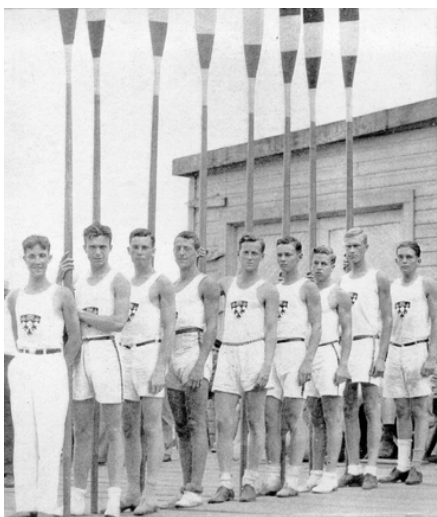


The McGill University Rowing Club (MURC)



Mission Statement

To promote excellence in rowing among McGill University students via competitive activities at the Novice, Junior Varsity, and Varsity levels.



Fondé en 1924, le club a recommencé le sport en 1976 après les jeux olympiques, et est maintenant une équipe classifiée à niveau 2 à l'université de McGill. Le club est également un club indépendamment enregistré avec les organismes d'aviron dans le Québec et le Canada (Association Québécoise d'aviron, et Rowing Canada Aviron).

Le club d'aviron de McGill utilise le bassin entre la dernière semaine d'août, jusqu'à la dernière journée d'avril, alors ça fait plus que huit mois de l'année. Quand le bassin est disponible pour l'automne, les 60-70 athlètes de McGill rament typiquement six fois par semaine (du lundi au samedi) le matin de 06h00-08h00; parfois il y a aussi 5-10 athlètes qui rament l'après-midi de 16h30-18h30. Pour les mois d'hiver, quand le bassin est vide, le club a 30-50 athlètes qui font l'entraînement dans le bac-à-ramer (au Quartier des Athlètes) en quatre sessions séparées. Au printemps, quand le bassin est rempli du début d'avril, le club a 40 athlètes qui rament typiquement cinq fois par semaine. À toute fois, le club avait un rapport d'environ un entraîneur pour dix athlètes. Tous les entraîneurs sont des bénévoles.

Le club emploie également de l'espace de hangar au bassin. Nous avons une flotte de cinq bateaux de huit rameurs, deux bateaux de quatre rameurs, et huit ensembles de rames. Tous les équipements occupent presque tout un hangar. Nous avons également une remorque de 12m de longueur qui est stationnée en arrière ou à côté de l'hangar.



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Le club emploie également le bassin pour organiser annuellement une régate d'aviron, cependant ceci n'a pas été organisé en deux dernières années en raison des conflits d'établissement du programme. Normalement, la régate est en octobre, pour tous les clubs d'aviron (universitaire et autres) de Québec, Ontario, Vermont, Le Nouveau Brunswick, la Nouvelle-Écosse, et parfois Terre Neuve. En 2004 le club a organisé le championnat canadien d'aviron universitaire. Cet automne (octobre 2007), le club devait organiser le championnat d'aviron ontarien, mais malheureusement il a dû être annulé en raison de la construction et rénovation sur le bassin.



High Performance:

The high-performance component of the club is well represented by the numerous athletes and coaches that first learned to row with the MURC and have gone on to represent the Club, Montreal, and Canada at the World Championships and Olympic Games (please see annex for the full list.) This is a remarkable feat given that the club is run largely by the students, without the direction of a professional coaching staff, and on a self-funded basis.

The goals of the MURC are:

1. To foster excellence in university rowing via competitive success.
2. To involve large numbers of McGill students each year in the club's activities as competitors, coaches, executive members, spectators, sponsors.
3. To build an organization encompassing both students and alumni, that can sustain a fully fledged university rowing program and that is capable of self-renewal on an annual basis.
4. To become a completely autonomous rowing club that is not dependent upon other clubs for equipment, coaching, or facilities.
5. To support and sustain an integrated developmental rowing program that includes novice, intermediate, and elite crews for both female and male student athletes at McGill. In so doing, the MURC will prepare and encourage its athletes to take part in club rowing activities and the national team.
6. To become self-financing with regards to annual budgetary requirements.
7. To improve the club's coaching staff both quantitatively and qualitatively.
8. To exercise influence on the national rowing association in Canada with regard to its policies affecting Canadian university rowing.
9. To become a model for all rowing clubs in Canada.
10. To consistently place athletes on Canada's National and Olympic Rowing team.

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The MURC would like to submit the following responses to the questions put forward by the *Montreal urban agglomeration standing committee on facilities and activities of collective interest - public review of aid to elite sport*.

1.- *What measures should be implemented to support developing athletes and help them reach their goal of excellence?*

The MURC would benefit to the greatest extent by having uninterrupted access to the Olympic basin during its eight month long operating season. Since our group is volunteer-based and operates on a very basic budget, reducing or eliminating fees and costs of using the Olympic basin would help greatly.

