



**CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION**

Canadian Rugby Foundation News and Views

February 28, 2026

**FOUNDATION NEWS
& ANNOUNCEMENTS**

FUNDS NEWS

**DONATION APPEAL
& CONTACTS**



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS!

On behalf of the Canadian Rugby Foundation Board of Directors and leadership group, I am pleased to present our February 2026 Newsletter, "News and Views".

This provides an update since our last Newsletter in August 2025, and our 2024 Annual Report.

Despite increased turmoil around the world and closer to home as well, rugby in Canada enjoyed a very successful year, highlighted by our Canadian Sr. Women's Silver-medal performance at Rugby World Cup 2025.

*Our performance at the Canadian Rugby Foundation was arguably a Gold-medal result with assets between December 31, 2024 and February 28, 2026 growing from \$22.2 million to **\$28.7 million**, largely due to Fletcher's Fields Limited's second major donation.*

*As well, we continue to expand our footprint across Canada to **93 funds in 8 provinces**.*

*By year-end 2026, we expect to hit the **100-fund milestone** and surpass the **\$30 million mark in assets**. This growth is only possible through the efforts, good will and confidence of our existing fund representatives and club executives, our current and future donors, and the increased interest and commitment to long-term sustainability at Canadian rugby clubs.*

Here's hoping the balance of 2026 is successful on the pitch, and prosperous off it for all!

Cheers,

*Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Rugby Foundation*



CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

2025 YEAR-END DASHBOARD



FOUNDATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

	<u>2024</u>	<u>Dec. 31, 2025</u>
ASSETS	\$22.1M	\$24.7M*
FUNDS	81	91
DONATIONS	\$1.2M	\$3.1M**
DISBURSEMENTS (GRANTS)	\$1.2M	\$2.2M

- Preliminary year-end total assets. Assets as of January 15, 2026 after latest Fletcher's Field donation = **\$28.7M**

** includes **\$1.5M** from Toronto Scottish for their new field at Lawrence Park Collegiate Institute in Toronto



Canadian Rugby Foundation News and Views

February 28, 2026

CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

CRF FOOTPRINT EXPANDS TO 93 FUNDS IN 8 PROVINCES

As of February 28, 2026, we now have **93 funds**, an 86% increase from the 50 funds we had in March 2021. Included in these 7 new funds established in 2025 and 3 in 2026 as of February 28. A complete list is [here](#).



7 NEW FUNDS IN 2025



BURFC (Bishops)
Alumni Endowment
Fund



SABRFC Alumni
Endowment
Fund



Lone Oak Legends
Capital Fund



Stampede 7s
Award Fund



MGRP Capital Fund



Toronto Saracens
Alumni Fund



Rugby Alberta
Endowment Fund

3 NEW FUNDS IN 2026 (as of February 28)



Doug Tate University
Coach of the Year Award
Fund



Cowichan RFC Larry
Thibideau Memorial
Award Fund



Cowichan Rugby Club
Legacy Capital Fund

An additional 8 potential funds are in the discussion stages.



2025 BOARD MEETING AND AGM

The following decisions were made at the November 13, 2025 Board meeting and Annual General Meeting.

1. Returns for \$500,000+ funds.

A motion was carried, "that all endowment funds within Canadian Rugby Foundation have the option to adopt a market-based return subject to the following criteria and conditions:

1. Minimum endowment size \$500K on December 31st of previous calendar year (referred to hereinafter as "Qualifying Fund")
2. The Qualifying Fund must sign a new memorandum of agreement (MOA) containing the following provisions:
 - An acknowledgement of the risk associated with market returns.
 - Agreement to pay an administrative fee of 2.0 percent of the year end value of the Fund regardless of market return. (1.75 percent for Qualifying Funds over \$1,000,000)
 - Agreement to abide by the standard investment policy set from time to time by the Board of the Canadian Rugby Foundation
 - In the event a Qualifying Fund falls below the minimum threshold of \$500K due to poor market returns, the Qualifying Fund will have 3 years to reach such threshold prior to reverting to a non-market-based return."

Rationale: The option is to provide a higher share of the Foundation's returns to its larger funds, should they opt-in. This would also create an incentive for funds over \$100,000 to drive their fund to that \$500,000 level.



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

2025 BOARD MEETING AND AGM

The following decisions were made at the November 13, 2025 Board meeting and Annual General Meeting.

2. **Appointment** of Jeff Chan as the Foundation's Chief Executive Officer.



Jeff joined the Foundation on March 1, 2021 as Executive Director, and celebrates his 5th anniversary this month. His major mandate is to grow the Foundation, in terms of assets and the number of funds established under the Foundation's banner, and secondarily with its footprint in Canada, and share of mind within the Canadian rugby community.

- Asset growth from \$5.9 million at the end of 2020, to \$27 million YTD, and increasing to over \$30 million by June 2026.
- Funds growth from 50 at year-end 2020 to **91** as of February 15, 2026.

Prior to his Canadian Rugby Foundation roles, Jeff held numerous corporate and consulting roles including global Growth & Innovation practice co-founder at McKinsey & Company, Sr. Vice President at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Games, Sr. Vice President at MD Financial, now part of Scotia Bank, and Consulting Partner with SECOR Inc. (acquired by KPMG). He is President of Growth Alchemy Group, Inc., a consultancy specializing in corporate growth and organizational performance. (GrowthAlchemy.com)

He is a graduate of Queen's University where he served for 6 years on the Board of Trustees, and the University of Western Ontario. In the broader community he has been a Council member of the Board of Trade of Metro Toronto, a Trustee at Toronto's Variety Village, and President of the Toronto Junior Board of Trade.

Jeff can often be found on the sidelines of football fields, and behind the touchlines and try zones of pitches across Canada shooting football and rugby. (SportsPhotosEh.com)



2025 BOARD MEETING AND AGM

The following decisions were made at the November 13, 2025 Board meeting and Annual General Meeting.

3. New Board members elected

Tim Mathews (FFL appointment)



With over 20 years of leadership experience in healthcare and professional sports, Tim has deep expertise in operations, strategy, corporate finance, and business development. His background focuses on leadership, team building, and business operations.

Tim is currently the Senior Vice President of Operations a Lifemark Health Group. Prior to joining Lifemark, Tim held senior growth-focused roles, including President and GM of the Toronto Arrows Rugby Club, CEO of AceAge Inc., and COO of Centric Health's specialty pharmacy division. In each role, Tim drove significant growth by enhancing operational efficiency and creating value for customers. Tim has dedicated quite a bit of his time outside of work to the sport of rugby, as a lifelong participant and supporter of the Canadian game across clubs, provinces and representative sides.

