League in 2018-19 or 2019-20, with Ashley Lawrence and Jordyn Huitema representing Paris Saint-Germain FC of France and Janine Beckie representing Manchester City FC of England. In September, Beckie became just the second Canadian to score a hat trick in a UEFA Women's Champions League match.



On the men's side, Atiba Hutchinson of Besiktas JK (Turkey), Milan Borjan of FK Crvena Zvezda (Red Star Belgrade in Serbia), and Alphonso Davies of FC Bayern München (Germany) all participated in UEFA Champions League. Scott Arfield of Rangers FC (Scotland) and Jonathan David of KAA Gent (Belgium) both participated in UEFA Europa League.

Across all competitions for club and country, Jonathan David scored 28 goals in 2019, the highest total for a Men's National Team player since the start of the new century. He scored 20 of those goals for KAA Gent plus a joint record eight goals for Canada.



In Germany, Davies won both his first league (2018-19 Bundesliga) and Cup (2018-19 DFB-Pokal) titles. In Serbia, Borjan won his second-straight SuperLiga title.

In North America, Stephanie Labbé helped NC Courage repeat as both NWSL Shield and NWSL Championship winners. She became just the second Canadian to win the NWSL double in the same year, following in the footsteps of former NC Courage goalkeeper Sabrina D'Angelo (2018 double) who transferred to Sweden in 2019.



In Major League Soccer (MLS), Mark-Anthony Kaye won his first MLS Supporters' Shield with Los Angeles FC as the club set a league record for points in a season (72 points). In the playoffs, LAFC (featuring Kaye) reached the Western Conference final (lost to Seattle) while Toronto FC (featuring several Canadians) won their third MLS Eastern Conference title in four years.

In continental play, seven Canadians represented Toronto FC in 2019 Scotiabank Concacaf Champions League (qualified through the 2018 Canadian Championship) and 15 Canadians represented Forge FC Hamilton in 2019 Concacaf League. After representing Canada in continental play, Forge FC went on to win the first Canadian Premier League Northern Shield.

Looking ahead to 2020, Montréal Impact qualified for 2020 Concacaf Champions League by winning the 2019 Canadian Championship

### **NWSL Club-by-club Canadian Allocations**



### **Canadian Premier League**



The inaugural match of the Canadian Premier League (CPL) between York9 FC and Forge FC took place at Tim Hortons Field in Hamilton, Ontario on Saturday, 27 April 2019. Over the course of the inaugural season, the seven new Canadian soccer clubs each played 28 league matches, with 10 matches each in the Spring segment from 27 April to 1 July and then 18 more matches in the Fall segment from 6 July to 19 October.

Cavalry FC of Calgary won both the Spring and Fall season schedules to advance to the Championship where they faced Forge FC Hamilton in a two-leg final. Forge FC won both matches to win 2-0 on aggregate and lift the Canadian Premier League's Northern Shield.



## **MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS**

### **Canadian National Team Home Matches**

Powered by fantastic pro-Canadian home crowds, Canada Soccer's National Teams continued to demonstrate the strength of playing on home soil, going a perfect 4-0 across four home matches played, highlighted by a historic 2:0 home win over USA. Canada Soccer's four home National Team matches drew a total attendance of 64,084, for an average of 16,021 per match.

Canada's Men's National Team returned to Vancouver's BC Place to complete its undefeated 2018-19 Concacaf Nations League Qualifying campaign with a 4:1 win over French Guiana in front of 17,124 fans on 24 March. This marked the second highest attendance for a Concacaf Nations League Qualifying match across the entire region.



Canada's Women's National Team hosted a high-profile send-off match as part of the team's preparations ahead of the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup, defeating regional rivals Mexico 3:0 at BMO Field in Toronto on 18 May in front of 19,610 fans. This marked the fourth consecutive Women's National Team match held at BMO Field that drew 19,500+ fans.



Canada's Men's National Team hosted its two Concacaf Nations League Group A home matches at BMO Field against Cuba on 7 September and USA on 15 October. The two matches cumulatively drew an attendance of 27,340 and Canada was victorious in both, winning 6:0 over Cuba (10,224 attendance) and 2:0 over USA (17,126). The October win was a historic night in which Canada defeated their southern rivals for the first time in 34 years. The two matches generated six points for Canada in group play as Canada finished second in Group A, but ranked first amongst 12 League A countries in accumulating FIFA ranking points across the group phase. These two matches marked nine straight Canada Soccer National Team matches hosted at BMO Field with an attendance of 10,000+. Canada's National Teams posted a record of 7-1-1 across those nine matches.







# MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

### **Canadian Championship**

The expanded Canadian Championship set a number of new records in 2019, highlighted by the 154,398 total fans that attended the 24 matches across five rounds of play. The largest single match attendance was the second leg of the Final played between Montréal Impact and Toronto FC at BMO Field (21,365).









### **Toyota National Championships**

The high volume of interest in the 2019 Toyota National Championships highlighted the ongoing importance of the competition to Canada Soccer's Member Associations. The 2019 edition marked the third year with Toyota in the title sponsor position, bringing increased visibility and credibility to the competition. As ever, emphasis was placed on ensuring a premium participant experience for all players, team staff, fans, volunteers, and hosts.

The 2019 Toyota National Championships drove significant audiences across Canada Soccer's digital platforms during the week of the competition, resulting in:



Building on the expanded coverage deployed for recent Toyota National Championships, a record 98 matches were broadcast live via web stream from the three 2019 competition venues, generating more than 89,000 unique viewers across Canada and around the world. The centralized national merchandise program, which offered Local Organizing Committees a variety of service models designed to maximize revenue, delivered royalties of nearly \$15,000 across the three venues. As part of the hosting model, 100% of all royalties generated by the program were delivered back to the host communities.





### Sponsorship



Having announced its new partnership with Nike in December of 2018, Canada Soccer and Nike unveiled the new National Team kits at the Nike Global Football Event in Paris in March of 2019. Building on the momentum of the new partnership, Nike celebrated Canada's inspirational Women's National Team at the official 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup™ send-off match against Mexico at BMO Field in May by featuring a number of exciting fan and influencer engagement activities around the match. Nike also deployed a vast multi-channel marketing campaign in support of Canada's participation at the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™. Canada Soccer apparel and licensed products returned to all of Canada's major sporting goods retailers, with the new National Team jersey available to fans across the nation.



As Canada Soccer's Official Vehicle and Official Mobility Partner, Toyota Canada continued to leverage its partnership to deliver on a commitment to encourage and enable more Canadians to experience the joy and excitement of participation in sport. Through its support of Canada Soccer's National Teams and as title partner for the Toyota National Championships, Toyota connected with fans of the beautiful game from coast to coast in 2019. This past year was highlighted by Toyota's dynamic fan engagement activations around National Team home matches. These included a special banner display for fans to write their good luck messages to Canada's Women's National Team, which was presented to the team during the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup™.





Allstate Canada's commitment to Canadian soccer created a positive impacton the sport at all levels. Highlights of Allstate's 2019 programming included: the hosting of three High Performance Soccer Clinics in Calgary, Alberta; Edmonton, Alberta; and Montréal, Québec that featured National Team athletes in celebrity coach roles; the Allstate Good Hands Award, recognizing the top save by a Canadian National Team goalkeeper in international play as voted by fans (awarded to Stephanie Labbé in 2019), the Allstate National Soccer Contest, which sent its grand-prize winner on an all-expenses-paid trip to cheer on Canada Soccer's Men's National Team against USA in Orlando; and the numerous fan engagement activations deployed by Allstate and its agents at Canada National Team matches, Canadian Championship matches, and Active Start Soccer Fests.

