



# BREAKING CANADA ANNUAL REPORT

CANADA DANCESPORT 2025

SPORT CANADA - APRIL 1, 2024 TO MARCH 31, 2025

Modified: April 5, 2025

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

### Budget and Financing

Breaking Canada operated under a Sport Canada Contribution Agreement for the 2024–2025 fiscal year, with budgets developed and reviewed in close collaboration with Sport Canada officials Jenny Davey and Anne Dionne. In pursuit of long-term financial sustainability, Breaking Canada also submitted applications for:

- Sport Support Program (SSP)
- Community Sport for All Initiative (CSAI)

To align with Sport Canada's evolving requirements, Canada DanceSport submitted a multi-year strategic funding application encompassing the 2025–2028 period, supported by updated Strategic and Operational Plans, as well as comprehensive budgeting documents.

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## GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS

Breaking Canada continues to evolve its administrative practices to reflect best-in-class standards and meet the minimum requirements set by Sport Canada. Key governance milestones this year included:

- Ongoing refinement of governance and compliance protocols, including athlete agreements, board policies, and conflict of interest disclosures

- Expansion of subcommittees on Nominations, Education, and Culture to improve leadership recruitment and sector representation
- Development of transparent and standardized processes for reporting, data management, and selection protocols
- Full alignment with Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (OSIC) mechanisms and guidelines

Breaking Canada's leadership structure reflects the diversity and talent of Canada's breaking community:

#### Board of Directors:

- Geoff Reyes – CDS Breaking Sports Director / High Performance Director (Ajax)
- Eric Martel – National Director (Montreal)
- Veronique Labrosse – Membership Coordination (Ottawa)
- Jheric Hizon – Community Liaison (Toronto)
- Onton See – Athlete Representative (Toronto)

#### Key Support Roles:

- Glen Reyes – Operations (Toronto)
- Alexia Tam – SafeSport & EDI Manager (Hamilton)
- Thaiyo Seo – Team Manager (Vancouver)
- Nick Robinson – Strength and Conditioning Lead (Toronto)

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## HIGH PERFORMANCE & INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS

The 2024–2025 fiscal year was a defining chapter for Breaking Canada's high performance program. Key accomplishments included:

- Development of a Gold Medal Profile (GMP) in collaboration with Own the Podium, identifying critical performance metrics for elite success
- Participation of two elite B-Girls, Emma Misak and Tiffany Leung, in the Olympic Qualifier Series (OQS), further establishing Canada's presence in global competition
- Creation of a specialized, individualized high performance pathway for Philip Kim (Phil Wizard) in preparation for the Olympic Games
- Delivery of multiple staging and training camps, with Philip Kim leading national programming heading into the Paris 2024 Olympics

- Formation of a strategic partnership with Taekwondo Canada to host a pre-Games training camp in Vichy, France, enhancing athlete readiness
  - Successful execution of logistical and coaching support at the Games, with Geoff Reyes (Team Leader) and Thaiyo Seo (Head Coach) accompanying Philip Kim
  - Historic Gold Medal victory by Phil Wizard in the B-Boy event at Paris 2024, marking a monumental achievement for Canada on the Olympic stage
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## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT & COMPETITION PATHWAYS

In alignment with the goal of long-term athlete development and Youth Olympic preparation, Breaking Canada made significant strides in youth programming this fiscal year:

- The 2024 Breaking Canada National Championships, held in July 2024 in partnership with Jackalope Festival (Mississauga), featured a youth division for the first time
  - The event served as a launching point for a Youth National Team program, setting the foundation for the Youth Olympic Games qualification process
  - Talented youth competitors from British Columbia, Alberta, and Quebec were selected to represent Canada at the 2024 WDSF Youth World Championships in September
  - This marks a major step in integrating the next generation of athletes into the national team pathway and international breaking community
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## PROGRAM DELIVERY & OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Over the past year, Breaking Canada successfully implemented a broad range of initiatives supporting the development of athletes and infrastructure at every level:

- Preparation and submission of Sport Support Framework and Safety in Sport applications
  - Maintenance of athlete ranking, point structure, and Olympic selection documentation (INP, HPP, Points Guidelines)
  - Regular communication and collaboration with the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC), Own the Podium, and the World DanceSport Federation (WDSF)
  - Coordination of Regional Qualifiers and continued hosting of Breaking for Gold Series events
  - Strengthened international relations with other national federations and stakeholders in the global breaking sector
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## EQUITY, INCLUSION & SAFE SPORT

Under the leadership of Alexia Tam, Breaking Canada prioritized safe and equitable sport environments for all participants. Progress this year included:

### Phase 1 Implementation:

- Creation of Safe Sport content for the Breaking Canada website
- Community toolkits, social media campaigns, and policy summaries
- Planning and content development for the Safe Sport Symposium

### Phase 2 Ongoing:

- General education and policy-specific training sessions tailored to breaking culture
- Organizational EDI and Safe Sport audit in progress
- Establishment of an Athlete Advisory Committee
- Long-term plan for education delivery, policy integration, and community support
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## CULTURE, COMMUNITY, AND SPACE FOR BREAKING

Breaking Canada recognizes that breaking is not just a competitive discipline but a cultural art form rooted in community, creativity, and expression. This understanding shapes our national approach—one that honours the history of the dance, its artistic values, and the diverse communities that sustain it.

### Safe and Accessible Public Spaces

In 2024–2025, Breaking Canada continued to prioritize access to safe, inclusive, and publicly available spaces for practice and cultural exchange. These spaces remain essential for nurturing the freestyle and community-oriented nature of breaking. Collaborations with municipalities, recreation centres, and partner organizations have helped to:

- Open gym and studio spaces for free and low-cost community sessions
- Integrate cultural programming into training environments

- Ensure underrepresented communities have access to resources and mentorship in breaking

## Cultural Programming and Events

Breaking Canada actively engaged with cultural institutions and events that celebrate breaking's artistic roots. Highlights include:

- Collaborative planning for workshops, panels, and performances tied to urban arts festivals and cultural showcases
- Continued engagement with festivals such as Harbourfront Centre's Kuumba and Jackalope Festival, where breaking is elevated as both sport and street art
- Support for community-led initiatives and public cyphers that maintain breaking's authentic cultural traditions

## Bridging DanceSport and Breaking Culture

In recognition of the importance of collaboration, Breaking Canada has made intentional efforts to build trust and integration between the formalized DanceSport system and the broader, culturally rooted breaking community. Key initiatives this year included:

- Co-development of programming with cultural organizations and local crews to preserve community-led formats within structured national events
- Inclusion of community elders, pioneers, and leaders in planning discussions and adjudication panels
- Recognition of battles, jams, and local cyphers as legitimate pathways to athlete development and cultural expression

This integrated approach ensures that as breaking continues to grow within sport systems, it remains grounded in its cultural foundation, accessible to its origin communities, and enriched by the values of authenticity, respect, and artistic freedom.