



Youth Feeder System

Operational Plan 2017-2019

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Message from the Manager, Program Development – Youth Feeder System

In 2015, Curling Canada was presented with an opportunity to revolutionize and grow our sport at the youth level through a generous donation from an anonymous donor. In September 2015, a Task Force was assembled of champions in youth curling from across Canada and meetings were held in Ottawa to brainstorm a Strategic Plan for a newly created Youth Feeder System. The outcomes from this meeting provided the structure and plan moving forward.

In order to achieve these long term Strategic Goals, a new position was created within Curling Canada to oversee the Operational Plan for the new Youth Feeder System. The first year saw engagement with all Member Associations and champions of youth curling across Canada providing feedback on current youth programming and needs moving forward. The focus of all programming is tied to Curling Canada's Curling For Life Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) document and it was determined that our LTAD document needed to be rewritten and updated for current and future needs in our youth pathway. As we are in the process of rewriting and updating our LTAD framework, we are piloting various youth programs that were created based on needs from our gap analysis.

There has been tremendous support from all Member Associations to work together and create resources that will continue to help increase youth participation, performance and retention. Momentum has been created across the country and many Member Associations have put youth curling at the forefront of their strategic plans. I look forward to continued engagement in creating a best in class pathway for youth curling across Canada.

Yours in curling,



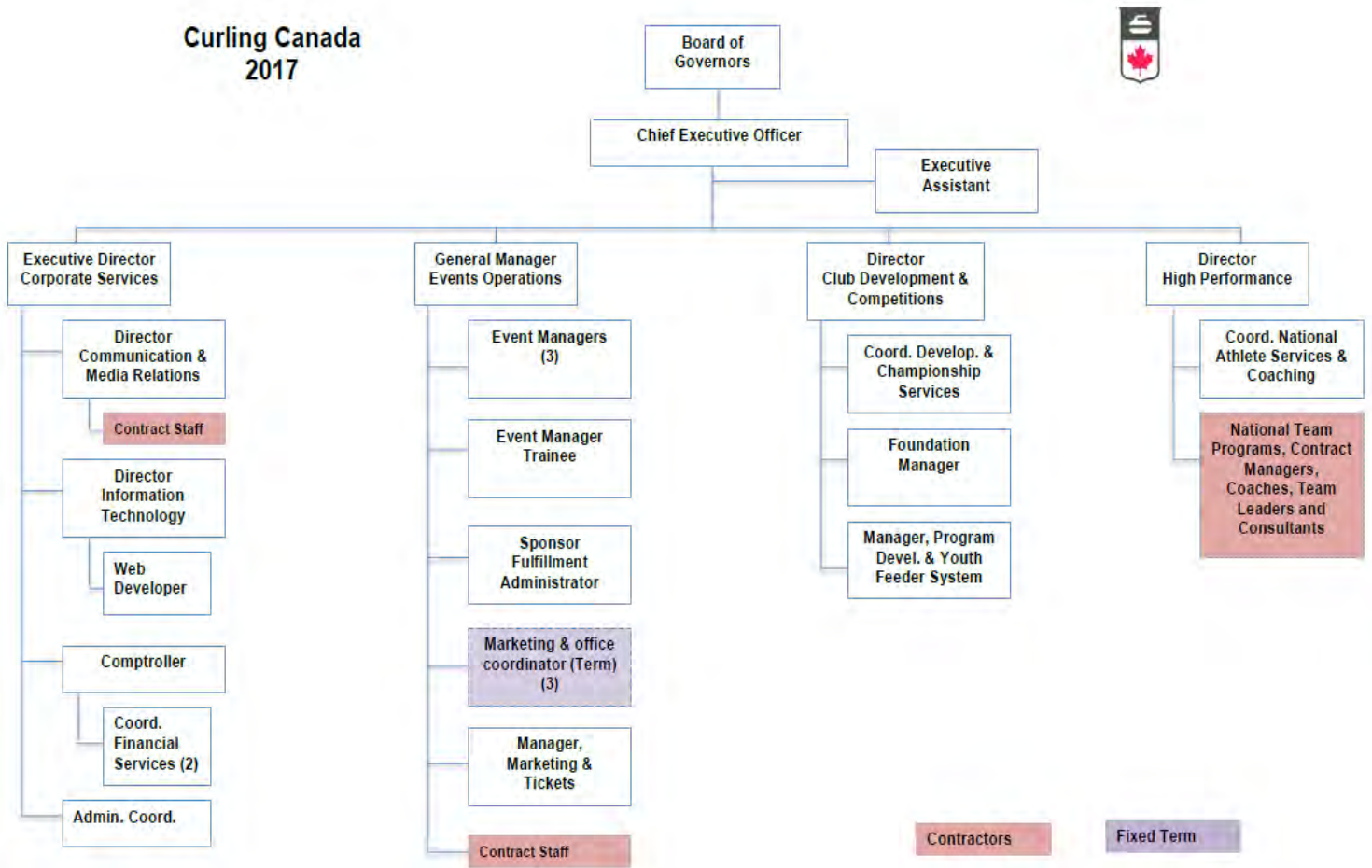
Helen Radford
Manager, Program Development - Youth Feeder System
Curling Canada