A people-first leader, Tim's focus on building high-performing teams is tangible. His leadership is rooted in a passion for empowering people, delivering consistent results no matter the challenge. Outside of work, Tim can be found either pitchside, on the slopes, golf course or out taking on new adventures with Norah and their three kids; Henry, Sammy and Rosie.

Tim holds a BA from the University of Guelph and an MBA from the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management.



2025 BOARD MEETING AND AGM

3. New Board members elected

Dave Butler (FFL appointment)



David Butler spent his professional life in the Capital Markets business, largely with Richardson Greenshields as Director and Head of Fixed Income, London UK and latterly with RBC Dominion Securities as Head of Global Markets, Middle East.

Following his time in financial markets, David was the owner and operator of a thoroughbred breeding and racing farm.

On the rugby side, David was President of Southwest Ontario Rugby and a Rugby Ontario (RO) board member for six years, serving as Chairman of RO from December 2014 to May 2019. He is currently Vice-Chair of Fletcher's Fields Limited.

Subsequently, we received the resignation of Spencer Robinson as a CRF Director. We thank him for his service to the Canadian Rugby Foundation, and hope he will continue supporting the CRF as he continues his rugby career with the Toronto Inner-City Rugby Foundation as DEI Head Coach of Youth Rugby & Belonging. Best of luck Spencer!

Spencer has been replaced on the Board by **Rick Powers**. Who was unanimously approved in a vote by the CRF Board of Directors.



2025 BOARD MEETING AND AGM

3. New Board members elected

Rick Powers



After receiving his MBA and LLB from Queen's University, Richard worked as a corporate lawyer for Smith Lyons (now Gowlings LLP where he practiced in the tax, securities, and corporate commercial areas. He later served as Corporate Counsel for Honda Canada. At the University of Toronto, Richard served as the Associate Dean of the Rotman School of Management where he was responsible for all full-time and part-time MBA programs as well as the Master of Finance Program. An internationally recognized expert in both corporate and not-for-profit governance, Richard is the National Academic Director of The Directors Education Program (DEP) and the Governance Essentials Program (GEP) (in partnership with the Institute of Corporate Directors – ICD). He also teaches in Rotman's Executive MBA, MBA, and Executive Education Programs. Areas of expertise include business law, business ethics and strategy, subjects he teaches on a regular basis in the DEP.

He has been a director and committee member of over 35 organizations including Rugby Canada, U Sports, Canadian Olympic Committee, and Commonwealth Games Federation, and currently serves as Past-President of Commonwealth Sport Canada. Richard served as a Director of Pivotree Inc., a publicly listed corporation and Spearhead Brewing Company and a number of other private companies. He also sits on the Board of the Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre and the Canadian Sport Institute Ontario.

Rick's 50+ years of involvement in amateur rugby in Canada includes playing for the Brantford Harlequins, Queen's University, Kingston Panthers, and Ajax Wanderers. Among his rugby leadership roles are: President of Ajax Wanderers RFC, President of Ontario Rugby, Director of Fletcher's Fields and Vice-Chair of Rugby Canada. He is a member of the Queen's Rugby, Rugby Ontario and Rugby Canada Halls of Fame.



2025 BOARD MEETING AND AGM

4. Corporate Secretary - Kwame Skerrit-Wilson



To address a vacancy created with the retirement from the Board of Sally Dennis, Kwame Skerrit-Wilson has been appointed as the ex-officio Corporate Secretary of the Foundation. Kwame is completing the requirements for a law degree at Queen’s University in 2026 and has been working as our Intern on several social media projects while also playing prop for the Queen’s Men’s Rugby varsity rugby team.

5. Committee Chairs

- **Executive Committee:** Mike Holmes
- **Investment Committee:** Jim Kellett
- **Awards Committee:** Hans de Goede
- **Women’s High-performance Rugby Initiative:** Liz Ferguson*
- **Men’s High-performance Rugby Initiative:** Hans de Goede and John Lecky
- **University Coaches Awards Committee:** Dave Loughheed
- **Governance Committee (including Nominations):** Mike Holmes

* A special congrats to Liz Ferguson who was recently announced as a member of the Rugby Canada Hall of Fame Class of 2025!





Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

FOUNDATION ANNOUNCEMENTS


UPCOMING DATES

Board Meetings and AGM

There will be no Board meeting during the summer months. Should a need arise, urgent matters will be managed by the Executive Committee.

A Board meeting will be scheduled in mid-November, the latter in conjunction with the 2026 McTavish Cup /CUMRC Championship in Langley, BC . The specific date to be announced shortly, tentatively **November 13, 2026**.

Vancouver SVNS **THIS WEEK!**



MARCH 7-8 2026
BC PLACE

For tickets: [604-355-5330](tel:604-355-5330)

TICKETS@VANSEVENS.COM

Pacific Four Series

CANADA'S WOMEN'S RUGBY TEAM
2026 PACIFIC FOUR SERIES
APRIL 11-24 - 2026

GAME #1 - SATURDAY, APRIL 11		
CANADA 🇨🇦 vs AUSTRALIA	7:00 PM PT / 10:00 PM ET	Heart Health Park Sacramento, California
GAME #2 - FRIDAY, APRIL 17		
CANADA 🇨🇦 vs NEW ZEALAND	3:15 PM PT / 6:15 PM ET	CPKC Stadium Kansas City, Missouri
GAME #3 - FRIDAY, APRIL 24		
CANADA 🇨🇦 vs USA	5:30 PM PT / 8:30 PM ET	Seat Geek Stadium Chicago, Illinois

McTavish Cup/CUMRC

Hosted by Trinity Western in Langley, BC, November 17, 19 & 21, 2026





Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

AWARDS FUNDS

This is a reminder that the Foundation has **28 funds** that provide awards to young rugby players attending or applying to Canadian universities and colleges. These include funds that are managed by the Foundation's Awards Committee chaired by Hans de Goede, and funds that were established by local rugby clubs or individuals and are managed by their respective Fund Representatives. Details on these Funds and Awards follow:

FOUNDATION AWARD FUNDS (Managed by and presented through the Canadian Rugby Foundation)

- [Courtenay Taaffe Award Fund](#)
- [George Jones Award Fund](#)
- [Thomas Family Award Fund](#)
- [Quinn Lauridsen Memorial Award Fund](#)
- [Lt. Colonel W.D.C. Holmes University Awards \(For the Love of the Game Fund\)](#)

