



## Combative Sports Commission Report

### MANDATE

To regulate, govern, and control combative sporting events and contestants within the City of Calgary, and to establish and enforce rules governing the conduct of these events.

### COMPOSITION

6 Members:

- 5 Public Members
- 1 Administration – Chief Licence Inspector

As per the Combative Sports Commission Bylaw, members shall be appointed for three-year terms, expiring on the day of the Organizational Council Meeting – typically held in October - in the year of the expiry of the member’s term. Members may serve a maximum of five consecutive terms. The Commission structure provides the opportunity for Commission members to gradually attain the required knowledge and skill to develop a robust succession management plan and adequately reflect the complexity associated with ensuring safety standards.

Member	Role	Current Appointment	Expiry Year
TJ Madigan	Vice Chair	2012	2024
Marc Pesant	Commission Member	2019	2024
Allison Kavanagh	Commission Member	2013	2024
Shane Moore	Commission Member	2017	2024
Kent Pallister	Commission Member	2020	2025
Michael Briegel	Deputy Chief Business Safety	n/a	n/a

### ANNUAL UPDATE & KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 2022 focused on the post-pandemic resumption of combative sports in Calgary amidst an uncertain and constantly-changing environment.
- The Commission supported new promoters in setting up their first events in Calgary.
- The Chair was assigned as the Alberta representative to a committee of Canadian Combative Sports Commissions
- This collaborative work with the Canadian Combative Sports Commissions complemented work initiated in 2021 with a provincial working group of Alberta municipal Commissions. This collaboration has been critical in establishing resumption protocols in the wake of COVID-19.
- The provincial working group continues to meet regularly to update resumption plans and to share best practices



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### CHALLENGES

- The COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact sporting events worldwide in 2022. As a result, there were six combative sports events sanctioned by the Commission in 2022, below pre-pandemic levels.
- The limited number of events being held in 2022, compounded with only one event being held in the preceding two years due to COVID-19 health restrictions, has led to a significant reduction in fees being collected.
- The Commission uses a cost recovery model, where regulatory activities are funded from event fees. Over the last several years the Commission has undertaken several initiatives to lower ongoing operating costs. Even with the cost reduction efforts, the fluctuation in number of combative sporting events and the recent absence of events due to COVID-19 restrictions, has led to increased reliance on the contingency fund.
- With the resumption of events in late 2022 there is the potential to reduce the dependency on the contingency fund in 2023 and beyond. However, the viability of the commission's current model may be challenged in future years without a return of large-scale events to Calgary.

<b>Calgary Combative Sports Commission 2020 - 2022 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures (\$000)</b>				
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Revenues/Other Funding Sources:</b>				
Gate Fees*	\$36	\$6	\$0	\$36
Draw from Contingency Fund**	\$37	\$21	\$37	\$7
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>\$73</b>	<b>\$27</b>	<b>\$37</b>	<b>\$43</b>
<b><u>Ongoing Operating Expenses</u></b>				
Salary, Wage and Benefits	25	15	25	28
Honorarium Expenses (for attending regular Commission meetings, weigh-in and events)	32	9	7	2
Business Expenses (parking, meeting supplies, bank service charge, conference)	11	1	2	8
Communication and IT Services (computer, phone, printing, interpretation services)	5	2	3	5
	<b>\$73</b>	<b>\$27</b>	<b>\$37</b>	<b>\$43</b>
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Note:

\* The 2020 and 2021 decrease in event revenue and Commission expenditures is a direct result of COVID-19 restrictions.

\*\* As of March 31, 2023, the contingency fund balance was at \$29K.



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### WORKPLAN FOR THE NEXT YEAR

- Continue to support advocacy to develop a provincial combative sports commission in Alberta.
- Improve guidance: Develop step by step user-friendly guide to help promoters more clearly understand Commission requirements.
- Document updates: Review and update forms and documents
- Staffing strategy: Attract and train local inspectors and officials; develop local training course.
- Ruleset changes: Consider ruleset changes, in relation to changes in other jurisdictions.

### OPERATIONS

- In 2022 the Commission held eight meetings; three regular meetings and five special meetings. In-person meetings were resumed in 2022 June. Virtual meetings were conducted through Microsoft Teams or via conference call.
- Meeting agenda and minutes are published on the Commission [website](#) for all regular meetings. There were no barriers to participation beyond standard technological issues associated with virtual meetings.

### ATTACHMENTS

N/A