



Team Canada Alumni Association



Winter 2016 Newsletter



Photo: Matt Murnaghan/Hockey Canada Images

Message from Gord Sherven

Chair of the Team Canada Alumni Association Advisory Committee

Welcome to your 2016 Team Canada Alumni Association winter newsletter.

We have a great story on the early years (1920-1939) of the Olympic Winter Games and IIHF World Championship from the book *Canada on Ice* by Dave Holland. Our hockey heritage cannot be forgotten and in future newsletters we'll continue to recognize the great teams that represented Canada in these international tournaments.

In the latest edition of "Where Are They Now?" we highlight the great career of Cliff Ronning and his business venture in the game, working out of his hometown of Burnaby, B.C., creating custom-made hockey sticks.

The TCAA would like to congratulate a number of members on recent honours, including:

- Carey Price – Lou Marsh Award recipient as Canada's athlete of the year
- Gina Kingsbury – inducted into the St. Lawrence University Sports Hall of Fame
- Pat Quinn – to be inducted into the IIHF Hall of Fame this spring

We would also like to recognize and celebrate the retirements of three decorated alumni: Gillian Apps, Jayna Hefford, and Catherine Ward, who helped Canada to a number of gold medals at the Olympics and IIHF Women's World Championship.

On behalf of all Team Canada alumni, enjoy your newsletter!

We currently have contact with more than 2,500 alumni, of which over 1,000 have officially registered with the Team Canada Alumni Association.

The Team Canada Alumni Association was founded to help connect alumni with former teammates and offer alumni opportunities to help Hockey Canada grow the game and make the best sport in the world accessible to all Canadians.

If you have not already registered (for no cost), please contact Norm Dueck (ndueck@hockeycanada.ca), who oversees the alumni association's activities. We want to be sure that we have updated email addresses, mailing addresses, and phone numbers of all of our alumni, so invites can be sent for future alumni events across the country!

Gord Sherven

Chair, TCAA Advisory Committee

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Team Canada Alumni Association

Where We Want To Be – Our Vision:

Team Canada Alumni – Coming Together, Reaching Out

Why We Want To Go There – Our Mission:

To engage, encourage, and enable Team Canada alumni to maintain a lifelong relationship with Hockey Canada and our game

Who We Will Be Along the Way – Our Values:

We are committed to honouring Canada's international hockey heritage, assisting with the growth of Canadian hockey and the pursuit of international hockey excellence for Canada, while providing an opportunity for our alumni to reconnect and celebrate the game and their experiences. These objectives will be within a spirit of teamwork, inclusion, integrity, and service.

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Team-building never ends for 'Nats

Alumni of Canada's National Men's Team program come together for ninth reunion

by André Brin & Jason La Rose



Photo: Hockey Canada

More than 50 years ago, they travelled from every corner of the country to Vancouver, B.C., invited by Father David Bauer to be part of Canada's first true national hockey team.

In late September a core group of those teams travelled once again, this time to the Red Lodge Resort on Manitoulin Island near Sudbury, Ont., for their ninth reunion, proving that Bauer's vision had lasting power. The national team program is still team-building to this day.

The group included a number of players from the original team, which was together from 1963-70, and a few from the early 1980s when it made its return following Canada's hiatus from international competition.

"What it is ... is we have such an identity," says Barry MacKenzie, a member of Canada's National Men's Team from 1963-68, then again for the final season in 1969-70. "We see each other after three or four years and it's like we've never been apart. It's something we try to keep going every two or three years. We realize every now and then that we're losing a few people so it's more time we can get together and tell stories."

"I just love [the reunions]. I look forward to them," adds Paul Conlin, a member of the national program from 1963-68. "These people that we have at these reunions, they're like family. They really are. You see these guys and it's like you're still in the dressing room with them, and now we also have the wives and significant others. It's fabulous."

Bauer's vision for the original Team Canada when he founded the program prior to the 1963-64 season was to create an opportunity for players seeking both a high-level hockey experience and an education.

The national program was put in place in time for the 1964 Olympic Winter Games in Innsbruck, Austria, where the Canadians finished fourth; the result remains, to this day, one of the most controversial in international hockey history, with a bronze-medal finish changed to fourth by the International Ice Hockey Federation somewhere between the end of the final game of the tournament, and the medal presentations.

In all, the original Nats competed at two Olympics and five IIHF World Championships, bringing home Olympic bronze from the 1968 Games in Grenoble, France, and bronze from the worlds in 1966 and 1967.

Despite the fact the program lasted only seven seasons, the bond formed between players remains even five decades later, and is reason the reunions have become as popular as they have.

"Originally we started these reunions every three years, and then we changed it to two years because of people getting older. We've even had a couple deaths in the group," says John Ferguson, a member of the national team based in Ottawa in 1967-68. "It's kind of nice to make sure when you come back the same old folks are here that you played with, [and] played against in a lot of cases. It just means a lot. You don't see your buddies for a couple years; it's a long time."

