

A scenic photograph of two sailboats with black sails on a blue body of water. The sailboat in the foreground has 'CAN 13' written on its sail. In the background, a white lighthouse with a red top sits on a rocky, forested shore under a clear blue sky.

2024-2025 Annual Report



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Message from CEO and Chair

The 2024-25 fiscal year represents both renewal and resolve for Sail Canada. Following a year of transition, the organization has entered a period of stabilization — strengthening our foundation, modernizing our systems, and realigning priorities around our core purpose: getting more Canadians on the water, safely and confidently, in all forms of sailing. If we do those things right, we can and will continue to see success on the world stage.

Sailing continues to thrive as one of the most dynamic and inclusive sports in Canada. From youth dinghy fleets to collegiate programs, from foiling boards to offshore campaigns, Canadians are demonstrating that our sport truly is for everyone. Our updated CANSail and Cruising frameworks, the launch of new Foiling and Para Coach Development modules, and continued collaboration with our partners are all examples of Sail Canada's commitment to modern, accessible training and education that serves our clubs, schools, and members across the country.

Our athletes continue to inspire. From national championships to the Olympic stage, Canadian sailors are achieving world-class results across disciplines; a reflection of dedication, technical excellence, and a High Performance team anchored in a Culture of Excellence and Winning Well philosophy. As we look toward LA 2028 and beyond, Sail Canada remains focused on building sustainable training environments both at home and abroad, ensuring that our sailors have the resources and support to perform at the highest level. (...)



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Message from CEO and Chair

(...) At the same time, we face real challenges. Like many national sport organizations, we are navigating financial headwinds—with reduced government funding, increasing operational costs, and growing expectations for accountability and safety. Through our Stabilization Plan and renewed partnerships with Provincial Sailing Associations, corporate sponsors, and clubs, we are charting a course to rebuild our financial resilience and ensure the long-term strength of the organization.

As we move into a new Strategic Planning cycle, we are listening carefully to our community. The feedback from provinces, athletes, coaches, officials, and clubs will shape the next phase of Sail Canada's growth; one that balances stability with ambition, and sustainability with innovation.

We extend our deepest thanks to our Board of Directors, Provincial Sailing Associations, staff, volunteers, and athletes for their continued dedication to our shared vision. Together, we are building a stronger, more connected sailing community; one that reflects the spirit, skill, and pride of Canadians everywhere.



Kate MacLennan
Chair,
Board of Directors
Sail Canada



Ryan Kelly
Chief Executive Officer,
Sail Canada



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About Sail Canada

Our Vision

Canada is a leading international sailing nation, proud of its world-class athletes, lifelong participants and inclusive culture.

Our Mission: LEAD, ENABLE, DRIVE

Working with our partner organizations, we:

- LEAD as a national sport organization
- ENABLE enhanced participation
- DRIVE sport development and performance for all

Our Values

- Collaboration and Innovation
- Transparency, Accountability and Integrity
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Culture of Excellence
- Safety for All
- Environmental Sustainability

Land Acknowledgement

Sail Canada acknowledges that our national offices in Kingston, ON are on the traditional homeland of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and the Huron-Wendat, and thanks these nations for their care and stewardship over this shared land.



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About Sail Canada

Members per province

	2023	2024
Alberta	662	684
British Columbia	2,770	2,612
Manitoba	440	404
New Brunswick	166	84
Newfoundland and Labrador	159	118
Nova Scotia	2,591	2,532
Ontario	8,287	8,286
Prince Edward Island	158	149
Quebec	1,934	1,810
Saskatchewan	564	474
Cadets	135	58



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Culture

Safe Sport

Transition

The entire Safe Sport Program supported by Sport Canada went through a system wide transition period beginning in February - March 2025. The key change was on the administration side, moving from the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) Abuse-Free Sport Program, including the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (OSIC), to the Canadian Safe Sport Program (CSSP) and the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES). The key administrative supports offered include reporting and support services. Program participants including Sail Canada were required to transition from OSIC to CCES on March 31, 2025. April 1, 2025 was the official launch date for the CSSP through CCES. The system wide transition was complete on August 1, 2025 with the administration of the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS) under the new Canadian Safe Sport Program.