AWARD FUNDS (Managed and awarded by Foundation Award Funds - Click below)

- [Colette McAuley NSWTC Award Fund](#)
- [C.O.R.E. \(Central Okanagan Rugby Enthusiasts\)](#)
- [Cowichan RFC Larry Thibideau Memorial Award Fund](#)
- [Dave Huang Memorial Award Fund](#)
- [David Burnett Memorial Award Fund](#)
- [David Robinson Memorial Award Fund](#)
- [Dennis Crawford Memorial Award Fund](#)
- [Don Ennis Rugby Fund](#)
- [Don Whidden Memorial Award Fund](#)
- [Doug Tate University Coach of the Year Award Fund](#)
- [Gerald McGavin Coaching Award \(managed by BC Rugby Union\)](#)
- [Guelph Gryphons Women's Rugby Award Fund](#)
- [Jack Patrick & Nick Mathers & Tillman Briggs Family Awards Fund](#)
- [John Cannon Memorial Award Fund](#)
- [John Jones Memorial Award](#)
- [Judy Seddon Memorial Award](#)
- [Kevin 'Lunk' Wirachowski Award Fund](#)
- [Liam Geddes Memorial Award Fund](#)
- [Marina and Howard Gerwing Award](#)
- [Paul 'Koby' Kobayashi Memorial Award Fund](#)
- [Rick Bourne Rugby Award Fund](#)
- [Steven Batie Memorial Award Fund](#)
- [Stampede 7s Award Fund](#)

Deadlines for the awards are fast approaching, so please share this link with any deserving individuals or their coaches so they can submit their application for 2026. We recently sent a reminder to all Men's and Women's University Rugby Coaches so they can circulate awards news to their current and incoming players.



LT. COLONEL W.D.C. HOLMES UNIVERSITY AWARDS (FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME FUND)

The 2025 Lt. Colonel W.D.C. Holmes University Awards were presented in November at the U SPORTS Women’s Rugby National Championship in Vancouver, BC, and the Canadian University Men’s Rugby Championship in Montreal, QC. The Lt. Colonel W.D.C. Holmes University Awards were established by Foundation Chair Mike Holmes to honour his late father W.D.C. “Desmond” Holmes who won the sword of honour at RMC in 1942 before embarking on a distinguished career in the British Army during and after World War II, during which time he was awarded the Military Cross.

At each of the Canadian University Men’s Rugby Championship and the U SPORTS Women’s Rugby Nationals, 8 rugby student-athletes are recognized for their off-field contributions to the game of rugby at their university and community in the past year, and awarded \$500 towards their Athletic Financial Award (AFA) from the Canadian Rugby Foundation’s For the Love of the Game Fund. Examples of factors to be considered include organizing community events involving the team, mentoring younger players, volunteering with their home rugby club or at the community in which the university is located, volunteering as a club executive or an official at any level, and providing off-the-field leadership on the university team. The selections are based on the nomination by the head coach of each of the 16 participating teams and presented at the two tournaments at the awards banquet or whenever is deemed most practical by the host organizing committee.

2025 Women’s Awards



- Teya Ashworth – UBC
- Corinne Fréchette – Laval
- Sarah Gunn – Acadia
- Chloe Hill-Huse – Victoria
- Tattyannah Jackson – Queen’s
- Lara Jorgensen – Guelph
- Ngozi Mosindi – Ottawa
- Val von Muehldorfer – St. FX

2025 Men’s Awards



- Axel Fin. Adjani – Montreal
- Paul Ardittis – ETS
- James Biss – UBC
- Sully Curran – Victoria
- Declan Hearn – Dalhousie
- Jackson Palmer – Queen’s
- Jakob Schultz – Guelph
- R.J. Stone – UBC Okanagan



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

C.O.R.E FUND



The Central Okanagan Rugby Enthusiasts (CORE) created an endowment fund with the Canadian Rugby Foundation in 2010. Over the years, that fund has given more than \$50,000 to graduating rugby players in the Central Okanagan.

Congratulations to the four award recipients in 2025:

- Grace Jolliffe (RSS)
- Gavin Kelly (KSS)
- Tianna Roberts (KSS)
- Zara Senger (MB)

And in 2024, 7 students were presented with \$1,000 awards:

- Dave Brundella (KSS)
- Eli Ebl (RSS)
- Matthew Harris (RSS)
- Ayva Johnson (RSS)
- Angus Myrah (KSS)
- Elisabeth Neupert (KSS)
- Brielle Stubbs (OKM)
- Nora Westlund (RSS)

In 2026, five \$1,000 bursaries will be awarded to local youth rugby playing grads and the \$1,000 [Courtney Walls Scholarship](#) will be given to a quality local player with good grades and leadership skills.

The CORE Fund was created by 40 local donors and their contributions will support local rugby youth as long as the beautiful game of rugby is played in local schools. - [Doug Manning](#)

Additional donations to the Fund can be made [here](#).



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

DAVE HUANG MEMORIAL AWARD FUND

The first annual winner of the Dave Huang Memorial Award is Joshua Mallette.

We are proud to announce the inaugural winner of the Dave Huang Memorial Award in the amount of \$4,500 to Joshua Mallette. He was presented the \$4,500 cash prize in front of 500+ rugby players and coaches / support staff at the 2025 BC High School Provincials.



AWARDS NEWS

The Dave Huang Memorial Award Fund was established in August 2024 to honour Dave's legacy of excellence and high achievement in rugby, academics, music, leadership and community service. Dave Huang, aka "The Huang Express", was a rugby player who graduated from Lord Byng High School in 1995, and who represented British Columbia at the U-19 level. As team captain, he led the Lord Byng Grey Ghosts to a 5-2 record on their legendary and well-documented, "Tour '95" to Australia. Dave demonstrated excellence in all pursuits on and off the field... except his post-match speeches. Upon return from Australia, Dave went to Princeton on a full-ride academic scholarship, also captaining the Princeton rugby team. Graduating with honours from Princeton, Dave went on to medical school at Columbia University in New York City. Tragically, Dave passed away in 2003. Dave's quiet style of leadership 'by example' inspired those around him to new heights.

