



BC NextGen Performance Centre Expressions of Interest and Request for Proposals

November 30, 2020

INTRODUCTION

Rowing Canada Aviron (RCA) and Rowing BC have partnered to deliver the NextGen portion of the Athlete Development Pathway for rowing in BC through 2028. Provincial Development (PD1 and PD2) and Canadian Development (CanDev) Athletes are considered NextGen Athletes in BC, athletes who are typically 5 – 8 years away from a potential Olympic or Paralympic Podium.

NextGen Athletes will receive support services through the BC NextGen Performance Centre. To read the centre outline please visit the Rowing BC website. The BC NextGen Performance Centre operates on the understanding that an extended exposure to an enhanced training environment increases an athlete's likelihood of Olympic and Paralympic success.

SEEKING A PERMANENT HOME

Rowing BC is seeking a permanent home for the BC NextGen Performance Centre. Interested communities are asked to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to Rowing BC **by January 11, 2021** (see appendix 1).

Rowing BC will work with interested communities to assess the strengths and weaknesses of each site, and to help establish the value of moving forward into a formal proposal. Formal Proposals must be submitted **by February 15, 2021**. Final decisions will be made by the Rowing BC Selection Committee **by February 28, 2021**.

Starting January 4, 2021, due to existing infrastructure, a daily training environment (DTE) and support services will be provided to NextGen Athletes in Saanich (Elk Lake) and Burnaby (Burnaby Lake), BC. Rowing BC's objective is to officially open the BC NextGen Performance Centre on September 7, 2021.

Submissions and any questions should be directed to Rowing BC's Executive Director, David Calder at David.Calder@RowingBC.ca



CENTRE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the BC NextGen Performance Centre is to create the most robust development pathway for BC-based athletes with Olympic and Paralympic podium aspirations. The centre's goals are to increase the number of BC-based athletes on Olympic and Paralympic podiums. The BC NextGen Performance Centre aligns with the Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) model and uses leading sport science, sport medicine and certified coaches to achieve sport specific skill development at each stage of the Athlete Development Pathway.

The creation of the BC NextGen Performance Centre aligns RCA and Rowing BC in the delivery of the NextGen portion of the Athlete Development Pathway, increasing the quantity and quality of athletes in the system. The goal of a healthy, positive and engaging training environment will elongate the time an athlete stays in the sport and will streamline them towards positive key developmental experiences, including provincial, national and international competitions, and ultimately onto Olympic and Paralympic podiums.

The centre creates a highly competitive DTE that emulates RCA's National Training Centre's (NTC) DTE and prepares athletes to transition to the NTC. The centre will provide appropriate opportunities for athletes to gain physical, technical and mental competencies ahead of selection events and competitions. NextGen athletes who prioritize accelerating their development within the Athlete Development Pathway can centralize to the BC NextGen Performance Centre to benefit from a high-performance targeted environment. NextGen athletes who train in a club or school program will establish an entry point into the BC NextGen Performance Centre through the creation of an annual Individual Athlete Performance Plan (IAPP).

Centralized athletes will have the opportunity to experience high quality competition at regattas throughout the year that are part of their IAPP. These regattas will include appropriate regional, national and international regattas.

For both centralized athletes and NextGen athletes participating in club or school programs, a primary function of the BC NextGen Performance Centre is to prepare and acclimatize athletes for outstanding performances during selection activities.



PROGRAMMING AND MEMBERSHIP

Athletes who meet Provincial or National NextGen Athlete criteria have the option to be a Centralized, Regional or Seasonal Member of the BC NextGen Performance Centre.

A CENTRALIZED member is an athlete that utilizes the BC NextGen Performance Centre as their DTE. The centre will begin offering fulltime training for athletes on the Tuesday following Labour Day each year.

A REGIONAL member is an athlete that utilizes a club or school program for their DTE, with established expectations on when they will train and compete with the NextGen Performance Centre. Regional Members will begin training at the BC NextGen Performance Centre fulltime, most typically in April for university students, and June for high school students and university students attending American schools.

An athlete who does not participate in the BC NextGen Performance Centre becomes a SEASONAL member once they have been selected to a Provincial or National team. Once selected, a Seasonal Member will train fulltime at the BC NextGen Performance Centre.

NEXTGEN ATHLETE MONITORING AND TESTING

The BC NextGen Performance Centre will run regular athlete monitoring and testing activities, including on-water assessments, lactate-based monitoring and set distance erg testing.



PRIMARY CENTRE REQUIREMENTS

Rowing BC has identified the following 6 key selection criteria (in no particular order) for the permanent home of the BC NextGen Performance Centre:

High Quality Body of Water

Rowing BC is looking for a straight, accessible, uninterrupted body of water that is at least 2000 meters in length and has a 2000-meter buoyed course available some of the year for training and racing purposes. Rowing BC is looking for a body of water that can be accessed year-round.

Boathouse and Indoor Facilities

Rowing BC is looking for a boathouse that will provide indoor storage for rowing specific equipment (primarily shells and oars); dock space for daily use as well as safe overnight coach boat storage; Washrooms with lockers and showers; and a lounge and food preparation space. Rowing BC is also looking for an accessible indoor space in close proximity to the boathouse for weightlifting and indoor rowing machines. The space should also provide functional change rooms, showers, designated classroom space, office(s) and meeting room.

Community: Practicality and Convenience

Rowing BC understands that a significant number of identified NextGen Athletes currently live in the Lower Mainland or on Southern Vancouver Island. Through the selection of the permanent home for the BC NextGen Performance Centre, Rowing BC seeks to minimize the disruption to wellness placed on athletes required to relocate.

Sport Specific Support Services

Rowing BC provides Sport Science and Sport Medicine services to athletes through the Canadian Sport Institute Pacific (CSIP) and other localized service providers. Rowing BC is looking for convenient access to these services for athletes.

Athlete Support System

Rowing BC is looking for local partnerships, programs, services, donations, support systems and opportunities that ease the financial and mental burden on NextGen Athletes.

Access to Amenities

Rowing BC is looking for community amenities that could include, but is not limited to, local schools, community centres, childcare options, jobs, restaurants and forms of entertainment.



APPENDIX 1

BC NextGen Performance Centre Expression of Interest

Please provide responses to the following questions and submit them to Rowing BC's Executive Director, David Calder at David.Calder@RowingBC.ca as an Expression of Interest no later than January 11, 2021.

- What Municipality is this bid located in?
- Is there an existing Rowing BC Member Organization located on this site or in this Municipality?
- Which organizations are official partners to this bid?
- What body of water is this bid proposing?
- What Boathouse and Indoor Facility is this bid proposing?
- How will your bid mitigate hardship for athletes not already living there?
- How can NextGen Athletes receive Sport Specific Support Services in your community?
- How can your community support the long-term health of NextGen Athletes?
- Who is the Primary Contact for your bid (please include contact information)?
- Who are the other people involved in the bid (please include contact information)?

Reminder of Dates

November 30, 2020	Release of Information
January 11, 2021	Deadline to Submit Expression of Interest
February 15, 2021	Deadline to Submit Formal Proposal
February 28, 2021	Final Decision Announcement
September 7, 2021	BC NextGen Performance Centre Opening