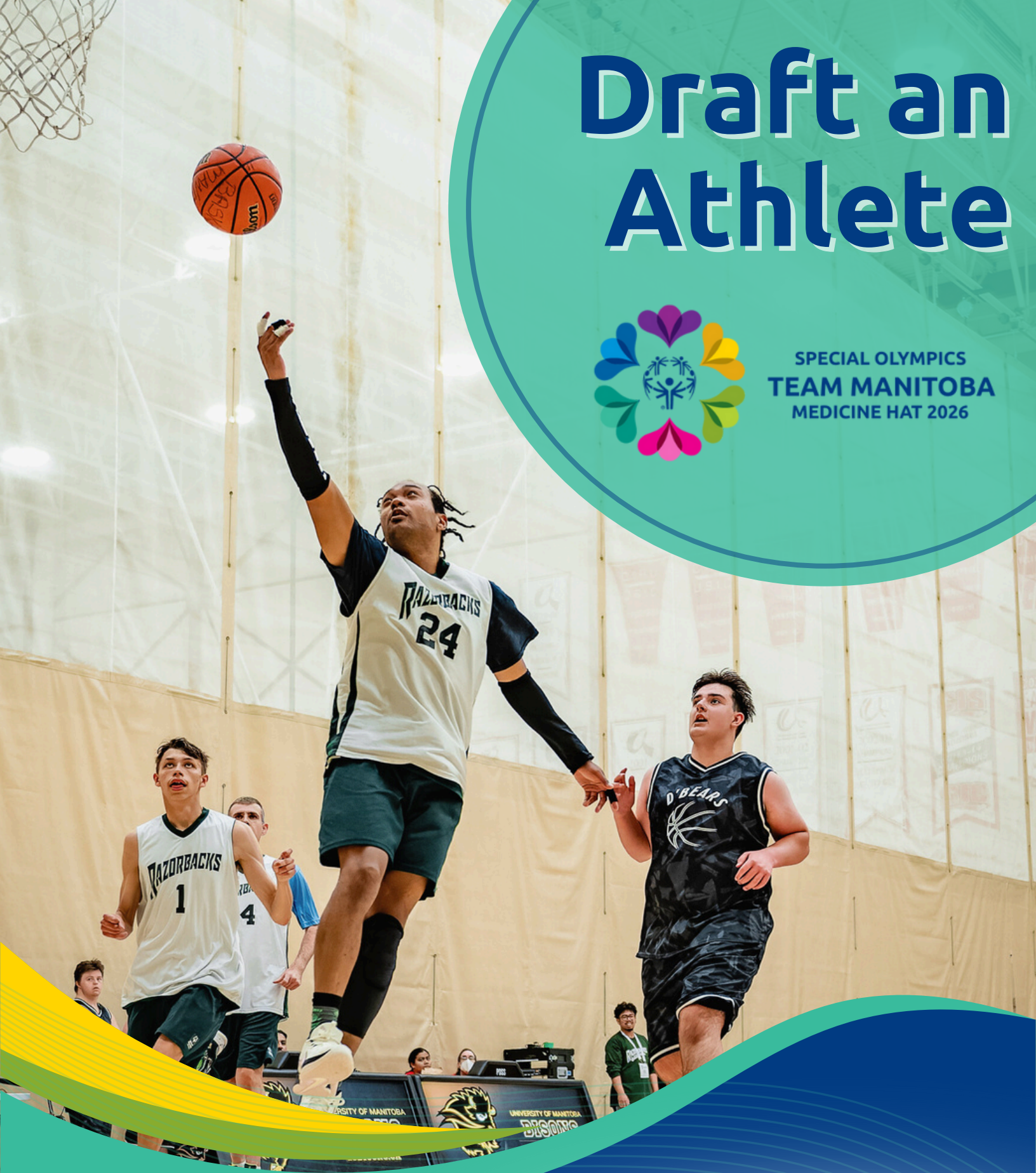


Draft an Athlete



SPECIAL OLYMPICS
TEAM MANITOBA
MEDICINE HAT 2026



Special Olympics Canada
Summer Games
Medicine Hat 2026
Jeux d'été d'Olympiques
spéciaux Canada



PRESENTED BY:
winnipegkinsmen

Your Story Inspires. Your Community Fuels the Journey.

Congratulations on being selected to join Team Manitoba at the 2026 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games! You were dedicated to your training, you grew in your sport, and you put your best foot forward at the Provincial Games this past June - and it paid off! We are so excited to watch you represent our province on the national stage next summer.

Now, as you prepare to take this next step, it's time to connect with your community and watch the support pour in!

Once again, we are asking you to be ambassadors for inclusion in your community, share your story, and ask for donations to support your journey to the National Games.

The Draft an Athlete campaign is about more than just collecting donations - it's about making genuine connections and building more inclusive communities. The 2025 Provincial Summer Games fundraising campaign introduced our organization to 441 new donors! Those are 441 people who may have never heard about Special Olympics before and may not know the importance of inclusive sport. By sharing your story with your community, you are building a better Manitoba one conversation at a time.



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Why Fundraise?

The programs and competitions you participate in - including the National Games - could not happen without community support. The Draft an Athlete campaign is about more than just donations.

Increased Accessibility

With community support, we can offer competition opportunities at no cost to the athletes, removing financial barriers and encouraging participation for all.



Community Engagement

Fundraising is a chance to connect with the community, raise awareness, and encourage community involvement



Empowerment and Team Spirit

Athletes take an active role in supporting the games and are ambassadors for inclusion in their communities. Working towards a common fundraising goal fosters team spirit and collaboration among athletes, families, and supporters.