2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

Curling Canada and its members have made tremendous progress in the area of Youth Curling over the 2016-2017 Curling Season. A few of the highlights of work accomplished so far include:

- Hiring of Manager, Program Development – Youth Feeder System
- Hosting the inaugural U18 National Championship
- Rocks and Rings school program reached almost 20,000 students across Canada
- 1900 people (over 800 children) participated in Curling 101 – First Involvement On-Ice Events in all 14 Member Association Provinces/Territories, with 30% of those participants becoming new members.
- Nationwide consultation and sharing of youth curling best practices
- Mixed Doubles accepted as a new discipline with additional athlete and coach quota at the 2023 Canada Winter Games
- Long Term Athlete Development Pathway Rewrite – Committee formed and preliminary work started including the Athlete Development Matrix.

Curling Canada Organizational Chart



Executive Summary

Overall Outcomes

The Youth Curling Feeder System will be a best in class program that will recruit, retain and develop youth curlers. The Youth Curling Feeder System will be designed by the National Sport Organization (Curling Canada), led by the Provincial/Territorial Sport Organizations and implemented by the Clubs at the grassroots levels. The Youth Curling Feeder System Programs will be aligned with the Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) Framework; will be user-friendly, easily delivered and adaptable. This initiative is innovative and experimental and will be a “game changer” for Curling in Canada. This new initiative will attract and retain more youth, including new Canadians, to the sport of curling.

Duration

2017-2037

Vision Statement

To revolutionize youth curling, making it the winter sport of choice.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to get kids curling.

Strategic Intent

We intend to create a best in class feeder system brimming with youth at the grassroots level.

Philosophy Statement

Every child has a positive first experience.

Core Values

Family – Excellence – Commitment – Integrity – Respect - Transparency

Participation, Performance and Retention by Design

Stakeholders

Stakeholders in the Youth Curling Feeder System include:

- Children/Youth
- Parents
- Coaches
- Curling Clubs/Curling Centres*
- Schools
- Member Associations
- Curling Canada
- Investors

* The term Club referred to throughout this document can be used interchangeably with Curling Centres. The word “club” has been consciously used to remain consistent with LTAD Framework terminology.

Needs

- Fun, social, inclusive
- Age/LTAD Stage appropriate
- Meaningful Competitions
- Meaningful Connections for girls
- Metrics/analytics

How will we get there?

- Teach through games
- Actively engage kids on and off the ice
- Provide more touches on the rock, sweeping and calling line
- Coach/Instructor development

Strategic Goals

Goals (2037)

1. Every curling centre has youth programs and leagues aligned with Curling Canada's Curling For Life Long Term Athlete Development Model.
2. 750,000 youth will be involved in curling.
3. 100% of all Canadian children have a positive image of curling.
4. Create a feeder system to fill competition gaps.
5. Create an education stream for volunteers/instructors.

In order to achieve these long-term goals we will focus on five main areas to create an aligned, nationwide, Long Term Athlete Development centric program.