Safe Sport Training

In anticipation of changes to the Safe Sport Program, Sail Canada hosted a virtual information session in January 2025. This session was led by the Senior Complaints Officer from ITP Sport & Recreation for Provincial Sailing Associations and club leadership. Participants learned some practical tools for differentiating: conflict vs complaints, responding to conflict and formal complaints, and engaging in a formal complaint pathway.

Sail Canada staff, board members, National team athletes, coaches and support staff, committee members, officials with a certification of regional and above were part of the group that were required to complete the new Safe Sport training module through the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES).



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Culture

Inclusion, Diversity and Equity

Sail Canada is proud to have launched the Sailing for All program for the 2024 Sailing season, thanks to funding support from the Government of Canada. Through this initiative, 15 programs were selected to receive funding to deliver no or low cost programs to over 700 participants who may not otherwise have been able to take part in the sport of sailing.

Building on the success of the first year of the Sailing for All program, Sail Canada was successful in securing funding to continue the initiative for the 2025 and 2026 sailing seasons. A total of 26 initiatives were selected to take part for the 2025 sailing season with a goal of providing programming to over 850 participants.

Continuing to work with INclusion INcorporated, Sail Canada hosted a third webinar series for members of the sailing community. The sessions focused on Highlights of Sail Canada's IDE Journey, How Data Informs Our Path Forward, Tools & Supports available through Sail Canada and an open discussion session to address questions and challenges facing individuals in the Sailing Community. Recordings of these sessions, along with available resources can be found at <https://www.sailing.ca/inclusion-diversity-and-equity/>.

The webinars and advancement of the IDE Strategy would not be possible without the continued involvement of the IDE Committee. We thank the group for their continued dedication to ensuring sailing is a welcoming and safe community.



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Culture of Excellence

2025 Awards

Sailor of the Year and Gerry Roufs Trophy

Richard Clarke

Volunteer of the Year Award

Dale King

Gallagher Skippers' Plan Athletes of the Year

Sarah Douglas & the team of Will Jones and Justin Barnes

Bill Burk Memorial Youth Elite Awards

Carlos Charabati & Elspeth Simms

Coach of the Year Award

Kyle Martin

Recreation Event Award

Voile au féminin - Brome Lake Boating Club

Instructor of the Year, presented by Checklick

Lucas Henderson

Nathan R. Cowan Memorial Award for Developing Sailors

Lilly Rainham

Chisholm Trophy for Excellence in Race Management

2024 Sail West

City of Kingston Regatta of the Year

Mobily Cup – Lunenburg Yacht Club

William Abbott Senior Trophy - Sail Training Program of the Year

Prairies' Regional Cadet Support Unit (Northwest)



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Culture of Excellence

Canadian Sailing Hall of Fame Induction

A total of 16 new members have been inducted into the Canadian Sailing Hall of Fame during a ceremony held October 5, 2024, at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club.

The 2024 inductees include:

Caroll-Ann Alie, Rob Ball, David Cook, Jackie Gay, Pat Healy, Eric Jespersen, Ken Kelly, Stacie Louttit, Brian MacDonald, Ross Macdonald, Don Martin, John McRoberts, Steve Tupper, Kirk Westergaard, David Williams and Mike Wolfs.

Sail Canada thanks the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club for hosting this incredible event and the members of the Canadian Sailing Hall of Fame steering committee for their hard work and dedication to celebrating the accomplishments of the inductees.



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Programs

CANSail Programs

A full update of the CANSail program is complete, culminating with the launch of the CANSail 2.0 program in April 2025. Careful revisions were made to ensure that introductory levels are achievable, skills are adequately balanced across the levels, and applicable to a variety of learning environments, and that the program is adaptable to the needs of different sailors. More detailed resources were developed to support Instructors as they deliver the program at clubs & schools across Canada!

The launch of CANSail 2.0 included the release of new CANSail 1-6 Checklists supported by Key Performance Indicators and CANSail 1-4 Instructor packs with detailed skill breakdowns and robust lesson plans. Webinars were hosted leading into the sailing season to update instructors, clubs and schools on the CANSail 2.0 program. CANSail 5 & 6 Instructor packs will be released in 2026.