2.- *How could the Montréal urban agglomeration recognize and promote the achievements of key players and partners working with the sports elite in Montréal?*

To recognize and promote the achievements of the Club, the Montréal urban agglomeration should recognize the value of rowing as an amateur sport and recreational activity and its all of its related activities (training and competitions) that fulfil the raison d'être of the Olympic basin.

3.- *What priorities should the Montréal urban agglomeration council set to improve the services and programs provided by the organizations involved in training elite athletes in Montréal (elite sports clubs and national training centres) as well as the local partners involved in elite sports to improve their performances?*

For the Olympic basin, the Montréal urban agglomeration council could facilitate the sharing of the basin by all of the different users. In particular there could be recompense for permanent users of the Olympic basin facility that are temporarily displaced by other activities.

4.- *What measures should be implemented by the Montréal urban agglomeration to attract to Montréal and promote the development of major provincial, Canadian or international sports organizations in Montréal?*

For the Olympic basin, the Montréal urban agglomeration council should recognize that there is an opportunity to create a Quebec University/CEGEP/High School Rowing Association and Rowing Championships.

5.- *How can the Montréal urban agglomeration increase the number of regular and recurrent major sports and multisports events in the city, maximize benefits and spin-offs as well as their success?*

Reduce the cost of renting the basin for running non-profit events hosted by groups such as ours. (For example the Canadian University Rowing Championships; the Ontario University (OUA) Rowing Championships, etc.) It would also help to keep the Olympic basin open from the second week of April until the second week of November (this is longer than normal). Provide free wireless internet access.

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6.- How can the Montréal urban agglomeration make sure that municipal bodies work together, support the key players and partners that work with elite athletes in Montréal, develop a shared vision, and improve the results and consistency of their actions?

Similar to question 3: For the Olympic basin, the Montréal urban agglomeration council could facilitate the sharing of the basin by all of the different users. In particular there could be recompense for permanent users of the Olympic basin facility that are temporarily displaced by other activities.

7.- What actions and measures should be implemented by the Montréal urban agglomeration to make sure that all specialized sports facilities in Montréal are kept to standards and their potential maximized?

The Olympic basin is currently undergoing a significant renovation project (dredging and rebuilding of the shore-line) which has been long overdue and will bring the rowing facility back to acceptable minimum standards. This work is appreciated by the MURC even though it has resulted in the MURC's lost opportunity to host the 2007 OUA Rowing Championships.

The Olympic basin facility in general lacks certain basic needs to host large events such as the national championships. These needs are: the athlete washroom/shower and changing areas should be expanded; a larger meeting room and some smaller meeting rooms. Updating the score board and the finish tower's equipment; renovate the finish tower's weatherproofing and insulation (e.g. the roof leaks).

Providing free wireless internet access would benefit everyone at the facility.

McGill University Rowing Club's Elite National Team Athletes and Coaches

2007 - World Rowing Championships; Munch, Germany

Derek O'Farrell (Coxed Pair, **BRONZE MEDAL**)

Doug Vandor (Lightweight Double, 12th)

Bruce Smith (USA Lightweight Men's Coach)

2007 – Senior B World Rowing Championships;

Christian Dabrowski (Pair, 13th)

2006 - World Rowing Championships; Eton, UK

Derek O'Farrell (Coxed Pair, **BRONZE MEDAL**)

Mara Jones (Lightweight Double, 4th)

Doug Vandor (Lightweight Double, 12th)

Bruce Smith (USA Lightweight Men's Coach)

2006 – World University Rowing Championships

Isabelle Teolis (Women's Four, 7th)

2006 - Commonwealth Regatta; Strathclyde, Scotland

Isabelle Teolis (Women's Four, 2nd - Silver Medal)

2005 - World Rowing Championships; Gifu, Japan

Mara Jones (Lightweight Women's Quad, **GOLD MEDAL - World Champion**)

Doug Vandor (Lightweight Men's Quad, **BRONZE MEDAL**)

2005 – Under 23 World Rowing Championships, Amsterdam

Derek O'Farrell (Men's Eight, **BRONZE MEDAL**)

Sarah Pape (Women's Coach)

2004 – Olympic Games, Athens

Sarah Pape (Women's Eight, 7th)

Mara Jones (Lightweight Women's Double, 8th)

Doug Vandor (Spare)

Gen Meredith (Spare)

2004 – World Championships; Banyolas, Spain

Doug Vandor (Lightweight Pair, **BRONZE MEDAL**)

Gen Meredith (Lightweight Quad, **SILVER MEDAL**)

2003 – World Championships; Milan, Italy

Mara Jones (Women's Lightweight Double, 5th)

Sarah Pape (Women's Eight Coxswain, 3rd **BRONZE MEDAL**)