1. Awareness
2. First Involvement (on and off the ice)
3. Skill Development
 - a. Foundational
 - b. Developmental
 - c. Performance
4. Meaningful Competitions
 - a. Developmental
 - b. Performance
5. Implementation



Project Prioritization

| Strategic Priority | Project | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 | 2019-2020 |
|--|--|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Awareness | | | | |
| | Social Media Marketing to Parents of Youth | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation | |
| | Curling Canada Foundation Promotion | Continue | Continue | Continue |
| | Continued TV Exposure of sport (Ex: Seasons of Champions, Olympics) | Continue | Continue | Continue |
| First Involvement | | | | |
| School Based – Off ice Programs | Egg Farmer’s Rocks and Rings | Continue | Continue | Continue |
| | PHE Canada – Move, Think, Learn | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation | |
| | Curriculum Based Programs for Classrooms (Modernization of Getting Started in Curling program) | Develop | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation |
| | Canadian Olympic School Program – create online school programs and videos to educate kids about curling olympic.ca/education | Develop & Implement | | |
| | Sport Fairs – use of Iceless curling equipment to bring awareness to sport | Continue | Continue | Continue |
| Club Based – On ice Programs | Curling 101, Curling 2.0 (BC) | Continue | Continue | Continue |
| | School-based Try Curling events | Ready for School/Club Implementation | | |
| | Safety First – Curling Canada’s Helmet Use, Concussion Guidelines and Return to Play Policy | Ready for Nationwide Club and Member Association Implementation | | |
| Skill Development | | | | |
| Foundational | U12 Learn to Curl (FUNdamentals) – create a program with supporting resources – 8, one-hour sessions integrating Physical Literacy and FMS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting U12 Learn to Curl Videos | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation | |
| | Modernize Skill Assessment Program, align with LTAD skill development for use in U12, U15 Programs | Develop | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation |
| | “U12 Physical Literacy and Curling Program” developed by Curl Moncton. Club based 20-week program. | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation | |
| | Develop a U18 Learn to Curl – Club based program and supporting resources – 8, 90 minutes or less sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting Age/Stage appropriate Warm-up videos | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation | |
| | Develop a 20 week Club based program for U15-U18 curlers | Develop | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation |
| | Next Generation (Next Gen) Programs U15 (Train to Train) standardized but flexible, training and assessment protocol | Develop | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation |
| | Campus Learn to Curl - Club based program | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation | |
| | High School Academy Programs | Ready for any school district to implement | | |

