



To: Kevin Porter, President  
& Raiders Hockey Club Board of Directors

June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Last week, the SAMHA Board of Directors made the difficult decision to end our collaboration agreement with the St. Albert Raiders Hockey Club (SARHC). We know this change in governance will help support the overall growth and development of AAA and AA hockey in our community and mitigate the ongoing risk to the reputation of the Raiders program.

We would like it to be known that the SAMHA Board investigated a proposal to amalgamate the two societies but ultimately decided against this, as we would assume responsibility for any future legal action against the Raiders Hockey Club. Given the serious nature of the recent allegations against a Board member of the Raiders Hockey Club, the SAMHA Board of Directors did not feel comfortable assuming this ongoing risk.

Our top priority is and always has been the players well-being and continuity of the program; with this in mind, our hope is to collaborate with the SARHC leadership through this transition, as discussed at our meeting last week.

The Raiders name originated in St. Albert in 1979, and the most recent logo was developed in 2005 under the direction of the SAMHA President at the time. In 2005 we granted the Raiders Hockey Club society use of the logo to build and grow an elite level AAA and AA program in St. Albert. We trusted that you would never withhold this name from the Raiders players in our community. On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 the statement to your membership on the SARHC website indicates that the Raiders Hockey Club Board of Directors intends to withhold player jerseys, equipment and the logo.



We are hopeful you can understand the impact this would have on teams who are here to play hockey and have the most positive overall hockey experience possible. Therefore, we are asking you and the SARHC Board to reconsider.

It's our position that the provider of AA and AAA hockey in St. Albert holds the jerseys, and by extension the brand, for the benefit of the hundreds of coaches who dedicated countless hours to support the growth and development of AA and AAA hockey in St. Albert. SAMHA has always ensured that the name is made available for the thousands of players who proudly wore this name for over 40 years. The Raiders have been part of our hockey community since 1980, and we want to ensure this important legacy continues in St. Albert.

SAMHA has no interest in using our membership's money to pursue a lengthy legal battle over this. One of our reasons for terminating the collaboration agreement was the increased expense associated with managing the SARHC. Over the last five years, our members have paid an excessive amount in legal fees, settlement expenses and administrative costs related to the SARHC.

We are hopeful that you will prioritize the players and their needs. We are here to work effectively during this change and would welcome the opportunity to speak with you about this.

Shauna Heduc – President  
&  
SAMHA Board of Directors

CC: SAMHA Membership