

24 March 2015

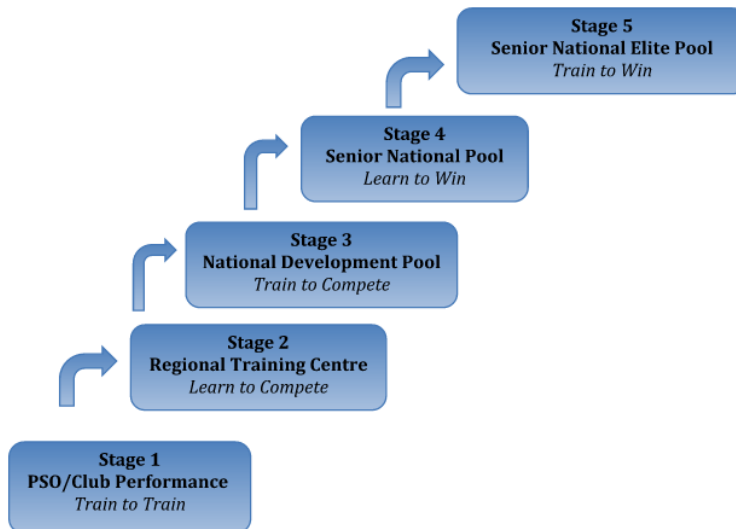
### PARTNERS



Dear BCSSA Members,

As some of you have already heard, the Calgary Olympic Oval and Speed Skating Canada jointly released the new *Long Track Elite Athlete Pathway* and *Short Track Elite Athlete Pathway* documents last week. These documents are the result of a season-long consultation process with key stakeholders, including BCSSA. The Pathway documents outline a 5-stage pathway for developing speed skaters:

*Diagram 1 - 5 Stages of the SSC Elite Athlete Pathway*



Reference: *Short Track Elite Athlete Pathway document*

The Pathway will be implemented during the 2015-2016 season at the Oval. Along with the release of the Pathway documents, a note indicating that invitations to Stages 2-4 of the pathway would be sent to potential skaters by the end of March was also released. At this point, no further information regarding the implementation of the Pathways has been released to BCSSA. Therefore, BCSSA is recommending that any BC skaters who wish to train at the Oval next season (in the RTC or Oval Programs) fill out the [Oval Program Pre-Application Form](#) as in seasons past. BC skaters (and/or their coaches) who are considering training at the Oval should contact Chris Acton ([christina.acton@live.com](mailto:christina.acton@live.com)) to obtain a copy of the new Pathway document, which includes Entry Requirements for each stage of the Pathway.

Over the coming months, BCSSA will consult with the Oval to develop appropriate in-province programming (i.e. Stage 1) to ensure that BC skaters are prepared to enter Oval programming at Stage 2 if they so choose.

The Elite Athlete Pathway marks an exciting move forward for the Oval, SSC and the Western branches who are served by the Oval. As more information is released and programming developed, updates will be shared with the BCSSA membership.

Please do not hesitate to contact BCSSA with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C Acton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Chris Acton  
BCSSA Technical Director  
[christina.acton@live.com](mailto:christina.acton@live.com)