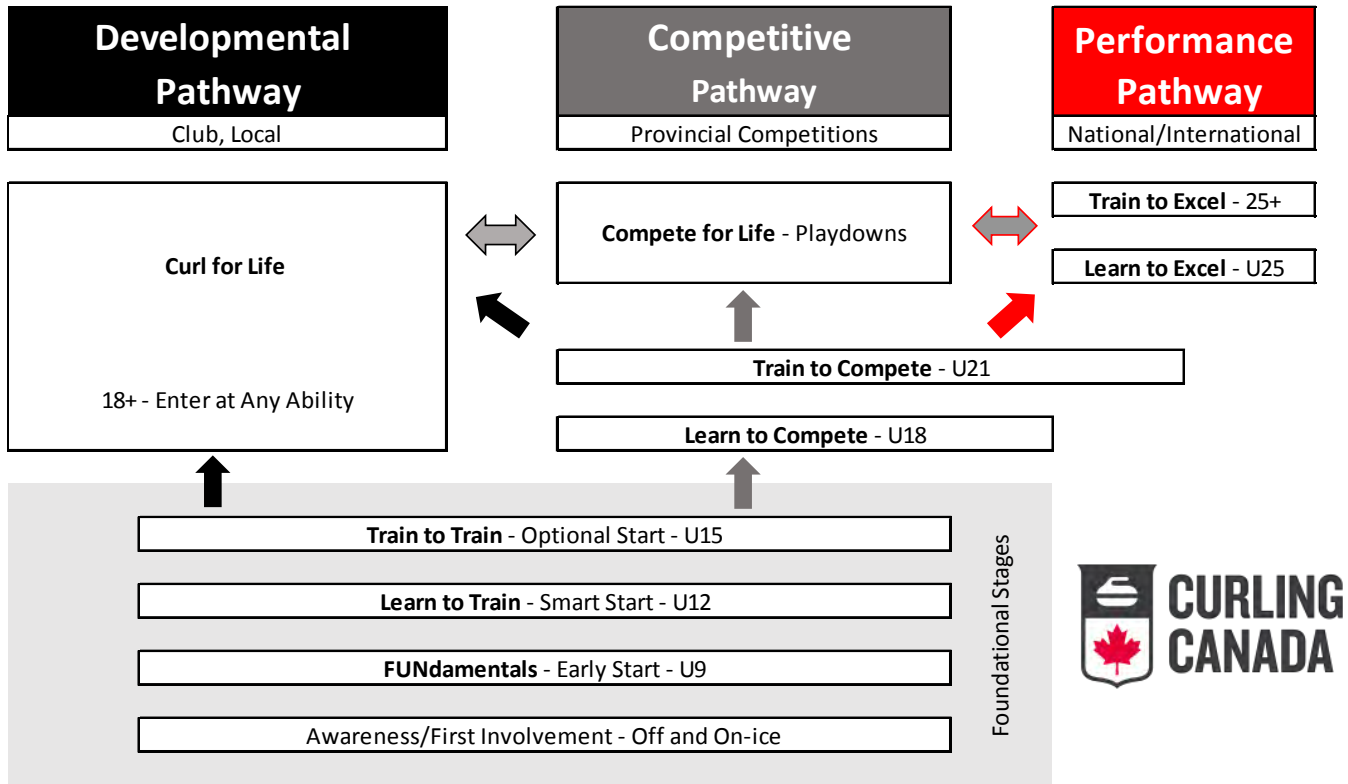
| Strategic Priority | Project | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 | 2019-2020 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Performance | Next Gen Programs U18 & U21 – standardized but flexible, training and assessment protocol | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation | |
| | Next Gen Program U25 - standardized but flexible, training and assessment protocol (Varsity focus) | Develop | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation |
| | Regional Training Centres – connected to a Canadian Sport Institute and/or a local university – with complete LTAD pathway alignment in all programming. | Develop | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation |
| Meaningful Competitions | | | | |
| Foundational | Modified Games – Singles, Doubles, Triples, Fours to assist in developing more well-rounded curlers – includes guidelines and rules | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation | |
| | Family Curling – Intergenerational league play – promote www.familycurling.com for rules and format | Ready for any club to implement | | |
| | Hit, Draw and Tap (Ontario Curling Association) – Youth Skills Competition (Ages 6-13) | Ready for any Province/Territory to implement | Nationwide Implementation | |
| Developmental | U15 Challenge Cup – three interprovincial – West, Central and East – Singles & Triples Competitions | Pilot | Rotational Event | Rotational Event |
| | U15 Coachable Events | Pilot | Nationwide Implementation | |
| | Inter-Club Leagues | Ready for any clubs to implement | | |
| Performance | U18 National Championships | Continue | Continue | Continue |
| | U21 National Championships | Continue | Continue | Continue |
| | U Sports and CCAA Championships | Continue | Continue | Continue |
| | Canada Winter Games – U18 Men and U18 Women Disciplines | | February 2019 | |
| | U18 Youth Olympic Games | | | January 2020 |
| | Canada Winter Games - Mixed Doubles (2023) Disciplines – Determine age criteria | | | January 2020 |
| | U25 Champions Cup | | | Developing |
| | Development of Canadian Junior Tour Ranking System | Develop | Nationwide Implementation | |



| Strategic Priority | Project | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 | 2019-2020 |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Implementation | | | | |
| Long Term Athlete Development Framework | LTAD Rewrite – Athlete Development Matrix, LTAD Progress Tracker, Gold Medal Pathway/Winning Style of Play | Develop | Develop | Nationwide Implementation |
| | Competition Calendar Restructuring | Develop | Develop | Proposed Implementation |
| Engagement | Youth Curling Branding | Launch | | |
| | Youth Curling Website, Social Media | Launch | | |
| Nation-wide Sharing and Pilots | Member Associations share best practices for youth programming | June 2017 | | |
| | Hiring of four Youth Pilot Program Coordinators – West, Central and East | July 2017 | | |
| | Youth Pilot Project Fund – Provinces not covered by a Youth Pilot Program Coordinator are eligible to apply for Youth Pilot Project funding to test a new U12 or U15 youth program, with the intention of sharing and nationwide implementation if successful. | July 2017 | | |
| Data Collection/ Metrics | Curling I/O – National participant registry system – critical to collecting demographic information to profile curling, identify gaps and opportunities | Ready for Nationwide Implementation | | |
| Coaching | Curling Leaders of Tomorrow (Ontario) | Developing/ Piloting | Nationwide Implementation | |
| | Use of conferences, webinars, competitions to roll-out new youth programming Maximize professional development opportunities for maintenance of certification | Developing/ Piloting | Nationwide Implementation | Ongoing |
| | Updating of NCCP Materials, integration of new programming in concert with Coaching Association of Canada Quality Assurance updates | Ongoing | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| | Responsible Coaching Movement (RCM) – adoption of the Coaching Association of Canada’s RCM – a series of best practices and policies to support responsible coaching to protect both athletes and coaches | Internal Consultation | Nationwide Implementation | |