NOTE: 2026 applicants have until April 30th to submit their application [as per the instructions found here.](#)



CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

Canadian Rugby Foundation News and Views

February 28, 2026

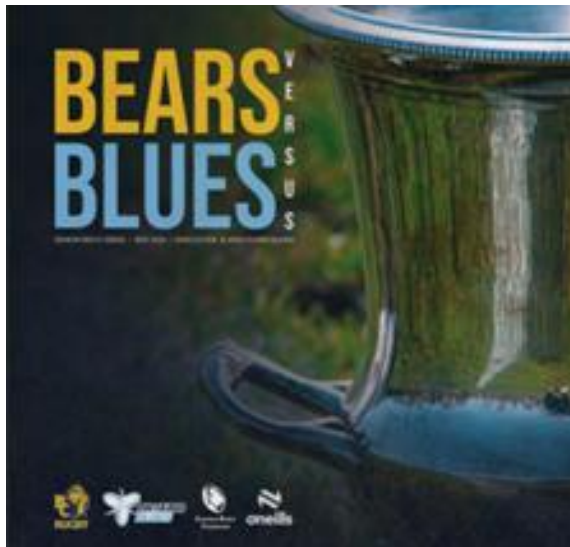
UNRESTRICTED FUND NEWS

UNRESTRICTED FUND

2026 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES - MEN'S HIGH-PERFORMANCE RUGBY INITIATIVE : ONTARIO TO BC TOUR - \$50,000 SHARED GRANT TO BC RUGBY AND RUGBY ONTARIO FROM HIGH-PERFORMANCE RUGBY INITIATIVE INCLUDING \$10,000 FROM UNRESTRICTED FUND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES BUDGET

From May 16 to 25, the Rugby Ontario Senior Men's team will travel west to Victoria for a training camp and 3 matches as follow:

- **May 17 v Vancouver Island Crimson Tide (location TBD)**
- **May 20 v BC Bears at Capilano RFC, Vancouver**
- **May 23 v BC Bears at Shawnigan Lake School**





Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

UNRESTRICTED FUND NEWS

UNRESTRICTED FUND

2026 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES - ONTARIO INTER-BRANCH COMPETITION - \$3,000 GRANT TO RUGBY ONTARIO FROM UNRESTRICTED FUND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Four years ago, a decision was made to restart inter-branch competitions with the four branches in the province. This was created to replace the more narrow and frankly exclusive academy model that was based in the greater Toronto area. We started with age grade competitions for both genders. Each branch established athlete identification processes which led to selection to branch teams. What was most impressive was the number of athletes who went through these selections.

This year, in April and early May, the senior men’s inter-branch competition will be played for the first time in many years. These matches will provide the provincial team coaching staff with the opportunity to make selections for the senior men’s trip to BC. This has been a long time coming and has required careful planning, engaging coaches in each branch and providing senior men with an opportunity to represent their branch and hopefully province at the senior level. This competition is underpinned by four years of developing players in our age grade teams, in our efforts to build a deeper pool of talented players for Ontario and Canada.

SENIOR MEN’S PROGRAM

Rugby Ontario will continue leading the country by formalizing and expanding an inter-provincial platform at the senior level. Aligning national team selection with a robust inter-provincial competition builds on existing strengths, reinforces development continuity, and positions Ontario and participating provinces at the forefront of rugby development in Canada.

This enhanced selection model provides a more accurate, fair, and developmentally beneficial process compared to traditional try-outs, ultimately strengthening both the national team and the broader Canadian rugby ecosystem.

Player Identification	Competition Preparation	Showcase / Tours
<p>Players will compete in 3-game regional interbranch competition with the following fixtures:</p> <p>Week 1 – April 4th, 2026 Week 2 – April 11th, 2026 Week 3 – April 18th, 2026</p>	<p>Top 50 players will compete in a All-star fixture:</p> <p>April 25th, 2026</p> <p>Top 26 players will train (preparation for tour) on:</p> <p>May 2nd, 3rd and 10th, 2026. 3-4 Coaches / Technical Staff included</p>	<p>*Senior Men’s Tour to Victoria, BC*</p> <p>May 16th - 25th, 2026</p> <p><u>Matches:</u></p> <p>May 17th, 2026 – Vancouver Island Crimson Side May 20th, 2026 – Vancouver Wave May 24th, 2026 – BC Bears</p>

INTERBRANCH PROGRAM

A Foundational Building Block

Over the past three years, the Interbranch competition and the Ontario Blues program within Rugby Ontario have steadily built a strong regional Branch play environment and a proven development pathway. This structure has already shown success at the U17 and U19 levels, producing athletes who are technically, tactically and mentally prepared for higher levels of competition.

The natural next step is for Rugby Ontario to continue leading the country by formalizing and expanding this platform at the senior level. In 2026, four regional branches will compete at senior level (>U19), creating a platform for best-on-best domestic competition. This competition model will then serve as a selection tool for the Ontario Blues Senior Men’s provincial team.

U17	U19	Senior Men
<p>Week 1 – August 29th, 2026 Week 2 – September 2nd, 2026 Week 3 – September 6th, 2026</p>	<p>Week 1 – May 2nd, 2026 Week 2 – May 9th, 2026 Week 3 – May 17th, 2026</p>	<p>Week 1 – April 4th, 2026 Week 2 – April 11th, 2026 Week 3 – April 18th, 2026</p>



UNRESTRICTED FUND

2026 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES - WOMEN'S HIGH-PERFORMANCE RUGBY INITIATIVE - \$40,000 GRANT

Quebec-Ontario Rugby Championship (QORC), 2 BC Rugby vs Alberta Sr. Women's Matches, and 4 Rugby Canada Development Camps in BC

Building on the success of 2025, Senior Women's regional competitions are set to grow across the country in 2026 with a new competition starting with Alberta vs BC, to complement the QORC. In addition to these competitions, 4 Rugby Canada camps will be held in British Columbia to assist in the high-performance development for BC players alongside their existing premier league competition.

The ongoing support from the CRF/Women's HP Initiative will be significant in allowing the expansion of these pathway competitions. Funding support will be utilized by both Rugby Canada and its participating member Unions.

For more information on the Quebec-Ontario Rugby Championship, please see: : [QORC 2026](#).

