

## SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL SKATING PROGRAMS

Sport Central is a volunteer-operated non-profit organization and registered charity (see [www.sportcentral.org](http://www.sportcentral.org)). We provide recycled sporting equipment **at no charge** to **children** (under 18) in need. Children are “referred” for equipment through social agencies, and through schools such as yours. Last year, through this process, our volunteers helped 8,000 Edmonton and area kids to obtain sport and recreation equipment they could not have otherwise afforded.

Each year we receive numerous requests to assist with school skating programs. The purpose of this letter is to describe the most effective procedures by which we can help.

### To help kids in need access our services, please:

**I.)** Identify which children in your class do not presently have skates and a helmet, and will be unable to purchase them from a retailer, due to family financial circumstances. Typically, this child or family would already be receiving school subsidy or support in respect of program fees.

**II.)** When you have identified children that need help, **email or fax us a letter, on your school letterhead, stating the children’s names, dates of birth, and what equipment (skates and/or helmet) is required.** Please include your name, job title, and signature, and identify how you would like the child to obtain the equipment from us. There are three options:

1. Advise the children’s parents/guardians that equipment has been requested from Sport Central. The parent should then phone us to make an appointment to bring their child in for a fitting. Our volunteers are available for outfitting, by appointment, between 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM weekdays, and 9:00 AM to noon, Saturday mornings. Or...
2. Arrange to bring the children in as a group, during the school day, to be outfitted at Sport Central. An appointment will be required. At least a week’s advance notice will be required for groups larger than 6. Or...
3. The best and safest fit for the skates and helmet is obtained with options 1 or 2 above. If it is not feasible to bring the child to Sport Central however, then a school official can pick the equipment up on the child’s behalf instead. The following information is required specific to each child not being outfitted in person (see sample foot tracing):
  - a. A tracing of the child’s stocking foot, or advice as to what size, brand, and model of a friend’s skate is known to fit the child well. Shoe size alone is not adequate.
  - b. A measurement of the child’s head circumference, above the eyebrows, just above the ears, and over the large bump at the back (base) of the skull. This will give a number in the range of 50 – 60 cm, for helmet sizing.

**III.)** You may wish to retain the skates and helmets at the school for the duration of the skating program. **They belong to the child** however, and should be relinquished to them once the skating program is done, so that they may enjoy ongoing skating opportunities. The child is only eligible for one set of equipment, but can exchange as needed to facilitate growth.

Please note that Sport Central offers equipment on a “best effort” basis. We are not able to guarantee availability and we are not able to warrant performance. The equipment is supplied “as is” and although Sport Central takes reasonable care, Sport Central and its members and volunteers cannot be held responsible for the performance, safety or any damages caused through the use of these items.

Thanks for your inquiry, and your interest in helping “Assist ‘THE KID’ in Sport”.