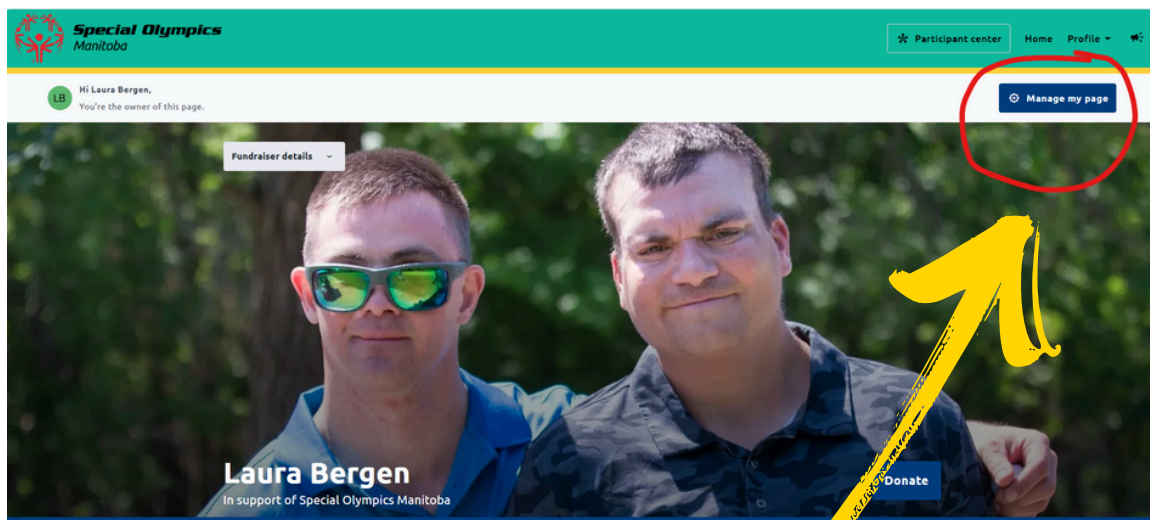
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How Do I Fundraise?

Each athlete on the Special Olympics Manitoba Provincial Team is encouraged to fundraise a minimum of \$2500 to support their journey. This fundraising helps cover essential costs such as flights, apparel, and training camps.

Customize your fundraising page and track your progress

You will have received an email with a link to your own personal fundraising page. Here you can upload your own photo (recommended image size is 1920x699) and add a personal message about your journey. Send this page to your friends, family, and community members to spread the word and collect donations! A progress bar will appear once you start receiving donations so you can keep track, and a leaderboard will highlight your top donors.



Select "Manage my page"
to customize your photo
and message

If you experience issues with your personal fundraising page, please contact Laura Bergen at lbergen@specialolympics.mb.ca



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Share your personal page or the general fundraising site

Spread the word to friends, family, coworkers, community groups, and anyone else who would like to hear your story by sharing the link to either your personal page or the general fundraising page found [HERE](#) and through the QR code below. There are buttons directly on the site to help you easily share through Facebook, text, email, etc.



Get creative with your fundraising!

Often the best results come from the genuine connections you form with community members. Try getting the community involved through a creative fundraising activity such as:

- Hosting a community BBQ or pancake breakfast
- Partnering with a local business to help collect donations
- Organize a challenge like an “a-thon”, or a fundraising walk

*If you would like to run an independent fundraising event, please connect with Laura Bergen at lbergen@specialolympics.mb.ca ahead of time.



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Let's talk sponsorships

A sponsorship is a financial contribution from a company for which they receive some form of public recognition (eg. logo placements). These are different from donations and require a few extra steps. For this reason, if you know of a company who may wish to contribute and receive recognition for their support, you can send them the sponsorship package linked [HERE](#) and connect them with Laura Bergen at lbergen@specialolympics.mb.ca.

Don't forget to thank your donors!

All donors will receive an automatic thank-you email, but thank-you's are so much sweeter when they come from the heart! If you have a way to connect with your donor, please reach out to say thank you. A quick phone call, an email, a text, or even a card will mean a lot coming from you.

How to submit your donations

Online

Most donations will be submitted online through your personal fundraising page, or the general Draft an Athlete site [HERE](#). Donors will be able to choose which athlete or team they'd like to support.

Cash and Cheque

Mail cash and cheque donations to Special Olympics Manitoba at the address below, along with the completed donation form (sent to you via email). It is very important that we keep all donor information together with the donations. Please ensure the cheques are made out to Special Olympics Manitoba. To arrange a time to drop off donations in-person please contact Laura Bergen at lbergen@specialolympics.mb.ca.

Special Olympics Manitoba will issue tax receipts for donations of \$20 or more.

Special Olympics Manitoba
304-145 Pacific Ave.
Winnipeg, MB
R3B 2Z6



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We're Better Together!

While you have an individual fundraising goal, the Draft an Athlete campaign is about creating amazing opportunities for you AND your fellow athletes. Let's work together to make this fundraising campaign a success and build more inclusive communities for all!

Have Questions?

Any donation or sponsorship-related questions can be directed to:

Laura Bergen
lbergen@specialolympics.mb.ca
204-798-5462

**Thank you to our *Road to the Games* sponsors
who believe in YOU!**

Presenting Sponsor



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Golden Boy Game Changer



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Fuel Their Journey and Become a Champion for Inclusion

Draft a Special Olympics Manitoba athlete for the
2026 National Summer Games

Tax receipts will be issued for all donations of \$20 or more when complete contact information is provided

Name of Athlete _____

Donation Amount _____

Cash ☐ Cheque ☐ Credit Card ☐

Donor Name _____

Business Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ Province _____

Postal Code _____

Credit Card Number _____

Expiry _____ CVV _____



I'd like to receive the
Special Olympics Manitoba e-newsletter

Scan the
QR Code to
donate online
and skip the
paper form



SCAN ME



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