[Details and important links for the CANSail 2.0 program](#)

	2023	2024	2025 (as of Sept. 19)
CANSail Participants	14,195	14,357	14,699
Registered CANSail Instructors/Coaches	929	1,034	1,115



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Programs

Accessible Sailing Professional Development Module

The updated Accessible Sailing Professional Development Module (formerly Coaching Para Sailors Module) was piloted in the spring of 2024. Following the pilots, the updated course materials were finalized and translated. Three new facilitators were trained to deliver this module in the spring of 2025. We look forward to expanding delivery of this training across Canada in coming years!



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Coach Development

CANSail Foiling

Following the development of the CANSail Foiling Instructor Module launched in Quebec in 2023, the training has also been delivered in Nova Scotia, Ontario and British Columbia. CANSail 1-4 Foiling Checklists have now been developed and were available on a pilot basis for the 2025 season. CANSail Foiling Instructors are now able to track progress through these checklists for sailors learning on foiling boards and boats. This work has been completed in partnership with WeCANFoil.

Development Coach Program

One Development Coach Course was delivered in May of 2024, in Toronto, ON. A total of 12 candidates completed the 5-day course focused on coaching leadership, planning a program, creating a daily training environment and coaching at regattas, along with a focus on technical and tactical development. All candidates were successfully trained and are now working on their own coaching development and portfolios, as well as NCCP multi-sport modules to move to Certified status.



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Officials

The sport of sailing relies heavily on officials who volunteer their time to deliver fair racing at all levels, from club to international levels, across all fleets and disciplines. Sail Canada and Provincial Sailing Associations strive to deliver training for Race Officers, Judges and Umpires to support the needs for officials at all levels.

	2024	2025
Race Officers	685	702
Judges	135	142
Umpires	7	7



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Officials

Sail Canada Officials Committee members have been working to support new and developing officials to advance their certification levels. Through this work, 10 new Regional level certifications were achieved in the 2024-2025 cycle, along with a number of recertifications from Club to National levels. Congratulations to Elizabeth Rouget, who was appointed as an International Judge by World Sailing in May of 2025.

A number of officials' training sessions were delivered with some focused on advancing certification and others on overall development and learning. These included Rule 42 & Appendix P sessions, Mark Layer Course, Advanced Race Management Seminar, Advanced Judge Seminar, Sail Wave training and "Understanding the new rules session" with the introduction of the 2025-2028 Racing Rules.

Collaboration continued between a subgroup of experienced judges and members of the Canadian Sailing Team. Judges have provided expertise and guidance remotely during important events, along with being available to review situations or answer questions that team members have. A session on the 2025-2028 Racing Rules was also hosted for the team early in 2025.



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Cruising

Cruising standards and exams were updated and maintained throughout the year, along with ongoing translation efforts. Two Cruising Instructor recruitment sessions were hosted to provide an overview of the Instructor training pathway and answer questions for those interested in becoming Instructors.

Sail Canada was pleased to host an Instructor Evaluator Clinic in March of 2025. At the clinic, 5 candidates engaged in four days of development and learning. There were 3 new IE's, 2 new Senior IE's and one recertification completed as part of the clinic. Thanks to Simply Sailing in Vancouver for hosting!

Participation Breakdown

	2023	2024	2025 (as of Sept. 30)
Cruising Participants	2,035	1,907	1,535
Power Participants	7	15	16
Navigation Participants	271	314	237
Registered Cruising/Power/Nav Instructors	256	342	335



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Events

Sail Canada Championships in 2024 saw an increase in participation with a total of 955 participants and 180 coaches registering and taking part. We're pleased to see strong participation numbers taking part in both training and racing as part of these events.

Events would not be possible without support and engagement from event hosts, officials and volunteers. The support that participants receive from their coaches, parents and supporters is also a key element in bringing sailors from across Canada together.