Curling for Life



ABOUT LTAD REWRITE

The Canadian sport system has adopted a systematic, science based approach where children and young adults, need to do the right things at the right time to develop in their sport or activity – whether they want to be curlers, hockey players, dancers, figure skaters or gymnasts. Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD) describes the things athletes need to be doing at specific ages and stages.

Curling Canada’s LTAD – Curling for Life – was first published in 2008. Since then, much has been learned by Curling Canada, Canadian Sport for Life (CS4L) and Sport Canada. The Youth Feeder System Project, was a perfect opportunity to re-examine Curling Canada’s LTAD to ensure it was reflective of our sport’s true practices, evidence informed and supportive of all curlers – developmental, competitive and elite.

Over the next two years (approximately), a small committee will be working to revise and update Curling for Life. These revisions will include completing an Athlete Development Matrix, collecting supporting data, creating a Gold Medal Profile/Winning Style of Play, gathering feedback, formally rewriting the document, publishing and educating the membership. All data will be inputted into the CS4L/Sport Canada LTAD Progress Tracker. Canadian Sport For Life subject matter experts will guide each step of the process.

Social Media Marketing to Parents of Youth

Utilizing methods learned through Marketing and testing conducted by Fuse Marketing Group Inc. in Q1 of 2017, pilot use of Facebook to attract Parents of children ages 6-14 to Curling 101 events held at five clubs across the country.

Clubs will need to have a Learn to Curl Program in place for participants to subscribe to.

Goal: 20 Participants per club, 6-7 participants at the each event subscribe to Learn to Curl Program

Timelines: Varies per club availability, all pilots complete by April 2018

Curling Canada Foundation Promotion

As the primary supporter of the Youth Curling Feeder System, the Curling Canada Foundation promotes Youth Curling as a sport for youth of any age, ability or background. The Curling Canada Foundation continues to raise awareness about the benefits of curling including; overall health, character building, mental aptitude, social connections, physical development and healthy competitions.

The Curling Canada Foundation provides financial support to youth programs and individuals through scholarships.

The support of The Curling Canada Foundation is vital to the success of the Youth Curling Feeder System.

Timelines: Ongoing

Continued Exposure of Sport

During the period of 2015-2016 viewers of curling on TV increased by 47% to 4.75 million.

Continued exposure of the sport through Curling Canada's Season of Champions and Olympic broadcasts, is vital to the Youth Feeder System's long term goal of 100% of All Canadian Children having a positive image of curling by 2037.

Leveraging the more than 300 hours of curling broadcast in an effort to drive viewers to participation will be critical in us meeting our long term goals.

Timelines: Ongoing

Egg Farmer's Rocks and Rings

Egg Farmer's [Rocks and Rings](#) is a school-based program. Ice-less curling equipment is used to teach children basic rules and objectives of the game, and allows them to learn about the sport through FUN activities such as relay races and simple games. In 2016-2017 approximately 20,000 elementary school children in all 14 provinces and territories participated in the program. Curling Canada will continue their support for the program in 2017-2018 with similar expectations.

Timelines: Ongoing

Physical Health Education (PHE) Canada – Move, Think, Learn Program

Utilizing gym equipment already in schools (example - beanbags, pylons, hockey sticks), teachers can use the prepared PHE Canada [Move, Think, Learn](#) curriculum to educate students about the game of curling in the gym. Students are educated about how skills from other sports can translate to the sport of curling. Students learn basic rules and objectives of the game. Curling Canada will conduct approximately 10 pilots through the 2017-2018 season where Youth Pilot Project Coordinators will work with schools to demonstrate how to use the program.