SCHEDULE:

Quebec-Ontario Rugby Championship Schedule

- JAN 30**
Quebec West vs. Quebec East | 4:30 PM
Concordia Dome
- FEB 8**
Quebec East vs. Ontario East | 12:20 PM
Université Laval
- FEB 14**
Ontario West vs Quebec West | 10:30 AM
RMC Dome
- FEB 21**
Ontario West vs Ontario East | 10:30 AM
RMC Dome
- FEB 28**
Ontario West vs Quebec East | 3:30 PM
RMC Dome
Ontario East vs Quebec West | 5:30 PM
RMC Dome
- MAR 14**
Ontario West vs. Ontario East | 10:30 AM
RMC Dome
Quebec West vs Quebec East | 4:00 PM
Université Laval
- MAR 22**
Ontario West vs Quebec East | 3:30 PM
RMC Dome
Ontario East vs Quebec West | 5:30 PM
RMC Dome

Logos for RUGBY ONTARIO, QUEBEC RUGBY UNION, and CANADIAN RUGBY UNION are visible at the bottom.

Plus:

April 11, 2026 - TBD

April, 2026 – Date being finalized

March 23rd – April 5th, 2026 - Rugby Canada Sr. Women's Camp

May 2026 - Pac 4

May, 2026 – QORC Finals, TBD



CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

Canadian Rugby Foundation News and Views

February 28, 2026

UNRESTRICTED FUND

2026 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES - WOMEN'S HIGH-PERFORMANCE RUGBY INITIATIVE QORC PHOTOS BY JEFF CHAN

[Link: Quebec West vs. Ontario West February 14, 2026](#)



Quebec West



Ontario West



[Link: Ontario West vs. Ontario West February 21, 2026](#)



Ontario East



Ontario West



UNRESTRICTED FUND NEWS



Canadian Rugby Foundation News and Views

February 28, 2026

CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

UNRESTRICTED FUND

2026 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES - WOMEN'S HIGH-PERFORMANCE RUGBY INITIATIVE – QORC PHOTOS BY JEFF CHAN

[Link: Quebec East vs. Ontario West February 28, 2026](#)



Quebec East



Ontario West



[Link: Quebec West vs. Ontario East February 28, 2026](#)



Ontario East



Quebec West



UNRESTRICTED FUND NEWS



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

UNRESTRICTED FUND NEWS

UNRESTRICTED FUND

2026 UNIVERSITY COACHES AWARDS

Five men's and women's Canadian university rugby head and assistant coaches comprised the 2026 cadre attending the Crusaders Global Academy Accelerator Coaching program from May 20 through May 31, 2026 in Christchurch New Zealand. Each had their program fees plus room and board paid, and travel costs and meals subsidized.

2026 Coaches Awardees

Selected by the Canadian Rugby Foundation and funded by its **Unrestricted Fund** and **For the Love of the Game Fund** are:

- Matthew Bouchard – Head Coach, Carleton MRugby
- Keegan Brantner – Ass't Coach, Lethbridge WRugby
- Janice Cogle – Head Coach, Saint Mary's WRugby
- Sean Tindall – Ass't Coach, Calgary MRugby
- Meaghan Wilson – Ass't Coach, McMaster WRugby



Matthew
Bouchard



Keegan
Brantner



Janice
Cogle



Sean
Tindall



Meaghan
Wilson



CRF Coaches Awards - 2023



CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

UNRESTRICTED FUND

2026 MCTAVISH CUP / CANADIAN UNIVERSITY MEN'S RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP (CUMRC)

Preparations are underway for the 2026 CUMRC hosted by Trinity Western University in Langley, BC on November 12-16, 2026.

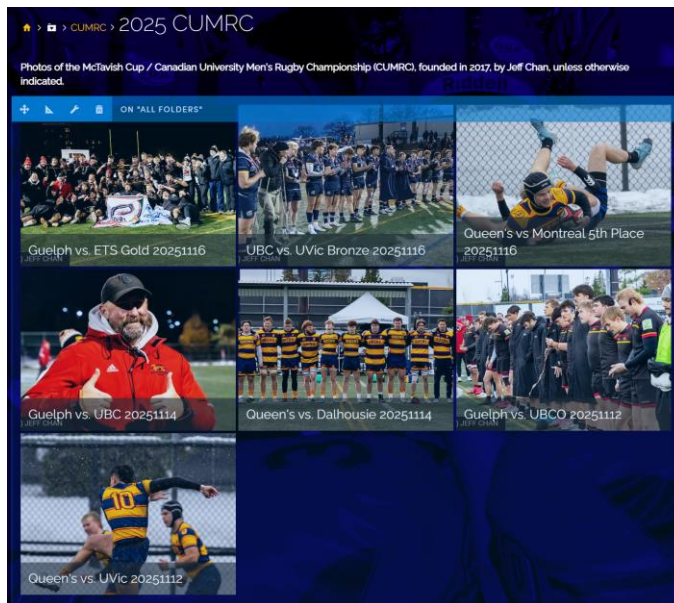


CUMRC LANGARA FUND-RAISING AUCTION COMING SOON

Our long-standing CUMRC sponsor - Langara Fishing Adventures – has once again donated a 3-4 day fishing trip for summer 2027. Our thanks go to Langara's Rick Bourne, a CRF Director. An auction for this 2027 Langara Fishing Adventure will be posted as soon as the 2026 men's university rugby season starts in September

The 2025 auction winners of the Langara trip for two were David Adshade and Markus Schnorbus who took their trip in June 2025.

PHOTOS FROM THE 2025 MCTAVISH CUP BY JEFF CHAN



UNRESTRICTED FUND NEWS



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

MONTY HEALD SENIOR WOMEN'S FUND

Two major fund-raising were undertaken to support the Women's Rugby team in their quest to "Win Rugby World Cup 2025".

1. The first was Rugby Canada's campaign to raise \$1 million.



**MISSION: WIN
RUGBY WORLD
CUP 2025**

Our goal for 2025 is **BOLD**. We are seeking support to send the most well-prepared Canadian team to the Rugby World Cup 2025. Help us make Canadian rugby history by winning the World Cup for the first time.

Over \$1 million was raised in this campaign which complemented Rugby Canada's base funding for the senior women's team. The additional \$1 million went towards more training, pre-RWC matches, additional coaches and support staff in England, all of which were essential to the teams fantastic Silver-medal winning performance, with only a loss to top ranked England in the final marring what would have been a perfect record.

2. The second is the Canadian Rugby Foundation's **Monty Heald Sr. Women's Fund** which is the ongoing effort to raise money to support the Senior Women year-in and year-out. This Fund made one of the earliest contributions – a **\$165,000 grant** - towards the Win World Cup campaign and continues to build a strong endowment to support women's rugby into the future.

