



Hockey Canada Indigenous Advisory Circle

CIRCLE MEMBERS BIOGRAPHIES

Chair - Dr. Wilton Littlechild (Ermineskin Cree Nation, AB):

A residential school survivor whose work as a Cree leader, lawyer and Member of Parliament has transformed personal adversity into national and international advocacy, Dr. Wilton Littlechild was the commissioner for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and Grand Chief of the Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations.

Dr. Littlechild's leadership contributed to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and his lifelong commitment to Indigenous rights, sport and reconciliation has been instrumental to healing and empowerment, particularly for Indigenous youth.

A Companion of the Order of Canada, Dr. Littlechild is a Canada's Sports Hall of Fame inductee, a two-time recipient of the Tom Longboat Award and a winner of the Pearson Peace Medal.

Kalley Armstrong (Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg, QC):

The former co-captain of Harvard University's women's hockey team, Kalley Armstrong has extensive experience in high performance sport and Indigenous community engagement, including as the founder and coach of a hockey school for women, girls and First Nations athletes.

With a master's degree and PhD in anthropology, Kalley has also completed research on Indigenous perspectives in hockey, particularly in relation to the residential school legacy, and worked for the Toronto Maple Leafs as a coach and management development associate.

Trechelle Bunn (Birdtail Sioux Dakota Nation, MB):

The first woman to be chief of Birdtail Sioux Dakota Nation, Trechelle Bunn played U SPORTS hockey at the University of Manitoba and was one of the youngest athletes to represent Manitoba at the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships.

Locally, nationally and internationally, Trechelle has used sport as a platform for healing, education and systemic change, including through founding Canada's first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation half-marathon and establishing the University of Manitoba's first scholarship for Indigenous student-athletes.

Kateri Coade (Abegweit First Nation, PE):

A proud member of the Abegweit First Nation, Kateri Coade has extensive experience personally and professionally to advancing the well-being of Indigenous populations, including through volunteer leadership and advocacy work to ensure smaller regions are represented in national sport and reconciliation conversations.



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A former high-level hockey player and parent of two Mi'kmaq daughters involved in the sport, Kateri sees hockey as a powerful tool for reconciliation and community development.

Kyanna Coe (Prince George, BC):

A Métis leader with a strong background in community engagement, cultural safety and Indigenous representation, Kyanna Coe's work has included advisory roles in corporate, municipal and sport sectors and focused on fostering inclusive, culturally grounded spaces.

Kyanna's lived experience as a hockey parent combined with her professional expertise in Indigenous engagement allows her to bridge community needs with institutional change, and she is committed to ensuring Indigenous voices are centred in sport design and decision-making processes.

Breanne Dondo (Red River Métis Nation, MB):

An active champion for the inclusion of Métis and Indigenous voices in legal and institutional spaces, Breanne Dondo is a proud Métis leader, former U SPORTS hockey player and current law student at the University of Montreal, where she is the president of the Indigenous Law Committee.

Breanne's commitment to equity and reconciliation in sport is informed by her lived experience as a student-athlete and Métis woman, and is passionate about creating inclusive and respectful environments for Indigenous athletes.

Ryan Francis (Wasoqopa'q First Nation, NS):

A Mi'kmaq leader in sport, policy and community development, Ryan Francis has worked across mainstream and Indigenous sport systems, and currently is the Mi'kmaq sport, physical activity and recreation corporate strategist with the Province of Nova Scotia, where he supports Indigenous sport development.

The co-founder of Hockey Nova Scotia's Indigenous Girls Hockey Program, Ryan was a finalist for the National Hockey League's Willie O'Ree Community Hero Award in 2022, represented Team Atlantic at the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships and played U SPORTS hockey.

Ava Hill (Six Nations of the Grand River, ON):

The former chief of Six Nations of the Grand River, Ava Hill's work has championed Indigenous representation nationally and internationally, including with the North American Indigenous Games, Pan American Games and the United Nations' Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

With her decades of leadership and advocacy rooted in Indigenous community development, sport and reconciliation, Ava has consistently supported Indigenous youth in sport, organized fundraising efforts for grassroots efforts and played a significant role to have lacrosse included in the Canada Summer Games.

Laura McPhie (Pikwakanagan First Nation, ON):



A seasoned Indigenous advisor with extensive experience supporting corporations, not-for-profits and sport organizations on Indigenous inclusion and right relations, Laura McPhie's expertise lies in designing culturally safe and inclusive frameworks that embed Indigenous world views and intersectionality from the outset.

Laura has 15 years of coaching experience and a specialized focus on Indigenous child safeguarding in sport, and works to ensure that Indigenous athletes and communities are meaningfully included in sport environments.

Kevin Monkman (Ebb and Flow First Nation, MB):

With over 20 years of experience supporting Indigenous athletes across Canada, Kevin Monkman is the Indigenous initiatives advisor at Manitoba Hydro and assistant general manager of the Waywayseecappo Wolverines of the Manitoba Junior Hockey League, and has been a head coach and general manager at the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships for 11 years.

A seasoned leader in Indigenous hockey and reconciliation, Kevin has been instrumental in the development of Indigenous hockey talent, and his experience in the game has allowed him to identify systemic barriers and advocate for culturally safe and inclusive pathways in sport.

Patrick Twinn (Sawridge First Nation, AB):

A proud nehiyaw napew and director of Indigenous relations at ATB Financial, Patrick Twinn's work is rooted in relationship building, trust and a commitment to co-creating a better future for Indigenous communities, including through hockey's cultural significance.

Patrick has led the development and implementation of ATB Financial's inaugural Truth and Reconciliation Action Plan, aligning with TRC Call to Action #92, is a lifelong fan of hockey whose passion for the game has been deeply woven into his upbringing and community life, and continues to play hockey in an adult league.