Timelines: 10 pilots completed by April 2018

Getting Started in Schools Program

Modernization of the "[Getting Started in Schools](#)" curriculum. The Getting Started in Curling School program provides teachers with curling themed classroom based activities to teach math, science and language arts. Students learn basic game objectives, rules, and etiquette that tie to gym activities using gym equipment the school already has (ex. Beanbags, pylons, etc...). During the 2017-2018 season, this program will be updated, graphics modernized and the entire program will be translated into French.

Timelines: April 2018

Canadian Olympic School Program

Collaborate with the Canadian Olympic Committee to create online school programs and videos to educate kids about curling during an Olympic year and the years to follow. olympic.ca/education

Timelines: Develop and implement this season

Sport Fairs

Sharing of best practices to clubs and Member Associations of how to use local Sport Fairs to promote the sport and their local clubs.

Curling 101

Continue support of Curling 101 - a gym to club On-ice experience for school participants and their parents/guardians/families which happens within 2 weeks of a Rocks and Rings First Involvement event.

In 2016-2017, Curling 101 recruitment events were hosted in 35 clubs and were offered to all 14 Member Associations. 1900 people (800 kids) participated using club volunteers as instructors. Approximately 30% of participants registered for ongoing programming after the event.

In 2017-2018, Curling 101 will be repeated in the same 35 clubs as well as 35 new clubs across Canada.

Timelines: April 2018

School Based – Try Curling Events

Existing program is ready for implementation at any club. Students (Grades 4-6 and 7-12) travel to a curling club for 1-4 sessions depending on their age, and school availability where club instructors teach all aspects of the game in a safe, positive and FUN manner.

Curling Canada to share best practices upon request and through youth curling website (forthcoming).

Timelines: Ready for implementation

Safety First – Helmet Use, Concussion Guidelines and Return to Play Policy

Curling Canada worked with industry leaders and law professionals to develop a set of comprehensive policies surrounding Helmet Use, Concussion Prevention and Return to Play Protocol. It is recommended, these policies be adopted by local clubs and/or Member Associations, and Return to Play protocol put into practice by team coaches.

The complete [SAFETY FIRST](#) program is available on curling.ca.

Timelines: Pending – AGM Approval - Ready for implementation by any club or Member Association.

U12 Learn to Curl Program

Curling Canada to develop and pilot a U12 Learn to Curl Program inclusive of Physical Literacy and Fundamental Movement Skills. The Program will consist of eight (8), one-hour sessions with on and off-ice activities to teach Foundational sport specific skills while reinforcing Fundamental Movement Skills, which contributes to a child’s overall Physical Literacy. Focus is on safety, FUN, station-based activities and games.

Program will be supported with a series of written and video resources for coaches and parents to access.

Timelines: Develop program – August 2017
Pilot program – September 2017 – April 2018

Skill Assessment Program

Modernize existing skill assessment (badge) programs into one nationally recognized/standardized program. Skill assessment program will be aligned with new Long Term Athlete Program Framework for use within U12 and U15 Programs.

Timelines: Develop Program – June 2018

U12 Physical Literacy and Curling Program

A U12 Physical Literacy and Curling Program has been developed by the Centre for Curling Excellence operated by Curl Moncton. Curling Canada’s Youth Pilot Program Coordinator in New Brunswick will test the 20-week club based program during the 2017-2018 season.

Timelines: Pilot program – September 2017 – April 2018



U18 Learn to Curl Program

Develop and pilot a U18 Learn to Curl Program to provide an accelerated, late intake process for U18 participants to adopt the sport and become proficient, acknowledging LTAD development principles differs for older youth compared to younger.

The U18 Learn to Curl Program will teach foundational skills to prepare participants for league play or a 20-week program.

Program will be inclusive of instructional and warm-up videos that will reinforce Physical Literacy skills.

Timelines: Develop August 2017
 Pilot September 2017 - April 2018

20 Week Club Program for U15-U18

Curling Canada will develop a 20-week program inclusive of curriculum, activities and game adaptations for club use with U15-U18 curlers.