In addition, the Foundation's **Captains Fund** made a **\$15,000 grant** to the Senior Women's team and the **Dick Ellis Memorial Fund** made a grant to the Captain of the Senior Women's team, Alex Tessier, to be used at her discretion for the team.

To donate to the Monty Heald Fund, go [HERE](#)





Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

RUGBY CANADA RECOGNIZES CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CANADIAN RUGBY FOUNDATION



FUNDS NEWS

November 7, 2025 – Rugby Canada today formally recognized the contributions made in 2025 by The Canadian Rugby Foundation (CRF) and its managed funds. In total, the Foundation provided more than \$300,000 in support directly to Rugby Canada programs, including a large contribution from the Monty Heald Senior National Women's Fund to the Mission: Win Rugby World Cup campaign.

Working together under the terms of a Memorandum of Agreement signed in 2022, Rugby Canada and The Canadian Rugby Foundation recognized their common objectives and purposes and pledged to work together to facilitate the growth and development of rugby in Canada across all ages, genders, cultures, ethnic groups and socio-economic circumstances.

Through its endowment, award, capital and unrestricted funds, The Canadian Rugby Foundation provides support to amateur rugby activities in all parts of Canada. It also operates Rugby Canada-related funds that are designed to directly support National men's and women's programs. The funds that contributed to Rugby Canada programs in 2025 were:

- **Monty Heald Senior National Women's Fund**
- **Captains' Fund**
- **Dick Ellis Memorial Fund**
- **Hong Kong 7s Fund**
- **Men's Age-grade Rugby Fund**
- **Pacific Pride Legacy Fund**
- **Women's Age-grade Rugby Fund**



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

FUNDS NEWS

RUGBY CANADA RECOGNIZES CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CANADIAN RUGBY FOUNDATION (Continued)

An additional fund, **Les Voyageurs Fund***, raises money for equal support of the Men's and Women's Age-grade Rugby Funds.

"We would like to formally thank the Canadian Rugby Foundation for their partnership and support of Rugby Canada's objectives in 2025," said Rugby Canada CEO Nathan Bombrys. "The funds provided directly to our Canadian National Team programs made a direct, positive impact on our on-field successes – from a Rugby World Cup Final to outstanding performances from both of our National U20 teams." Bombrys continued, "We give sincere thanks to CRF Chair Mike Holmes, Executive Director Jeff Chan and all Board members and Fund trustees for their ongoing support of rugby in Canada. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the CRF."

"We are enormously proud of the Rugby Canada teams we have supported through our Canadian Rugby Foundation funds," said CRF Executive Director, Jeff Chan. "Most notable was the more than \$200,000 that went to support the Women's National Team's outstanding and country-inspiring performances in both the Pacific 4 tournament and Rugby World Cup 2025 in England. We look forward to continuing and growing our support to Rugby Canada, and to elevated performances on the world stage."

* See following page





Canadian Rugby Foundation News and Views February 28, 2026

ALEXANDRA TESSIER THANKS

Dear Jeff,

Walking on the field at Twickenham, moments before kickoff of the Rugby World Cup final, I thought about everyone who helped us get there — our families, our teammates past and present, and supporters like you. Because of you, the Mission: Win Rugby World Cup campaign didn't just reach its goal — it surpassed it. Together, we raised over \$1 million to give our team the best possible preparation and support heading into the biggest stage we have ever had the opportunity to be a part of. That funding made a real difference — it gave us the chance to train longer together, to compete in international warm-up matches, to travel and recover properly and to perform as the best-prepared Canadian team. Every tackle, every try, every moment of belief was fueled by your support.

We didn't bring the trophy home this time, but our silver medal represents so much more than a result. It's proof of what can happen when Canadians come together behind our game. It's proof that your investment matters — and it's helping to inspire the next generation of players who now dream of representing Canada one day.

While the *Mission* campaign is complete, our journey is far from over. Rugby Canada will continue to build on this momentum — strengthening our high-performance programs, expanding development opportunities across the country, creating more pathways for players to chase their dreams and inspiring more women, men, girls and boys to pick up a rugby ball. From the bottom of my heart — and on behalf of every player — thank you for believing in us and for being part of something truly special.

We felt you with us every step of the way.

With gratitude and pride,

Alexandra Tessier - Captain, Canada's Women's Rugby Team, RWC 2025





Canadian Rugby Foundation News and Views February 28, 2026

CASTAWAY WANDERERS RFC FUND



All Island Minis Jamboree

CW recently hosted an all-Island Minis jamboree at Windsor Park, and it was a tremendous occasion! We welcomed players, coaches and families from Campbell River, Comox, Cowichan, Westshore and James Bay. There were around 400 kids from as young as 5 years old in the U6s up to the U12s with a wonderful mix of boys and girls.



Our CW girls programs are particularly strong with 21 U10 girls and 18 U12 girls. In total, across the CW minis program we have 165 players ages 5 to 11



The atmosphere was tremendous and our many volunteers stepped up as they always do to ensure the kids were able to play in an organised, safe environment and that they went home with big smiles and full bellies having grabbed a hot dog, chips and a drink. It was a terrific day of community rugby with fun had by all!

Go CW!!! – *Chris Spicer & Rod Fraser, Director of Mini Rugby*



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

LES VOYAGEURS FUND

Our group, Les Voyageurs, has thoroughly enjoyed the Vancouver Rugby 7s every year of the 10-year tournament. At the invitation of John Furlong in the first year, our 12 tourists have grown to more than 100 enthusiastic fans this year, and every one of us gives back in our contribution to Rugby Canada. Through the years we've raised more than \$70,000.00 for the men's and women's rugby development. We're proud of these achievements and continue to have fun watching and supporting rugby in Canada. See you in Vancouver. Go Canada! – John Outridge



Vancouver 7s Tickets here: <https://vansevens.com/group-sales/>

FUNDS NEWS





Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

LOYALISTS LEGENDS LEGACY FUND

Loyalists RFC had a successful 2025 both on and off the field. Our senior sides 1st Division sides won both the Men's and Women's Provincial Championships and our 2nd side won the Men's 2nd division banner. Our youth programs continued their steady growth with over 300 athletes in both our flag/middle school and high school programs. Those young athletes are feeding the local University squads and the club.



We also now have coaches with club roots coaching in all middle and high schools in the (New Brunswick) Capital Region as well as both local universities (University of NB and St. Thomas University).

