



April, 20 2026

PGBSC Newsletter: March/April 2026

Recent Competition and Success:

Our athletes have had a very busy few months. Fourteen swimmers competed in the Winter Divisionals in Penticton and 3 swimmers; in the Provincials in Victoria. Seeing so many personal bests and podium finishes on the provincial stage is a testament to the dedication of our coaches and swimmers. Thank you to the families for supporting these travel meets.

Additionally, we recently had the exciting news that one of our Youth swimmers, Kathryn Bauman has been selected to join the 2025-26 BC Pacific Peaks Pathway - Prospects programming. This is a fantastic achievement and will give Kathryn additional resources and support to further her development and success in swimming. Congratulations, Kathryn.



Events at Canfor Leisure Pool:

Time Trial:

We are settling into our new home at the Canfor Leisure Pool. The Valentine's Day Time Trial, although challenging at times, was an overall success. This gave us a solid foundation and helped identify areas for improvement as we prepare for our upcoming home meet. It proved that we can run high quality meets in this facility and we are certain that the Moose Meet this weekend will be a great success.

Moose Meet April 24-26:

Our home meet is fast approaching. We have 51 Barracuda swimmers registered from groups D2C to Youth. The electronics team is working hard to ensure that the plungers and electronic timing system is up and running making the jobs of timing officials on deck more streamlined. We thank the swim meet organizers and all the volunteers for their commitment to running a great event for our swimmers.

Staffing Update:

As you may already know, Jerzy will be retiring at the end of the season. The search for a new Head Coach is well underway. A hiring committee has been formed which is working together with a SwimBC representative to ensure a transparent and fair process and that the best candidate for the job is hired.

This month, we said farewell to two of our associate coaches, Braedi and Sam. We thank them for the dedication and passion they have shown towards our swimmers and the club and wish them well in their future endeavors.

With heartfelt good-byes come new beginnings and we are excited to introduce two new coaches to the team. Hailey began her role as an associate coach on March 13, 2026 and Bianca joined the team on April 17. We welcome them to the Barracuda family and look forward to them sharing their knowledge, positive energy and support with the swimmers and their families.

In addition to welcoming new coaches, we are pleased to share that two new board members have joined our governance team. Aime Thibodeau and Giselle Valaire have stepped into vacant direct-at-large positions and we are so grateful for their willingness to help and the extra support they will provide to the existing board.

Job and volunteer openings are posted on our website under the *Opportunities/Updates* tab. If there is ever any interest in a volunteer position please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Facility Update: Pool Air Quality

Many swimmers and families have expressed concerns about the air quality at the pool. We are in regular contact with the City, and they are working on several solutions. Here is the current status:

- **Exhaust Fans:** A plan to upgrade the fan over the hot tub is moving forward, and installation should happen in the coming weeks.
- **Engineering:** Engineers are designing more exhaust fans for the air handlers. We expect another update on this design in the coming months.
- **Air Monitoring:** The City has ordered an air quality monitor which will be installed as soon as it arrives.
- **Temperature:** The City tried adjusting the air and water temperatures, but it did not help the air quality, so they are focusing on the mechanical upgrades instead.

The City will provide us with monthly updates and details will be shared with members regularly. The next update is due will be shared in our May/June newsletter.

Supporting the North

Keeping all clubs in the North strong is good for the sport and creates better opportunities for our own swimmers. Recently, we showed our support to one of our neighbors in the Northern BC swimming community by helping the Prince Rupert Amateur Swim Club with their efforts to upgrade facility equipment, namely their antiquated scoreboard. We hope that this will allow their club to continue to thrive and host their annual swim meet.



Save the Date:

April 24 to 26: Moose Meet - Canfor Pool

May 8 to 10: PGBSC Swim-a-thon - Canfor Pool

All club swimmers from D3 to Youth and Masters will participate

Fundraising deadline May 31

Fundraising prizes awarded to the individual and group with the most money raised

For more information, check out our website

May 23: Time trial - Canfor Pool

Swimmers from groups D2B - Youth

Sign up deadline May 16

June 5-7: KCS Ice Classic Long Course Meet - Kamloops (full 3 day meet)

Swimmers from groups D2C - Youth

Sign up deadline May 30

June 19-21: BC Summer Divisionals - Vernon (full 3 day meet)

Qualifying swimmers only

Sign up deadline June 6

July 16-19: BC Summer Provincials - Kamloops

Qualifying swimmers only

Sign up deadline June 27

Here's wishing all our athletes and coaches the best of luck for the upcoming meet. Swim hard, cheer loudly and have fun!

“Don't put a limit on anything. The more you dream, the further you get” Michael Phelps