Number of competitors

	2023	2024	2025
Sail West	63	132	42
Sail Central	143	186	137
Sail East	154	200	152
Youth Fest	-	-	265
Youth Championships	293	372	134
Senior Championships	57	65	56



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Events

Sail Canada Championship Hosts

	2024	2025
Sail West	Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, B.C.	Gimli Yacht Club, MB
Sail Central	Ashbridge's Bay Yacht Club, ON	Hudson Yacht Club, QC
Sail East	St. Margaret Sailing Club, N.S.	St. Margaret Sailing Club, N.S.
Youth Fest	CORK/Sail Kingston, ON	CORK/Sail Kingston, ON
Youth and Senior Championships	CORK/Sail Kingston, ON	CORK/Sail Kingston, ON



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High Performance

The main High Performance event covered by this annual report was the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

Before the actual Olympic competition, each team had a personalized schedule based on their respective programming needs leading to the Games.

Key preparation camps included:

- June 15-21: Full Olympic Team Staging Camp - Marseille
- June 22-24: Final Skiff "Coaches Regatta" - Marseille
- July 4-13: Sarah Douglas Olympic Send off Camp - ABYC, Toronto

Paris 2024 Olympic Highlights

Sarah Douglas: 8th in ILCA 6

In Marseille, where the Olympic competitions were held despite the light winds, Sarah Douglas was the best Canadian with an 8th position overall in ILCA 6. A returning performer, her 2024 Olympic experience was highlighted by a third- place finish in the Medal Race and experiencing the pure joy as her trainingpartner secured an Olympic Bronze medal. Her coach Vaughn Harrison was a consistent guide and lead within Sarah's program over the course of the past two quadrennials.



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High Performance

Georgia and Antonia Lewin-LaFrance: 11th in 49erFX

The Lewin-LaFrance team, affectionately referred to as “The Sisters”, had a monumental quad, rising from the second-ranked Canadian 49erFX team in 2021 to ultimately representing Canada at the 2024 Games. Topping off this meteoric rise, the team won race one of the Olympic Games and put the 49erFX World on notice that they were a team to reckon with in the Los Angeles 28 quadrennial. Krzysztof Kierkowski, affectionately known as KK, led this team over the past number of years and set them up for both Olympic success in Marseille and a certainty of class performance accolades in the LA28 quad.

Will Jones and Justin Barnes: 17th in 49er

Two-time Olympian Will Jones teamed up with longtime 49er stalwart Justin Barnes late in the Olympic quadrennial for Canada’s leading team. The 17th-place finish on face value might not seem extraordinary, but this team truly brought their “A game” to the Paris Olympics. Three individual races in the top 10, including a fourth-place race finish, illustrated how competitive this team was. Their veteran leadership was a calming influence for the rest of the Canadian Sailing Team.

Emily Bugeja: 18th in Formula Kite

At her first Olympic Games, Emily Bugeja campaigned diligently over this past quadrennial, and raised her game at the Olympics themselves. For scoreboard watchers, the most notable difference for Emily was from her infancy in the fleet at the start of this quad to putting up personal best finishes at the Games, including a 12th-place finish. The trajectory remains steep for Emily and her commitment to achieving success is unmatched within the team.



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High Performance

In addition to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, Canadian sailors recorded other great performances during the 2024-2025 season, including:

Canadian Sailing Team

- Lewin-LaFrance: 4th at the Princess Sofia Trophy Regatta, 8th at the 49erFX World Championship and 8th at the 49erFX European Championship
- Sarah Douglas: 8th at French Olympic Week and 24th at the ILCA 6 World Championships
- Annie Balasubramanian: 15th at the 2024 U21 ILCA 6 World Championship
- Valentino Blewett: 11th at the 2024 iQFOiL Youth World Championships
- Lilly Rainham: 1st at the 2024 ILCA 6 North American Championships

Sail Canada would also like to recognize the performance of Carlos Charabati, who won the gold medal at the 2024 ILCA 4 Youth World Championships held in June 2024 in Portugal.

His gold medal was a first in Canadian sailing at the annual ILCA 4 Youth World Championships. The first edition was held in 2002.