The Loyalists Legends Legacy Fund saw modest growth in 2026 with our fund balance growing by ~7.5% This growth was through our regular monthly donors program as well as a couple of new initiatives which included a mug club for the clubhouse bar, and gear sale (decommissioned jerseys sold to decommissioned ruggers). The silver lining in the modest fund growth this year is that it means we didn't lose many Legends this year, and our Estate donations were therefore not present.

One big success we'd like to share was our wildly successful holiday giving campaign. Since 2013 the club has supported the Capital Region Food Banks through CBC Fredericton's Make the Season Kind Campaign. What started a handful of donations totaling \$800 12 years ago has ballooned into a huge club effort, marshalling our members, supporters, sponsors and club-affiliated businesses to donate to the cause through us. We had 168 unique donations and 10 matching business partners. Our total raised this year was \$30,869, all of which went to support the local food banks. We gathered at the club on December 12th to tally the donations and toast the total! (You'll notice the total on Thursday night differed from the final (Friday morning) total because we are, after all, a rugby club num and there were some late donations 😊)

FUNDS NEWS





Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

MERALOMA RUGBY CLUB FUND



FUNDS NEWS



Hi from Vancouver! For those that don't know, the Meraloma Club is now 103 years old! The Club itself is a multi-sport club with 7 different sports with rugby being the largest. We started off as a swim club at Kitsilano Point and then we moved to Connaught Park where we have been for more than 80 years. Our home building is a heritage building that houses the bar and kitchen, meeting room, changerooms and showers plus an Athletic Trainers room.

We have a full slate of programs with one of the oldest mini-rugby programs in the country and what we believe is one of the largest rugby programs in North America. Starting with the mini's, we also have Junior boys (U14, U16, U18), two teams of senior women (one Premier League and one Division 1 team) and four men's teams – Premier, Premier Reserve (Div 1), Division 2 and 3 plus the Rogues, our gay men's team who participate in Division 3.

In the past 5 years, summer touch rugby has grown tremendously with (reportedly) the largest touch rugby club in Canada (as reported by Touch Canada) with over 200 players! This has translated to much success for our rugby players during the contact season.



We are just getting ready to start the second half of the schedule which will take us until May. If there any players, male or female, from across Canada that are interested in playing in the best club league in North America, let us know via our social media or contact us at vplomarugby@gmail.com. We take on our fellow players from across the country!!

Once a Meraloma, always a Meraloma



RUGBY ONTARIO ENDOWMENT FUND



Rugby Ontario Announces Establishment of Endowment Fund to Support Pathways and Strengthen the Sport

Scarborough, ON – January 12, 2026 – Rugby Ontario is proud to announce the creation of the Rugby Ontario Endowment Fund, a major milestone marking the next phase in the organization’s long-term strategy to strengthen the sport’s sustainability, accessibility and pathways across the province.

The endowment fund – set to formally launch in January 2026* – will be established with an initial \$200,000 investment from Rugby Ontario. This landmark move comes after several years of financial recovery, disciplined planning, and strategic governance following the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Through steadfast commitment to responsible stewardship and long-term vision, Rugby Ontario is now positioned to take this progressive step toward supporting generations of athletes, coaches and match officials across Ontario.

The purpose of the endowment fund is to reduce and ultimately eliminate financial barriers for athletes pursuing provincial and national representation, ensuring that cost is never a barrier to rugby development. The fund will also support developing coaches and match officials, and broadly advance initiatives that strengthen Rugby Ontario’s mission to make rugby the most inclusive sport in Ontario.

A Vision for the Future of Rugby

“This is a transformative moment for Rugby Ontario,” said Marius Felix, Chair of the Board of Directors. “For decades, the pay-to-play model has created obstacles for many talented athletes. Establishing this endowment is a clear and meaningful step toward a future where opportunity in rugby is determined by passion, commitment and performance – not by financial means.”

Claude Germain, Treasurer of Rugby Ontario, emphasized the strategic nature of this decision: “Our Board and executive leadership team has worked diligently to stabilize and grow the organization’s financial foundation. The endowment is both a testament to that progress and an investment in the future. It will provide predictable, sustainable support year after year, benefitting athletes and leaders across the sport.”

Rugby Ontario CEO Myles Spencer highlighted the impact on the development and performance pathway: “We want every aspiring athlete, coach and match official in Ontario to know that their ambitions matter. This fund will help remove long-standing barriers and ensure that our provincial and national teams and leaders reflect the full potential of our community.”

** Fund being finalized*



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

SABRFC ALUMNI ENDOWMENT FUND



SABRFC since 1981

In 2023, a group of Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue Rugby alumni came together to form what would become the SABRFC Alumni Committee. The goal was simple but important: reconnect with alumni while actively supporting the current club and its young athletes.

That initiative quickly took shape through an annual alumni dinner, an event that not only brought former players together to share memories, but also raised funds for player bursaries within the club. Building on that momentum, 2025 marked a major milestone with the creation of the SABRFC Alumni Endowment Fund.

The Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue Rugby Football Club has a long and proud history in Canadian Rugby, with alumni involvement woven into its fabric for decades. The formation of the Alumni Committee felt inevitable and with the establishment of the Endowment Fund, that legacy is now secured for generations to come.

The Alumni Committee would like to extend its sincere thanks to the Canadian Rugby Foundation for its support in establishing the fund. A special thank-you to Jeff and his team for the countless meetings, thoughtful guidance, and patience in answering our many questions. This fund would not exist without your help. --

Bryce Thomassin

FUNDS NEWS



SABRFC

STE ANNE DE BELLEVUE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB





Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

SAINT JOHN TROJANS RFC FUND

The new Trojan House, home of the Saint John Trojans, got a good workout in 2025, opening its doors to members and the community.



FUNDS NEWS



STAMPEDE 7S AWARD FUND



This past year marked an important milestone for us—it was the first year we awarded scholarships from the fund. We were proud to support two student-athletes, one male and one female, who are continuing their educational journeys at the university or secondary level. Each recipient received a \$1,000 scholarship.