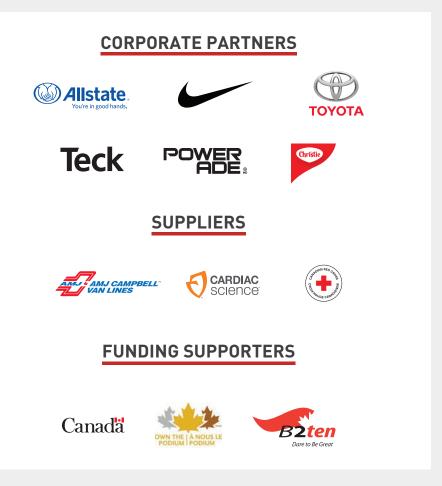


In 2019, Mondelez debuted a new community soccer support campaign under the Christie brand - 'Good Cookies Doing Great Things' - which was developed to recognize and celebrate Canadian community soccer clubs identified as going above and beyond to create an environment where kids can participate and learn the game of soccer. Canadians were invited to submit stories of community soccer clubs across Canada who could be considered for inclusion in the program. Three clubs – Dieppe Soccer Club in Moncton, New Brunswick, Les Escoumins Titans in Québec, and the South West Edmonton Minor Soccer Association Community League in Duggan, Alberta - were selected to receive an \$18,000 donation from the Christie brand to support continued programming in their communities. In addition to the three profiled teams, an additional 50 soccer organizations across Canada received recognition and financial awards through the Mondelez Canada program, totalling \$130,000 in overall 2019 contributions to the betterment of the sport. Over the five years of its Canada Soccer partnership, Mondelez Canada has contributed more than \$500,000 directly to community soccer clubs across Canada.



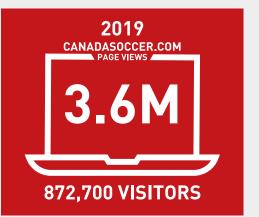


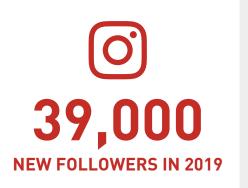
Teck Resources remained focused on leveraging its Canada Soccer partnership to direct significant resources into supporting soccer at the community level across a number of Canadian communities. A key pillar of Teck's programming is the Teck Community Soccer Initiative, which provides financial grants to community soccer clubs to support the enhancement of soccer programming through the fulfillment of financial needs as identified by local community clubs and their members. Further, Teck directly supports a number of community soccer clubs and communities through the Teck Local Club Sponsorship program, which in 2019 supported more than 20 youth teams. As a proud supporter of the Toyota National Championships, 'Teck Finals Day' remains a highlight of the competition, featuring unique activations and appearances from Canada Soccer National Team athletes.



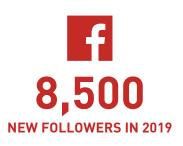


### **115.5 MILLION** SOCIAL MEDIA IMPRESSIONS IN 2019 **451,114** FOLLOWERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA









### **CANADA SOCCER ON DIGITAL MEDIA**

With a total of 115.5 million social media impressions and 451,114 followers, Canada Soccer's social media channels experienced steady growth in 2019. Overall, total social media following was up 20 per cent with more than 75,484 new followers across Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. CanadaSoccer.com also continued to draw record audiences. For the year, the site drew more than 872,000 unique visitors. Content in June, during the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™ and the 2019 Concacaf Gold Cup, generated nearly 30 million impressions, more than one million engagements and helped Canada Soccer's digital audience grow by more than 20,000 followers.







### Financials

Canada Soccer continued to play a leadership role for the sport of soccer from coast to coast to coast, building on the solid foundation established over the past ten years and heading into a new decade that will include Canada having the once-in-alifetime opportunity to co-host the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ with our neighbours in Mexico and the United States . As reflected in the Canada Soccer Nation: 2019-2021 Strategic Plan, we are committed to: support our members as we **GOVERN** the sport responsibly; ensure that participation, awareness, and audiences continue to **GROW**; and **DEVELOP** all aspects of the game to the benefit of players, coaches, officials, clubs, leagues, and fans throughout the country.

Financial sustainability is critical for Canada Soccer to ensure we not only meet our strategic objectives and continue the unprecedented growth and development of the game, but that we are prepared for whatever the future might hold.



We are Canada Soccer Nation and our Canada Soccer Nation: 2019-2021 Strategic Plan, supported by a strong financial position, will guide our efforts to DEVELOP, GOVERN, and GROW our sport to ensure all who participate will benefit from the anticipation, excitement, and investment as we embark on the journey to host the 2026 FIFA World Cup<sup>TM</sup>.