The Manitoulin Island reunion included a banquet dinner, and a cruise on Lake Huron, although the lasting memories come from just being together and rehashing old memories with old friends.

"Most of us have common backgrounds, a lot of common experiences," says Jim Keon, a member of the national team based in Ottawa in 1968-69. "We do stay in touch, not with everyone but you get a sense. But to come and renew acquaintances and retell old stories and the songs and everything is a lot of fun."

"Of course, my shot has become better," MacKenzie says with a laugh. "You know I think I've become a much better hockey player over the past few years ... so it's good for the soul."

Previous reunions criss-crossed the country, held in Wilcox, Sask., St. John's, N.L., Gimli, Man., Niagara Falls, Ont., Ottawa, Ont., Winnipeg, Man., Penticton, B.C., and Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Plans are already underway for a 10th reunion in 2017 or 2018.

At the beginning

1920-1939: The first Winter Olympics and world championships



Photo: Hockey Canada Images

NOTE: This is an edited version of an excerpt from *Canada on Ice* by Dave Holland

World War I had ended and Europeans began to rebuild from the massive devastation that was inflicted on their lives, homes, and cities. Recreation held new importance, and hockey was quickly revived in Belgium, Austria, Germany, France, Bohemia (now the Czech Republic and Slovakia), Switzerland, and Sweden.

With enough international participation in the sport, hockey met the criteria for inclusion as an Olympic sport and joined figure skating as a demonstration event at the 1920 Antwerp Olympics. The new winter events were held several months before the Summer Olympics. An independent Winter Olympics would not be held until 1924, so the results were simply recorded as part of the 1920 Antwerp Games. Hockey was originally proposed for the 1916 Olympics in Berlin, but the war delayed its debut.

As the International Olympic Committee (IOC) relied on international growing bodies for overseeing each sport, the Ligue internationale de hockey sur glace (LIHG) became the de facto connection to Olympic hockey, meaning that entry into the Olympic hockey tournament required membership in the LIHG. The LIHG admitted Canada and the United States into the federation in 1920 but cancelled the memberships of the “war losers” Austria and Germany. Canada assumed the seat held by the Oxford Canadians, while Czechoslovakia took over Bohemia’s position after it became part of the new republic.

The strides made by the LIHG in the continued post-war growth of hockey and its inclusion in the 1920 Olympics was tempered by several less successful European championships. The LIHG began to see a rebound in participation at the 1924 Olympics, where eight countries took part in the

tournament. Following the Olympics, interest in the European championship was renewed. Austria (readmitted to the LIHG in 1924), Hungary, and Poland prepared for their 1928 Olympic debuts in St. Moritz. By the end of the decade, the LIHG membership grew to 17 countries, including Spain, Romania, and Italy.

A new course was charted for the federation at the 1929 LIHG congress, held in Budapest, Hungary. The Ligue recognized the excitement generated by Canadian and American participation during the Olympics and decided to recapture this enthusiasm on an annual basis. Thus the LIHG would hold an annual contest, the first of which would be played in Chamonix, France in 1930.

As the 1920, 1924, and 1928 Olympic champions were eventually recognized as world champions, the 1930 event would be the fourth world championship. These tournaments evolved beyond the existing European championship as at least one team from North America or Japan (admitted in 1930) was included. The European championship continued to be awarded, with the highest-placing European team at the world championship crowned as the continental champion.

The 1930s saw the Baltic states of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia join the LIHG, as well as Norway, Netherlands, and Yugoslavia. Two other countries, neither usually recognized as hockey nations, joined the federation: South Africa in 1937 and Australia in 1938. Of the two Olympic Winter Games held in the 1930s, a record 15 countries played hockey in 1936.

Just as the new era of international hockey began with the end of World War I, it ended with the onset of World War II.

Where Are They Now?: Cliff Ronning

The Team Canada alumnus is putting the right stick in the hands of today's players

by Wendy Graves



Scoring always came naturally for Cliff Ronning.

He was the Top Scorer and Most Valuable Player when he led the Burnaby Winter Club Travellers to the 1982 Air Canada Cup (now TELUS Cup). In 97 games with Canada's National Men's Team during the 1985-86 and 1986-87 seasons, he had 151 points. And he finished with 955 points in 1,263 regular season and playoff games for seven National Hockey League teams.

He credits his time with the national team for helping him successfully transition from amateur to professional.

"I was very fortunate that coming out of junior hockey there was a national program," says Ronning, who also won a silver medal at the 1991 IIHF World Championship. "Instead of playing in the minors we got an opportunity to travel the world and learn the game in a different way. We were very proud to put on the Canadian jersey."

By the time Ronning joined the St. Louis Blues for the second half of the 1986-87 season, Canada's National Men's Team had him ready for the daily grind of the NHL.