Doug Vandor (Men's Lightweight Four, 5th)

Geoff Hodgson (Men's Coxed Pair, 3rd **BRONZE MEDAL**)

2003 – Pan Am Games; Dominican Republic

Dallas Smith (Men's Eight, 2nd **SILVER MEDAL**)

Geoff Hodgson (Men's Eight, 2nd **SILVER MEDAL**)

Gen Meredith (Lightweight Double, 1st **GOLD MEDAL**; Lightweight single sculls, 2nd **SILVER MEDAL**)

2002 – World Championships; Seville, Spain

Doug Vandor (Men's Lightweight Four, 3rd **BRONZE MEDAL**)

Gen Meredith (Lightweight Single, 9th)

Sarah Pape (Women's Eight Coxswain, 6th)

2001 – World Championships; Lucerne, Switzerland

Gen Meredith (Women's Lightweight Double, 4th)

Sarah Pape (Women's Eight Coxswain, 7th)

2000 – Olympic Games, Sydney

Alison Korn (Women's Eight, 3rd **BRONZE MEDAL**)

Sarah Pape (Coach – Women's Lightweight Double)

Gen Meredith (Women's Lightweight Double, alternate)

McGill University Rowing Club's Elite National Team Athletes and Coaches

2000 – World Championships;

Ben Storey (Lightweight Pair, 1st **GOLD MEDAL - World Champion**)

1999 – World Championships; St. Catharines, Ontario

Alison Korn (Women's Eight, 3rd **BRONZE MEDAL**)

Gen Meredith (Women's Lightweight Double, Final B)

Ben Storey (Men's Lightweight Eight, 4th)

1999 – Pan Am Games; Winnipeg, Manitoba

Ben Storey (Men's Lightweight Four, 4th)

1998 – World Championships; Cologne, Germany

Alison Korn (Women's Pair, 1st **GOLD MEDAL - World Champion**; Women's Eight, 3rd **BRONZE MEDAL**)

Ben Storey (Men's Lightweight Four, Final B)

1997 – World Championships; Aiguebelette, France

Jason Blair (Team manager)

Alison Korn (Women's Pair, 1st **GOLD MEDAL - World Champion**; Women's Eight, 2nd **SILVER MEDAL**)

Bradshaw Crombie (Men's Eight, 7th)

Ben Storey (Men's Lightweight Eight, 3rd **BRONZE MEDAL**)

1996 – Olympic Games, Atlanta

Alison Korn (Women's Eight, 2nd **SILVER MEDAL**)

Tosha Tsang (Women's Eight, 2nd **SILVER MEDAL**)

Greg Stevenson (Men's Eight, 4th)

Bradshaw Crombie (Men's Eight, alternate)

1996 – World Championships; Strathclyde, Scotland

Ben Storey (Men's Lightweight Eight, 3rd **BRONZE MEDAL**)

1995 – World Championships; Tampere, Finland

Tosha Tsang (Women's Eight, 6th)

Bradshaw Crombie (Men's Four, 12th)

Greg Stevenson (Men's Four, 12th)

1995 – Pan Am Games; Mar del Plata, Argentina

Bradshaw Crombie (Men's Four, 2nd **SILVER MEDAL**)

Men's Eight, 2nd **SILVER MEDAL**)

Greg Stevenson (Men's Four, 2nd **SILVER MEDAL**)

Men's Eight, 2nd **SILVER MEDAL**)

1994 – World Championships; Indianapolis, USA

Bradshaw Crombie (Men's Four, 7th)

Sandie Bourk (Women's Lightweight Four, 5th)

1993 – World Championships; Prague, Czech Republic

Bradshaw Crombie (Men's Four, 4th)

Greg Stevenson (Men's Four, 4th)

1992 – Olympic Games, Barcelona

Greg Stevenson (Men's Four, 11th)

1992 – World Championships; Montreal, Canada

Lisa Carey (Women's Lightweight Single (USA),)

1991 – World Championships; Vienna, Austria

Rachel Starr (Women's Lightweight Four, 6th)

1991 – Pan Am Games; Havana, Cuba

Greg Stevenson (Men's Four, 3rd **BRONZE MEDAL**)

McGill University Rowing Club's Elite National Team Athletes and Coaches

1990 – World Championships; Tasmania, Australia

Rachel Starr (Women's Lightweight Four, 1st **GOLD MEDAL - World Champion**)

1988 – Senior B; Tasmania, Australia

Andrew Tees (Men's Eight)

John Younger (Men's Eight)

C. Duffield (Men's Eight)

1985 – World Championships

Guy Savard (Lightweight 8+)

Rita Toporowski (Sr. A Team Spare; Sr. B Team 4 Gold medals, 1 Bronze medal)

1984 – Canadian National Team Selection Camp

Guy Savard

Rita Toporowski