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High Performance

Here are some notable elements regarding High Performance following the Paris 2024 Olympic Games:

- High Performance Director Mike Milner retired from Sail Canada following the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Sail Canada wishes him the best in his future endeavours;
- Krzysztof Kierkowski accepted a role with the Polish federation to lead the National 49erFX program in his home country, after years on the road supporting other sailing federations. The opportunity to return home was an offer he could not refuse;
- Thomas Rein took over the personalized program support of Antonia and Georgia Lewin-LaFrance for a trial period starting in March 2025 in Palma and was solidified by the end of April 2025 following their first of what would be four podium finishes in 2025 at major events, including a bronze medal result at French Olympic Week;
- Sarah Douglas underwent a successful hip surgery and began her road to recovery targeting the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games;
- Past and present national team athletes participated in the 2024 Youth and Women's America's Cup, including Isabella Bertold, Maura Dewey, Ali ten Hove, Mariah Millen, Georgia Lewin-LaFrance, Andrew Wood and Galen Richardson. Sail Canada Olympic Development Coordinator Kyle Martin assisted in coaching both teams;
- Sail Canada embarked on an exhaustive High Performance Director search and are thrilled to have Anders Gustafsson take the helm.



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High Performance

2024-2025

Canadian Sailing Team

Sarah Douglas (Toronto, ON/ABYC) - ILCA 6

Jackie Gay (Victoria, B.C./RVicYC) - 2.4mR

Antonia Lewin-LaFrance (Chester, N.S./RNSYS/CYC) - 49erFX

Georgia Lewin-LaFrance (Chester, N.S./RNSYS/CYC) - 49erFX

Scott Lutes (Mahone Bay, N.S. - LYC) - RS Venture Connect

John McRoberts (Victoria, B.C./RVicYC) - RS Venture Connect

Bruce Millar (Victoria, B.C./RVicYC) - 2.4mR

Mariah Millen (Toronto, ON/RCYC) - 49erFX

Ali ten Hove (Kingston, ON/KYC) - 49erFX



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High Performance

2024-2025

Canadian Sailing Development Squad

Ryan Anderson (Halifax, N.S./RNSYS) – ILCA 7

Annalise Balasubramanian (Toronto, ON/RCYC/OST) – ILCA 6

Justin Barnes (Pickering, ON-RCYC) – 49er

Liam Bruce (Oakville, ON/PCYC) – ILCA 7

Emily Bugeja (Vancouver, B.C.-RVYC) – Formula Kite

Peter Eagar (Toronto, ON/NYC) – 2.4mR

Clara Gravely (Toronto, ON/ABYC) – ILCA 6

Madeline Gillis (Halifax, N.S.) – Nacra 17

Hunter Hoy (Kirkland, QC) – ILCA 7

William Jones (Aldershot, ON/ RHYC) - 49er

James Juhasz (Oakville, ON, OYS) - ILCA 7

Arie Moffat (Kingston, ON/KYC) – 49er

Mac Morrin (Kingston, ON/KYC) – Formula Kite

Sullivan Nakatsu (Hammonds Plains, N.S.-RNSYS) – ILCA 6

Galen Richardson (Toronto, ON-RCYC) – Nacra 17

Luke Ruitenbergh (St. Margaret's Bay, N.S./RNSYS) - ILCA 7

Thomas Staples (Beaconsfield, QC, Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club) – 49er

William Staples (Beaconsfield, QC, Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club) – 49er

Norman Struthers (Toronto, ON-RCYC) - ILCA 7



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Communications

Following the end of an Olympic cycle and the Paris 2024 Games, Sail Canada has expanded its coverage on its platforms to align with its hashtags #SailForAll, #SailForLife, and #SailToWin. By leveraging the strengths of each platform, Sail Canada expanded its audience by sharing news not only about athletes in the Olympic pathway, including members of the Canadian sailing team, but also about all athletes and sailing enthusiasts competing in Canada and representing the country around the world.

Interest was shown as the number of followers on Sail Canada's social media continues to increase, as demonstrated by the statistics below, as has the number of subscribers to our weekly e-newsletter, "Member News." We invite the entire Canadian sailing community to subscribe: <https://www.sailing.ca/member-news/>.

