

Welcome back Calalta members!

It has been a very exciting month here at Calalta! We are currently back in full force with all programs including Canskate, GroupStar, and test/competitive sessions. A friendly reminder to make sure you turn in any late registration forms to Natalie in the office.

I am proud to announce the upcoming "Inspiring Excellence" seminar to be held at our own Calalta arena for all skaters throughout Alberta. We have been fortunate enough to secure Jamie Sale and David Pelletier as top moderators and the seminar will include newly arrived coach, Jeff Langdon, off-ice classes with Baseline Conditioning, and mental training sessions with Karen Macneill. The seminar will run from 9:30 until 3:30 with each group having access to David, Jamie, Jeff, and myself on the ice for approximately 2 hours. Once the seminar has finished, the skaters are invited to stay and watch the thrilling skating Gala, "The Road to Gold", starring David and Jamie, Jeff, our own National Team member and Olympic hopeful Vaughn Chipeur, plus any other Calalta athletes who qualify for Western Challenge happening December 2008. Tickets to the Gala will be available for the general public soon. Following the show, a VIP reception will be held upstairs to secure more donations and sponsorships for the club and for the newly formed Calalta Athletic Development Fund. With this fund, Calalta will be able to offer scholarships, need based grants, performance grants, and other perks for all Calalta members. In addition to the excitement, thrills, and motivation this entire day will bring for all involved, it will also be an outstanding fund-raising opportunity for the entire club. Stay tuned for more information and watch the Calalta website closely for any updates!

I am also proud to announce the new addition to Calalta's already outstanding line-up of highly regarded coaches, Jeff Langdon. Jeff comes to Calgary after finishing his contract with Royal Caribbean's ice shows. What most people do not realize is that Jeff has had extensive coaching experience in Ontario with all skating levels including Canskate, Junior Prep, up to and including nationally ranked competitors prior to his professional work as a performer. Jeff will be available to all Calalta members for lessons in all areas of skating including technique, choreography and edge work. Please contact your head coach prior to booking any lessons with Jeff. His arrival into Calgary is expected to be Oct 26th. In addition to Jeff, some of you may have noticed a new face around the rink doing choreography, former Canadian Champion, Netty Kim. We are lucky to have her working with us as well! As director, I am very excited to put together a strong coaching staff that works well together, supports one another, and has the same goal in mind: to create a happy, healthy, atmosphere for all Calalta athletes so that they can reach their goals and dreams. I want to take this time to congratulate Sharon Lariviere for over 50 years of coaching, many with Calalta. She was honoured at the most recent Alberta Section AGM.

Our Canskate program is ever growing and changing. Calalta has an excellent Canskate coaching staff of energetic and enthusiastic teachers. Many thanks to the PA's for volunteering their time and giving back to the sport. Stay tuned for theme days and fun opportunities.

Many thanks to the numerous volunteers which make Calalta run so smoothly. Without you we would be lost. A few more opportunities are coming up for you to full-fill your volunteer duties including the Seminar and Gala on November 15th. If you are interested in helping out for this exciting event, please

contact Susan Kennedy at kennedysa@shaw.ca Also, we are hosting another test day toward the end of November and always need people to play music and help with our new test chairperson, Joan Welgan. (thanks Joan!) Please contact Natalie at figure@telus.net to help. Other proposed events coming up which need volunteers include another Skate-a-Rama, an end of the year carnival, and the Calalta Club competition. More details to follow.

Competition season is underway and I want to wish all Calalta members the best of luck. Remember that "hard work always pays off!" Also, Vaughn Chipeur is heading overseas to China and Russia this November to take part in the Grand Prix series of skating. Good Luck to Vaughn!

The future: What does the crystal ball hold for Calalta? Who can say really, but it is an exciting place to be!

Scott Davis