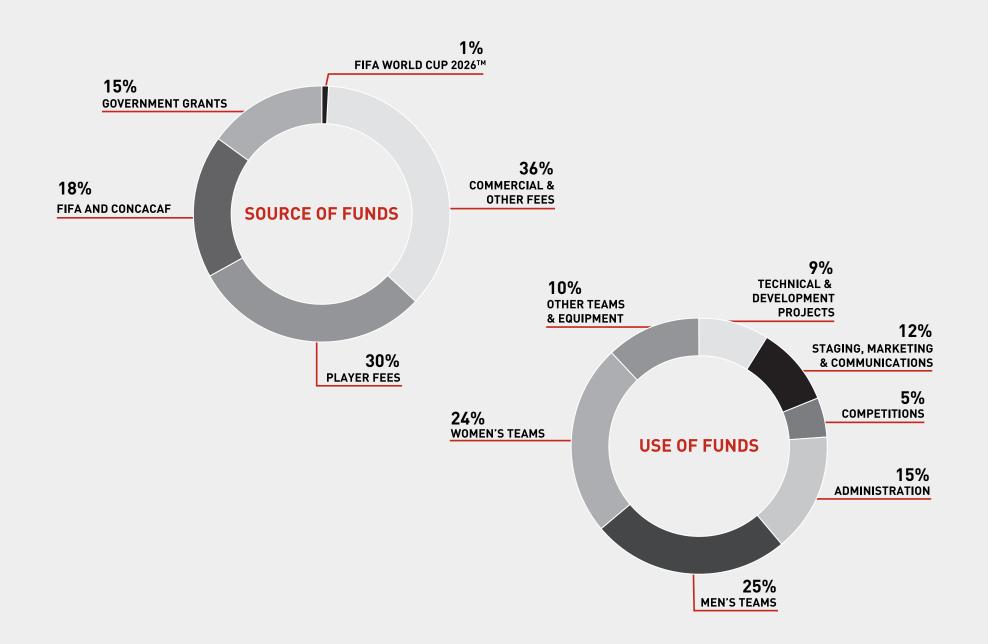
- Nearly three-quarters of all funds were directed to activity on the pitch with close to 50% of those resources directed to supporting Canada Soccer's National Teams as well as competitions, technical and development projects.
- Funding for National Teams and technical and development projects was up 31% with a focus on the development of the next generation of Canada's coaches and high performance players that competed in the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup France<sup>™</sup> and will continue to compete in the 2022 FIFA World Cup Qatar<sup>™</sup> Qualifiers.
  - Development continues to be a focus for Canada Soccer with a 65% increase in funds through FIFA and Concacaf soccer development program opportunities.
    This level of funding represents the highest level that the organization has secured and will benefit players, coaches and officials for years to come.

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- Canada Soccer, united with our neighbors, Mexico and the United States, began investment in preparation as co-hosts for the 2026 FIFA World Cup<sup>™</sup> – the largest single-sporting event in the world. This investment will have both immediate and long-term benefits across all Canada Soccer programs and for the sport in our country.
  - Strong government support, including our partnerships with Sport Canada through its Own the Podium (OTP) program and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), was sustained from 2018 which gave us the ability to extend the regional reach of Canada Soccer's Women National Team programing and expand the Soccer Injury Prevention program.







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Vanessa Racine Content Manager

Kaitlin Tulle Brand & Ticketing Manager

John Bruce Graphic Designer

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**Stuart Neely** *Coach Education Manager* 

Jim Loughlin Master Coach Developer

#### NATIONAL TEAMS

John Herdman Men's National Team Head Coach Men's National EXCEL Director

Mauro Biello Men's National Team Assistant Coach Men's EXCEL U-18 to U-23 Program Director

Andrew Olivieri Men's EXCEL U-14 to U-17 Program Director

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Eric Tenllado Men's EXCEL Development Coach

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Jan Lang Men's EXCEL Program Coordinator

**Drew Ferguson** Men's Para Soccer National Team Head Coach

**Kyt Selaidopoulos** Men's Futsal National Team Head Coach Kenneth Heiner-Møller Women's National Team Head Coach Women's National EXCEL Director

Rhian Wilkinson Women's National Team Assistant Coach Women's Youth National Teams Coach

Andrée Jeglertz Women's National Team Assistant Coach

Mike Norris Women's EXCEL Goalkeeping Manager

Daniel Worthington Women's National EXCEL Director U-15 to U-23 Women's National Team Assistant Coach

Maeve Glass Women's National Team Tour & Equipment Manager

Andi Barnaba Women's EXCEL Program Manager

Robyn Gayle EXCEL Mental and Cultural Manager

Sarah Smith Peak Performance Manager

Brandon Frith Manager, Ontario SuperREX

Tania Singfield Goalkeeper Coach, Ontario SuperREX

