

## **SAINTS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**

### **AN APPEAL**

**A letter to the Saints alumni.**

#### **SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP**

**The cost of running a rugby club has soared over the years and the Saints are feeling the pinch as are all rugby clubs.**

**The club has, in recent years, enjoyed great success on the field, and in particular the first fifteen; however the 2010 season was less successful than usual, mainly as a result of outstanding players moving away or retiring, and at the same time the club operated without a recognized coach. We have been blessed with outstanding coaches over the last few years, in particular Darren Coleman and Mike Shelley. It will not surprise you that such qualified coaches are now paid for their services even at our level.**

**It becomes more and more difficult to raise the funds necessary to support the club's endeavors.**

**As you may be aware, the City of Calgary reclaimed the property housing the Saints facility in 2008. Home games are now played at the Union facility at an annual cost to the Saints of \$6,000.**

**In order to raise additional funds, a number of older members have agreed to support a level of Saints membership to be known as a 'Sustaining Membership'. Annual subscriptions, in the form of donations, will help to provide the funds necessary to keep the Saints in the forefront of rugby in Alberta and in higher levels rugby.**

**We are appealing to past members for their support by becoming 'Sustaining Members'. An annual donation of \$200 will give you membership. Such donations will be tax deductible in Canada and the appropriate receipt will be issued to each donor.**

**Such donors will be invited guests to the Presidents Dinner, this year to be held in late April. The dinner is gratis, but the drinks are not! This would provide an opportunity to get together with your contemporaries. Notice of time, date and place will be given in early April, by e-mail, to those indicating their intention to attend.**

**You will be kept up-to-date on club matters by e-mail in both the pre and post season, in particular as to financial matters, showing how your donation was spent.**

**Targets for funds raised will be the hiring of a qualified coach to service our senior and junior teams. The Saints junior program for twelve year olds and upward has disintegrated in recent years, resulting in the Saints now being the only major club in Alberta that does not field teams in those age groups, making it difficult to sustain itself with young local players. A start to correct this junior deficiency is underway. It will take time to show results, but clearly it must be undertaken if the club is to survive. Recruitment at that level is essential; however we must also find a way to offer membership to youths at a realistic cost to them.**

**Another appeal! The Saints need junior recruits of all ages from mini upwards. If you have children, grandchildren or friends having children, who wish to play, please forward, by e-mail,**

their names and means of contacting them or their parents to Steve Lister at [junior@saintsrugby.com](mailto:junior@saintsrugby.com).

If you enjoyed your years as a player with the Saints, now would be a good time to help by giving something back, thus supporting the future of the club.

We do not wish to place a burden upon past members, but we are in need of additional financial support and believe that what is being asked would not place a great burden on many of you.

Will you join in this endeavor? If so, please complete the form below, attach you cheque and mail to Trevor Hammond at his address below. He will record all donations for the Saints information and will then forward the cheques to Rugby Canada. They will return the proceeds to the club and will at the appropriate time issue each donor with a tax receipt.

Sincerely,

David Lillywhite

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**SAINTS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**

Trevor Hammond, C.A.  
Vice-President Finance  
3040 28<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Calgary Alberta  
T3E 2J5

Name  
(print).....

Mailing  
Address.....  
.....

E-mail  
Address.....

Telephone  
Number.....

I enclose my cheque in the amount of \$200.00 made payable to the Rugby Canada and marked to be routed back to the Saints Rugby Football Club. Rugby Canada will return the proceeds to the Saints and issue tax receipts.

Please indicate if you will attend the Presidents Dinner. Yes..... or No.....

Signed.....