Statistics as of April 30, 2025:

Instagram: 13,634 (+9%)

Facebook: 7,399 (+6%)

LinkedIn: 1,400 (+23%)

TikTok: 1,172 (+3%)

Twitter: 4,341 (-3%)

Coverage also included more than 60 press releases during this period, sharing not only the achievements of the Canadian sailing team's athletes, but also community news, including the winners of the annual awards.



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Marketing

On the marketing front, the year was marked by a change in leadership at the helm of the program.

As Sail Canada implements its stabilization plan, the organization has focused on analyzing the value of its assets and exploring ways to enhance its existing values or develop new ones.

As a result, Sail Canada has further activated its existing partnerships, while seeking to expand its list by enabling them to reach a large community of sailors across the country, notably by developing a “Marketplace” at its national championships. Sail Canada has developed a benefits program for its members through the Sailor Portal, and several new partners have joined the Canadian sailing family, offering benefits and discounts specifically for members.



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Finances and Fundraising

The financial pressures faced by Sail Canada during the 2023–24 fiscal year prompted the launch of the Sail Canada Stabilization Plan—a coordinated, organization-wide effort to strengthen financial discipline, reduce expenditures, and refocus resources toward member value and service delivery.

Through this plan, Sail Canada prioritized operational efficiency across all departments and made difficult but necessary decisions, including targeted staff reductions and tighter cost controls. Despite these changes, Sail Canada's professional and dedicated team continued to deliver on its commitments, ensuring that national programs, events, and projects remained on schedule and impactful.

While government support saw a modest reduction and certain legacy cost pressures carried over from 2023-24, Sail Canada successfully brought its operating deficit down to sustainable levels. Careful management of expenditures and improved forecasting enabled the organization to avoid increases to program pricing and membership fees, maintaining affordability and accessibility for sailors, clubs, and schools nationwide.

Looking ahead, Sail Canada is undertaking a comprehensive review of its financial operations to modernize systems, strengthen accountability, and identify new opportunities for revenue generation. A renewed focus on fundraising and partnership engagement will be central to this effort, with community outreach initiatives and donor programs to be launched over the winter season. These measures are key to ensuring Sail Canada's long-term stability and its continued ability to support both grassroots participation and Canada's high-performance sailing ambitions.



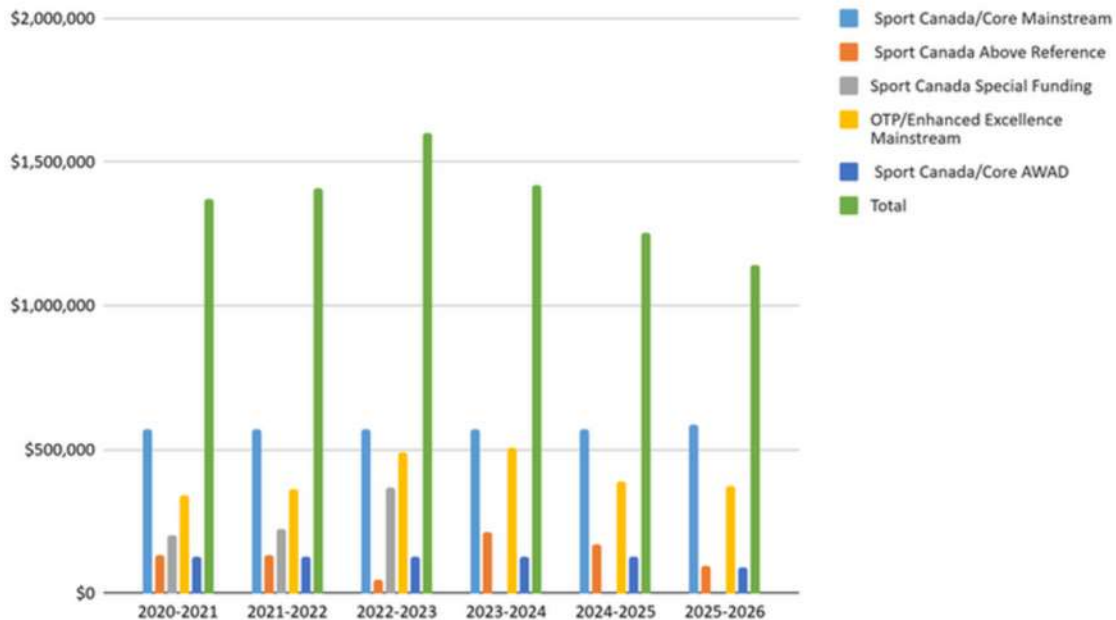
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Finances and Fundraising