Program will focus around developing well-rounded curlers who are capable of playing all four positions on a curling team, with knowledge of delivery, sweeping, strategy, tactics and line calling.

Program is developmental in nature, not competitive and will provide an opportunity for curlers to experience healthy competition while building skills.

Program will be inclusive of new warm-up videos and training tips from curling professionals.

Timelines: Develop 2017-2018 season



Next Gen Program – U15 (Train to Train)

Collect national best practices and produce a standardized training and assessment protocol for U15 (Train to Train) athletes, teams and coaches – recognizing the need for implementation flexibility based on provincial/territorial constraints.

Timelines: Develop 2017-2018 season

Campus Learn to Curl Program

Curling Canada to create a club based Campus Learn to Curl Program focusing on providing a FUN experience for students to try curling outside of a Varsity Program. The Program will start with a Try Curling event and will be built to accommodate the flexible nature of student life, inclusive of an abbreviated Learn to Curl Program and a potential drop-in league format.

Timelines: Develop 2017-2018 season

High School Academy Programs

Two program formats – one semester based program within the school day and one after school program – credits available subject to school board endorsement.

Program has been developed in concert with Curl Manitoba and Curl BC and is ready for implementation.

Timelines: Ready for Implementation



Next Gen Programs – U18, U21 and U25

Collect national best practices and produce a standardized training and assessment protocol for U18, U21 and U25 athletes, teams and coaches – recognizing the need for implementation flexibility based on provincial/territorial constraints.

Timelines: Develop 2017-2018 season

Regional Training Centres

Establish a network of Curling Canada Regional Training Centres partnered with a local university and/or Canadian Sport Institute. Staffed with a full time Coach responsible for implementing aligned and standardized LTAD centric programming for athlete and coach development and assessment. Centres will require partnerships of multiple stakeholders for success.

Timelines: Exploratory 2017-2018



Modified Games

Develop rules, promote and encourage competitions through modified games. Singles, Doubles, Triples, and Fours Games are introduced to develop better-rounded curlers capable of playing all positions especially in early stages (<U15).

Share through youth curling website and coach professional development.

Timelines: Develop and Pilot

Family Curling

Intergenerational play, encouraging parents, grandparents and children to curl together. Families can experience Family “Try Curling” events, leagues and bonspiels. The website www.familycurling.com has rules and formats ready to share with any club ready to implement.

Timelines: Ready for nationwide implementation at the club level.

Hit, Draw, Tap

Hit, Draw and Tap (HDT) is a youth skills competition where children age 6-13 compete as individuals. HDT groups children into three different age categories, and perform three different shots, a “Hit,” a “Draw” and a “Tap.” The difficulties of the skills are modified based on the age of the child. The Ontario Curling Association, who runs the program as a “club to provincial competition”, developed the program. The competition structure can be modified to suit any Member Association and has included virtual competitions.

Timelines: Ready for any Province/Territory to implement



U15 Challenge Cup

Curling Canada Hosted - Interprovincial events.

Pilot Year Locations: Alberta, Ontario and New Brunswick

Teams of four will enter (open entry), and compete in both Singles and Triples formats. Teams will be guaranteed four “coachable” Triples games. The “bye” individual player will compete in a Singles Competition. Team aggregate scores will determine the champion.

Timelines: Pilot 2017-2018 season

U15 Coachable Events

“Coachable” events (bonspiels, leagues) encourage coaches to be on the ice with their athletes assisting with all aspects of game development – strategy, tactics, etiquette, communication, team dynamics, etc.... Specific rules allow for coaches to interact with all members of the team – not just skips – to accelerate development and acquisition of knowledge.

A variety of “Coachable” event rules governing coach/athlete interaction will be piloted during the 2017-2018 season.

Timelines: Pilot 2017-2018 season

Inter-Club Leagues

Sharing of successful formats for both urban and rural Inter-Club and Inter-City leagues. Program is LTAD aligned so that teams play opponents of similar age and level of development. Participants gain valuable out of club or out of city experience to aid in their development. Program provides a positive, fun and safe environment to play meaningful games.

Timelines: Ready for any club to implement

National Championships – U18, U21, U SPORTS, CCAA

Curling Canada to continue to host U18, U21, U SPORTS and Canadian Collegiate Athletic Associations (CCAA) Championships.

