

Andrew Swan

I was a Member of the Legislative Assembly for 15 years, and served as Manitoba's Attorney-General from 2009-2014. I am now General Counsel at Doctors Manitoba.

- I have been part of the Manitoba running community for about 30 years. I started running after my football career came to an end, and kept it up through my legal and political career.
- I got started when I was on a law summer exchange program in Halifax before my last year of university. I started running along the waterfront and through Point Pleasant Park to work off the beer.
- My most satisfying achievement was watching the Manitoba Marathon grow to become a truly incredible Manitoba tradition, first as a member of the Board of Trustees and then as the Minister of Manitoba Lotteries Corporation, the title sponsor.
- My most favourite memories are having the absolute honour of giving out medals at the Manitoba Marathon finish line with a tremendous team. That, and "winning" the first ever Winnipeg Beach 10K Fun Run, which involved an RCMP cruiser escort down Prospect Street. The course was about a kilometre short too.
- My best times were:
 - 5km 21:54
 - 10km 45:08
 - 10 miles: 1:15:04
 - Half marathon 1:39:22
 - Marathon - haven't got around to it yet. Maybe after I retire!
- My favourite race was the Islay Half-Marathon, sponsored by the Ardbeg Distillery. The race begins and ends in Bowmore, Scotland where my grandmother's family is from. The last few hundred metres of the course is a steep descent from Bowmore's round church to the harbour. There's water and a Mars bar at the finish line, and later a wee dram and a country dance.
- My worst experience was In 2012. I ran the Chicago Rock and Roll Half-Marathon as a record heat wave settled on the Midwest. My wife encouraged me not to run but my Scottish/Ukrainian roots wouldn't allow me to skip a race I had paid for. Even though the race began at 6:30 a.m. the Humidex was already over 40. Although the urban architecture was amazing, the heat was oppressive and I barely made it through by walking through the

water stations, timely Vaseline supplies, and a few extra walk breaks at the end.

- My volunteer work involved serving as a Trustee of the Manitoba Marathon Foundation for six years, and two years ago I joined the Manitoba Runners Association board.
- Sponsorship - Being Lotteries Minister was a great gig! I had the chance to participate in all of the Marathon events, including the media lunch and the carb loading breakfast they used to hold. They even let me keep showing up after I became the Attorney-General.
- The Running Room used to be a sponsor of the Manitoba Marathon, and John Stanton attended as a speaker. I met him after the media lunch and he was interested to see a politician so engaged in the race weekend. He told me, "Hey, if you can run, anyone can run!". I have still never decided if this was an insult or a compliment.