Federal Funding Historical Data

Federal Funding Year over Year



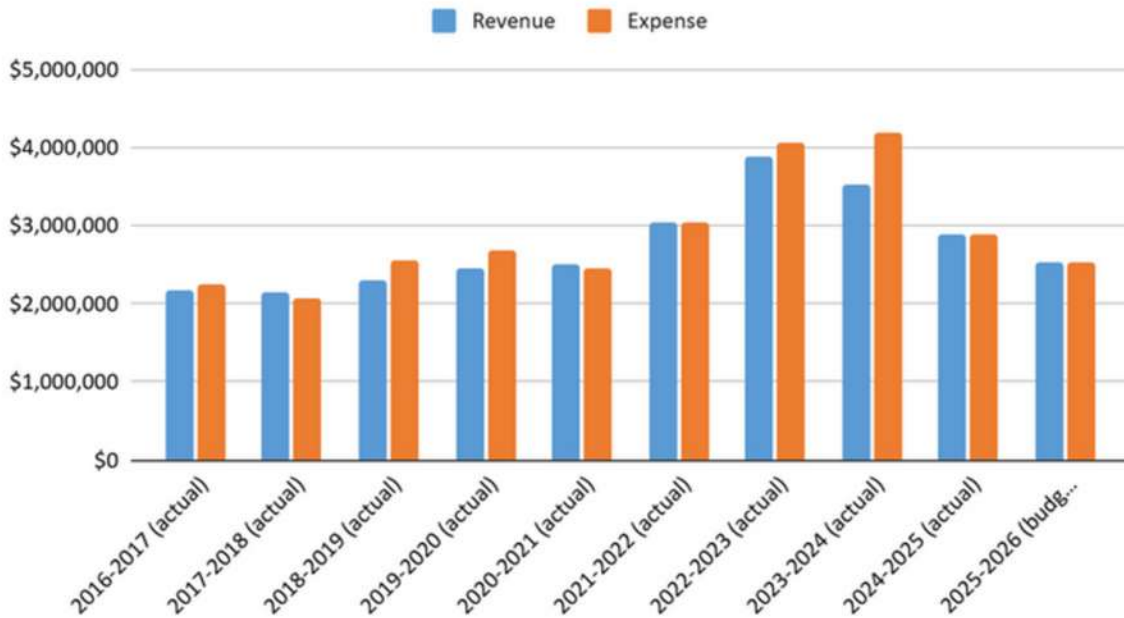
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Finances and Fundraising

