The Hon. Peter Fassbender Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development



On behalf of Premier Christy Clark and the Government of British Columbia, I wish all students, coaches and volunteers another year of success in student athletics in 2016/17.

B.C. schools offer a broad range of sports programming, both in school and in the community. These opportunities provide students with a way to get involved, be active and develop friendships that can last a lifetime. Sport also plays an important role in teaching valuable lessons in commitment, determination, focus and teamwork. These are life lessons that can foster a sense of togetherness and perseverance in the face of adversity.

BC School Sports is also a starting point for those students who wish to compete at higher levels. It is where they begin their development with countless coaches and volunteers guiding their way. School sports are also a springboard to those moving on to national and international levels of competition. Many of Canada's Olympians and Paralympians first recognized their own potential while representing their schools at events within their regions.

I congratulate everyone who participates in school sports. And I thank those who support our students: teachers, coaches, volunteers and administrators. Your contributions are invaluable.

Best of luck to all student athletes. Have a wonderful year!