## **Provincial Championships Trial Project 2020-2021**

During the 2018-19 hockey season, Hockey Alberta completed a trial project at the Peewee Division to implement, test and review a new Provincial Championship Model under the Alberta One initiative. Under this trial, the previous Peewee A-D Provincial Championships transitioned to Peewee Tiers 1-4, with teams qualifying as League Champions from six Minor Leagues/organizations.

Representatives from Hockey Alberta's Minor Regulations and Minor Leagues Committees have reviewed the data and feedback from the trial project in order to make the most informed decision going in to the 2020 Provincial Championships. Committee members believe the trial project was successful in laying the foundation for the possible Provincial Championship structure of the future. However, it was agreed that one season is not enough to make a final decision related to the Provincial Championship structure.

Therefore, based on the review of the 2019 Peewee division trial project and taking into consideration results at the Bantam and Midget Zone Provincial Playdowns and Provincial Championships, which saw teams categorized based off league play, tiering, tournament and exhibition play through Minor Regulation 9.1 (c), it has been unanimously agreed to extend and amend the Provincial Championship Trial Project for the 2020-21 season.

## The 2021 Provincial Championship Trial Project Highlights

Divisions: U13, U15 and U18

Categories: Tiers 1-4
Tournament Dates: TBD

Format: Eight Team Tournament

Representatives: League Champions, Host and One League Runner Up

Under the revised trial project, the previous A-D Provincial Championships at the U13, U15 and U18 divisions will move into Tiers 1-4. Teams will not participate in Region Playdowns, but will instead qualify as League Champions from the following leagues/ organizations:

- Hockey Calgary
- Hockey Edmonton
- Central Alberta Hockey League
- Northern Alberta Interlock
- All Peace Hockey League
- North Eastern Alberta Hockey League

Leagues/organizations will be scheduling play to ensure that league champions are determined no later than March 8 (U15) and March 15 (U13 and U18). Please note that with Hockey Calgary and Hockey Edmonton operating non-body checking hockey at the U15 and U18 Tier 4 categories, they have chosen not to participate in these events.

Provincial Championships at the U11 division will remain unchanged from past seasons. Minor Hockey Associations will declare their teams by December 1 with Region Playdowns commencing in January.