Member Associations are responsible for declaring provincial/territorial representatives for the U18 and U21 Championships.

Canadian Conferences are responsible for declaring conference representatives for the U SPORTS and CCAA Championships.

Timelines: Continue

Development of Canadian Junior Tour Ranking System

Create a nationwide junior version of the Canadian Team Ranking System (CTRS) as a means of standardized, talent identification through performance.

Timelines: Develop in 2017-2018 season



Long Term Athlete Development Rewrite

LTAD Framework/Resource

Research and develop training protocols for an evidence based Long Term Athlete Development framework to ensure all curling participants receive the appropriate interventions at each age and stage of their development.

Competition Calendar

As recommended by CS4L/Sport Canada, Competition Review is a vital part of the LTAD Framework. An athlete-centric review of the Competition Calendar is required to ensure meaningful competitions are occurring throughout the calendar year, which allow for appropriate preparatory periods.

Timelines: Develop during the 2017-2018 season

Engagement

Youth Curling Branding

Branding consistent with Curling Canada's overall brand, attractive to all stakeholders with a focus on Youth.

Youth Curling Website, Social Media

The new youth curling website will be an information portal for Youth, Parents and Coaches. Comprehensive source of Youth Curling Programs, Learn to Curl Programs, Blogs, Coaching resources, bonspiels, leagues and competition information, photo galleries, Find-a-Club.

Leverage Social Media to support Youth Feeder System Programs – example - sharing of blogs, promotion of events, etc...

Timelines: 2017-2018 season

Nationwide Sharing and Pilots

Best Practice Sharing by Member Associations

Member Associations present youth programs within the LTAD framework and share best practices and resources.

Timelines: June 2017

Hiring of four Youth Pilot Program Coordinators

Four Youth Pilot Program Coordinators to be hired for nine months to support:

- Alberta/Yukon/Northwest Territories
- Ontario/Northern Ontario/Nunavut
- New Brunswick
- Newfoundland and Labrador

Youth Pilot Program Coordinators will responsible for piloting projects focused on:

- Two new Curling Canada Learn to Curl Programs (U12 and U18)
- New U15 Challenge Cup with modified format to support LTAD pathway
- PHE Canada – School based, curling in the gym program
- Inter-Club leagues

Timelines: July 2017

Youth Pilot Project Fund

Provinces not covered by a Youth Pilot Program Coordinator (BC, SK, MB, QC, PE, NS) are eligible to apply for Youth Pilot Project funds to test a new U12 or U15 youth program, with the intention of sharing and nationwide implementation if successful.

Timelines: July 2017

Data Collection/Metrics

Curling I/O

National participants registry system for club and Member Association use. Curling I/O is critical for collecting demographic information on youth curlers and identifying gaps and opportunities.

Timelines: Ready for Implementation

Coaching

Coaches will be vital to the implementation of the Youth Curling Feeder System. Curling Canada acknowledges that information will need to be disseminated to new coaches and to coaches who are already in the system. Programs will need to be easily accessed, affordable, easy to understand and easy to implement.

Curling Leaders of Tomorrow

Curling Canada is working on a joint project with the Ontario Curling Council (OCA and NOCA), supported through an Ontario Sport Communities Recreation Fund Grant (Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport). The project will test several Learn to Curl Programs, develop a Curling Leaders of Tomorrow Program (Youth coaching Youth), and host six regional Youth Curling Summits to test the dissemination of information before nationwide roll out.

Timelines: 2017-2018 season

Professional Development

Maximize use of conferences, competitions and web-based training to roll out new youth programming.

Provide professional development (PD) opportunities for maintenance of certification – centralize PD offerings on Youth Curling Website.

Timelines: 2017-2018 season

Updating of NCCP Materials

Integrate new youth programs and LTAD framework information within NCCP Materials in concert with Coaching Association of Canada Quality Assurance updates. Ensure Coach Developers and Evaluators are updated accordingly and program is offered in both official languages.

Timelines: Ongoing

Responsible Coaching Movement

Adoption of the Coaching Association of Canada's Responsible Coaching Movement – a series of best practices and policies to support responsible coaching to protect both athletes and coaches. (Ex. Screening) Will require an audit of current practices and will provide recommendations for club implementation.

Timelines: 2017-2018 – Internal Consultation