We're excited to build on this momentum and look forward to another year of administering the fund and supporting even more deserving rugby student-athletes in the years ahead. – [Jamal Denny](#)

FUNDS NEWS



“My rugby journey began in 2020 when I left hockey to take a chance on a new sport at Shawnigan Lake School, and it quickly became the best decision I’ve made—bringing incredible friendships, opportunities, and lifelong lessons. Since then, I’ve grown into a leader on and off the field: captaining teams, earning provincial titles, representing Team BC, competing internationally in Germany and Colombia, and giving back through coaching and community outreach”



“I was introduced to rugby in Grade 10 to complement my basketball training, and what started as nerves and hesitation grew into a passion—by the end of high school I had played three seasons, captained my senior team, and competed for two years at the club level. Through rugby, I’ve built lasting relationships, learned leadership and teamwork, and developed resilience, toughness, and discipline that guide me both on and off the field”



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

THUNDER INDIGENOUS RUGBY

Thunder Claim Two Historic Wins in NZ on 2025 Tour

Thunder Indigenous Women Claim Historic Victory Over Fierce Waiariki Māori Side

In a thrilling clash at the Rangataua Rugby Club in Tauranga, the Thunder Indigenous Women secured a hard-fought 17–12 win over a determined and physically imposing Waiariki Māori team, marking a historic milestone for the squad.

Battling through gusty winds and biting cold, the Thunder showed grit and composure from the opening whistle. Sasha, McKee, Sophie Weeks, Elysie, and Rosa were standout contributors, holding firm in defense and sparking attacking opportunities. Sasha, in particular, lit up the game with two tries, proving unstoppable with ball in hand.

The Thunder forwards stamped their authority at the set piece, consistently winning clean ball and putting Waiariki under pressure. That dominance up front allowed playmaker Leilani to unleash the backline with precision, keeping the Thunder on the front foot.

The match was a test of resilience and discipline against a fierce Waiariki outfit who never backed down. But in the end, it was the Thunder's composure and team unity that saw them home.

Final Score: Thunder Indigenous Women 17 – 12 Waiariki Māori Women

This victory is more than just a result — it's a statement. The Thunder Indigenous Women have shown they can meet physical fire with skill, structure, and heart, and come out on top.





THUNDER RUGBY CLAIM 2 HISTORIC WINS IN NZ ON 2025 TOUR

Thunder Indigenous Rugby Stun Te Aute in Historic Away Victory

In a cold, driving rain on the storied grounds of Te Aute College in New Zealand, the Thunder Indigenous Rugby side from Canada delivered one of the biggest upsets of the year, edging the world-renowned Te Aute 1st XV 16–15 in a nail-biting clash.



The game was as much a battle of heart as it was of skill, with both sides contending with miserable weather conditions that turned the pitch into a slippery, heavy challenge. From the opening whistle, the Thunder showed they weren't intimidated by Te Aute's reputation, matching the home side's physicality and refusing to yield an inch.

Thunder fly-half Daniel Turvey orchestrated the attack with calm authority, repeatedly finding space with smart kicking and keeping the defensive line organised under immense pressure. His composure in such hostile territory was pivotal. Simroy John was another standout, his surging runs and defensive commitment breaking Te Aute's rhythm time and again.

The Thunder's leadership group — Mike Chandler, Jerome Seymour, and Isaiah Sousedik — were immense. In the toughest moments, their presence kept the team's belief alive, especially in the closing stages when Te Aute mounted a desperate comeback.

In the final minute, with the scoreboard reading 16–15 to the Thunder, Te Aute had a golden opportunity to snatch victory with a conversion attempt. The home crowd held its breath — but in the swirling rain, the kick drifted wide. Seconds later, the final whistle blew, and the Thunder's players erupted in celebration.

While this result may not make as many headlines as it deserves, its significance is huge. Not only did an Indigenous Canadian side topple one of the most respected schoolboy rugby programs in the world, but they did it on Te Aute's own turf, in conditions that would break lesser teams.



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

CANADIAN RUGBY
FOUNDATION

DONATION APPEAL

MONTHLY DONATIONS

Our experience, and that of CanadaHelps.org across all of their charities, is that getting the commitment of donors to a continuous stream of monthly donations is the best way to maximize total donations and to keep donors engaged over time. And from the donors' perspective, it is a good way to spread donations over time and to reduce repetitive manual donations.

Here's where you or your Fund supporters can select your choice of Fund or Funds and/or the Foundation:

[Monthly Donations by Credit card, Debit card, PayPal, Google Pay or Apple Pay](#)

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/canadian-rugby-foundation/>



ONE-TIME DONATIONS

Go to the specific Fund page [here](#) and donate online through CanadaHelps.org using credit or debit card, PayPal, Google Pay or Apple Pay

Or Use

1) **Cheque** c/o Canadian Rugby Foundation, 709 Yates St., PO Box 8003, Victoria, BC, V8W 3R7 with the Fund name in the memo line of the cheque and the donor's name if it is written on a company cheque. Beware of the threatened Canada Post strike, If you plan to send a cheque.

2) **E-transfer:** Send to payments@canadianrugbyfoundation.ca **AND** also send email with the details of the deposit for tax and allocation purposes; i.e., Amount, Full Name, Address, Fund name to Breann King at cdnrugbyfoundation.financial@gmail.com

3) **Bank wire transfer** using the banking information and address below and an email to Breann King with the details of the deposit for tax and allocation purposes; i.e., Amount, Full Name, Address, Fund Name at cdnrugbyfoundation.financial@gmail.com

CIBC 3147 Douglas Street, Victoria, B.C.
Account No. #05030-7605617, Canadian Rugby Foundation,
Bank No. # 010, Swift # CIBCCATT

4) **Securities or mutual funds**

Go to: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/securities/donate> or email [Jeff Chan](#) for our **Securities Donation or Mutual Fund Donation form** with Leith Wheeler



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

FUND-RAISING & TAX RECEIPT INFORMATION

We are often asked for advice on club fund-raising activities including when and how charitable tax receipts can be granted.

First, the individual funds and fund sponsors such as local rugby clubs may not issue tax receipts as they are not registered charitable organisations.

However, the Canadian Rugby Foundation does provide tax receipts for eligible donors to our funds. Additionally, and less common is the Foundation's ability to provide tax receipts to purchasers of tickets to a club's fund-raising activities...for the amount of the ticket MINUS the fair market value of the "benefit" that the purchaser derives from the ticket. This could include the value of a meal, drinks, and entertainment at a fund-raising banquet, the green fees and carts at a club golf tournament, the value of door prizes that come with the ticket, etc.

The CRA rules on how the fair market value is to be calculated and the definition of fair market value are [here](#). Specifics are included for golf tournaments, auctions, and dinners.



Although labour intensive, the Foundation can provide assistance to clubs sponsoring a CRF fund by providing an online landing place for ticket sales that provides an email ticket pdf file, and automatic tax receipts.

FUND-RAISING AND TAX RECEIPTS



Canadian Rugby Foundation

News and Views

February 28, 2026

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