Revenue and Expense Historical Data

Revenue and Expense

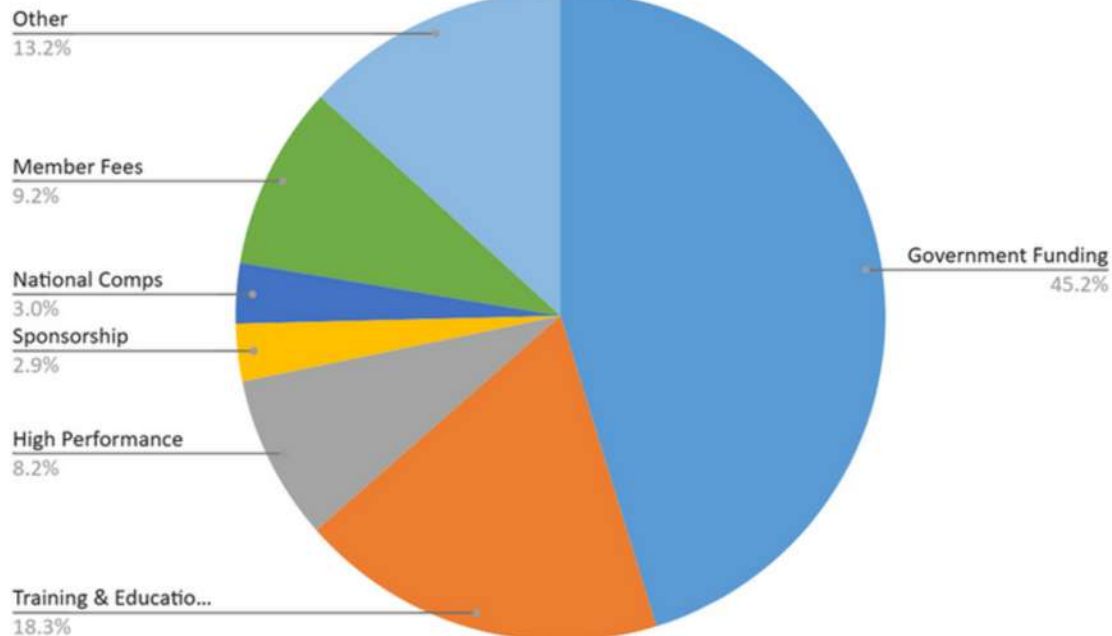


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Finances and Fundraising

2024-25 Fiscal Year Revenue

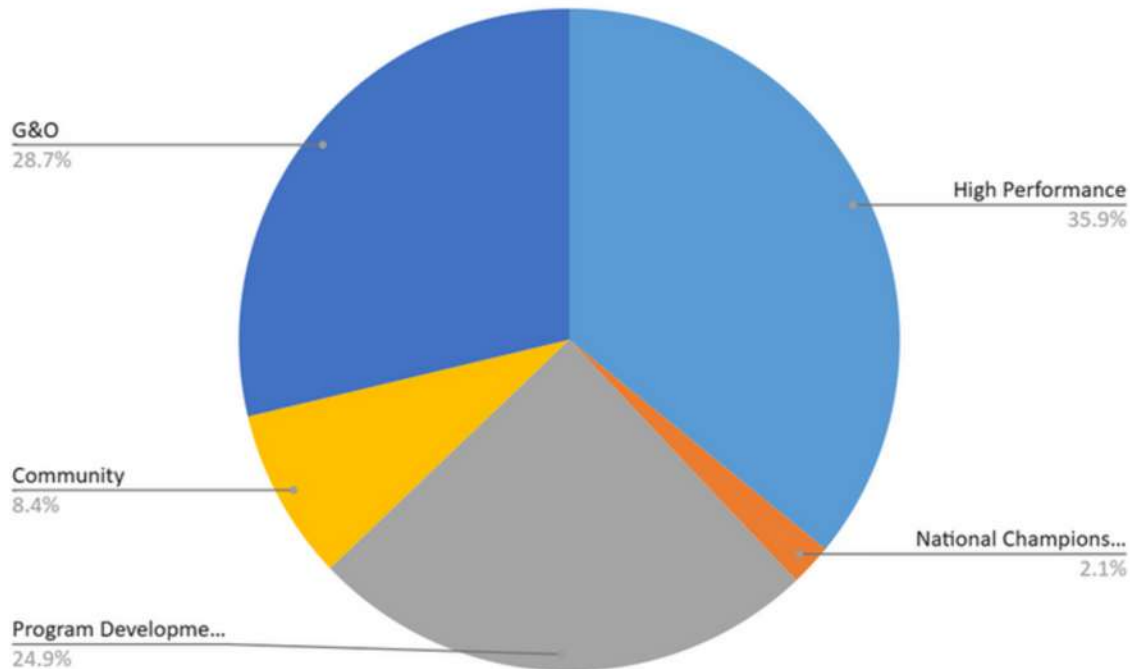


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Finances and Fundraising

2024-25 Fiscal Year Expenses



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Provincial Partners



Alberta Sailing



BC Sailing



Sail Manitoba



SAIL VOILE NB



SailNL



Sail Nova Scotia



Prince Edward Island



Ontario Sailing



SASK SAILING



VOILE QUÉBEC



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