

To the voting membership of OMHA, my name is Todd Esler. I am honored to have been nominated this year to run for the position of VP of Programs on the executive of OMHA. For the past 3 years I have been an active member of the OMHA board, taking on a variety of volunteer Directorships. Including this past season, my involvement within our minor hockey community has also included being a committed volunteer as a coach for several of my kid's teams from Timbits up to U15 (Bantam). I am proud to be part of this community and in particular the close-knit ties that have contributed to a successful and exceptionally well managed association. Some of my free time is spent participating in various volunteer roles within the community baseball, and rugby associations. My family and I proudly call Okotoks home.

First, I need to acknowledge the exceptional work carried out over the past term by the outgoing VP of Programs – Gabe Amyotte. Gabe's passion for hockey and his uncompromising drive to better our organization has set the bar high. His leadership has helped our association navigate some contentious issues over the past few years such as half ice hockey, and most recently with developing the means to have a hockey experience despite the restrictions related to Covid. I know the sweat equity Gabe has given our board as well as the incalculable benefit our membership has received from it.

The position of VP of Programs is, in large part, the face of the organization to you, the voting membership, and responsible for the execution and roll out of the many and varied programs we offer through OMHA. My role as VP of Programs is to listen to membership and advise the executive based on what is not always a unified voice from members. At the same time, I am accountable to uphold the rules and regulations of our programs, ensuring we are offering programs that are accessible to all, and most importantly maintains the OMHA Mission statement - Respect, Sportsmanship and Skill Development. One of my focus points as VP of Programs is work to ensure that our sport is accessible to all that want to participate. Having players within OMHA I know the financial commitment required to have a player in hockey. I also know that as parents, we have choices and options for your child's activities. I recognize that there is work to do to ensure those that want to participate, have the opportunity to participate. Lastly, I want you to know that I will continue to advocate on your behalf. Last year, as director of U15, I was exceptionally proud to carry the message forward to our board from our parent's resulting in a change to the U15 program opening up the opportunity for more players to participate in our competitive stream.

Thank you again for providing me this opportunity to be VP of Programs. I very much look forward to continuing to develop and enhance our hockey programs that address the needs of, and provide opportunities, to our young players.

Thanks

**Todd Esler**