



## **Alex Baumann** **Biography**

Alex Baumann has had an extensive career in high performance sport, both as an athlete and sport administrator. As one of Canada's greatest swimmers of all time, Alex captured two gold medals in swimming at the Los Angeles 1984 Olympic Games winning both the 200 and 400 metre individual medley races with world record times. Throughout his career, he won five gold medals and two silver medals at the 1982 and 1986 Commonwealth Games. Alex also won two gold, four silver and six bronze medals at other Games such as the World University Games, Pan Pacific and World Championships. He was twice named World Male Swimmer of the Year in 1981 and 1984.

In 1991, Alex moved to Australia to pursue graduate studies at the University of Queensland. Following his studies, he was appointed Manager, Sports Programs for the Queensland Academy of Sport (QAS). Alex then held various positions with the Queensland Government before becoming Chief Executive Officer of Queensland Swimming in 1999. In 2002, he assumed the role of Executive Director for the Queensland Academy of Sport where he was responsible for overseeing Sport Programs, Athlete and Coach Support Services, Regional Services, the Centre of Excellence for Applied Sport Science Research to ensure Australian athletes had the best resources necessary for attaining podium performances at Olympic and Paralympic Games.

In January of 2007, Alex returned to Canada to accept the position of Executive Director of the Road to Excellence (RTE) program. The Own the Podium Program (formerly RTE) is a summer sport technical program that aims to re-establish Canada internationally as one of the top sporting nations in the world. This coordinated strategy brings together the partnership of the federal and national partners in targeting, funding and supporting national sport organizations to achieve our collective goal of a top 12 finish at the Olympics and top 8 finish at the Paralympics in London 2012.

Alex is an Officer of the Order of Canada, a recipient of the Order of Ontario, and a member of the Canadian Sports and Canadian Amateur Sports Hall of Fame. Alex was awarded an Honorary Doctorate (PhD) in Physical Education from Laurentian University, Canada in 1996.