"You flew all the way to Moscow and have to play a game the next day," he says. "Without realizing it you get a little more mentally tough to prepare [for the NHL]."

As for what Ronning credits for helping him succeed for 18 years as a professional hockey player?

Well, he has no trouble admitting he was a tad particular about his hockey stick.

"Playing at 5'7", I had to try to use every little advantage I could," he says.

"The stick was the most important tool I could have in my hand. I had a specific curve that I was able to raise the puck in tight."

After retiring in 2006, Ronning wanted to stay involved in the game. He began working with Ron Kunisaki and in 2010 the two opened BASE Hockey, a factory-direct hockey stick design and manufacturing company based in Ronning's hometown of Burnaby, B.C. Players of all ages and abilities can have a stick custom-made to their needs. They can choose from three different graphite shafts, 40 curves and five grips. There are 12 locations across Canada and the United States.

"I was one of those players who was always working on my stick, putting a different curve on it, trying different shots to see if you could get a little action on the shot that would mess up the goalies."

Ronning's clients include members of the Ottawa Senators, Nashville Predators and Columbus Blue Jackets, as well as players in the National Women's Hockey League. He also makes sticks for those just getting in the game.

It was important to Ronning to include an instructional element in his business as well. Using high-speed cameras, he can overlap a customer's shot with a pro's to show proper technique and posture.

"That part to me is enjoyable because you see a kid become better within one or two lessons."

Ronning also hosts an annual summer four-day camp with Glenn Anderson. "I was fortunate to play for great coaches, such as Dave King, Jacques Lemaire, Pat Quinn and Barry Trotz, and you pick up little things along the way. We're passing on knowledge to the young kids and it's satisfying."

End of an era for Team Canada trio

Canada's National Women's Team alumnae announce retirements

They have represented Canada and won a combined 20 Olympic and world championship gold medals as part of Canada's National Women's Team, and now have moved into a new phase in their lives having inspired thousands of young girls to take up the sport they love.

Jayna Hefford, a five-time Olympian, four-time Olympic gold medallist and seven-time world champion; Gillian Apps, a three-time Olympic gold medallist and three-time world champion; and Catherine Ward, a two-time Olympic gold medallist and one-time world champion, announced Sept. 10 they are retiring from international competition.



Photos: Dave Holland/Hockey Canada Images

Jayna Hefford

Made her debut with Canada's National Women's Team at the 1997 IIHF World Women's Championship, and finished her international career ranked second all-time in Team Canada history in games played (267), goals (157), and points (291).

"I take a lot of pride in the consistency of my game and in having some of best seasons near the end of my career."

The Kingston, Ont., native is a four-time Olympic gold medallist with Canada in 2002, 2006, 2010 and 2014, and added a silver medal in 1998. In 2002, Hefford scored the game-winning goal with one second remaining in the second period on the road to Canada's victory against the United States in Salt Lake City.

Hefford is also a seven-time world champion and five-time silver medallist at the IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship, winning gold in 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2004, 2007 and 2012 and silver in 2005, 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2013. Additionally, she is a 12-time gold medallist with Canada's National Women's Team at the 3 Nations/4 Nations Cup, while also helping Canada to five silver medals at the event.

Gillian Apps

Made her debut with Canada's National Women's Team in 2001 and retired after reaching the 100-point milestone for her career. In 164 games for Canada's National Women's Team, she scored 50 goals and added 50 assists.

"I would encourage young players to fall in love with the game. I played hockey because I loved it, even when I wasn't very good."

The native of Unionville, Ont., won Olympic gold medals with Canada in 2006, 2010 and 2014, scoring 10 goals and 11 assists for 21 points. She scored 14 points (seven goals, seven assists) at the 2006 Turin Games, where she was named to the media all-star team. Apps is a three-time IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Women's Championship gold medallist (2004, 2007, 2012) as well as five-time silver medallist (2005, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2013).

As the youngest centralized player in Calgary during the 2001-02 Olympic season, Apps went on to win a gold medal with Canada's National Women's Team at the 2002 4 Nations Cup in Kitchener, Ont., and added seven additional gold medals in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010 and 2013. She played in 13 games for Canada's National Women's Under-22/Development Team, scoring 17 points in 13 career games.

Catherine Ward

Made her debut with Canada's National Women's Program in 2006 as a member of Canada's National Women's Under-22 Team and finished her career as a two-time Olympic gold medallist, in 2010 and 2014.

"Hockey has taught me so much and I wouldn't be who I am today without it; it has shaped me for the better."

The Montreal, Que., native, captured a gold medal with Canada at the IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship in 2012 and added three silver medals in 2009, 2011 and 2013. Ward also won a pair of gold medals at the 4 Nations Cup (2009, 2013) and two silver medals (2008, 2012). She finishes her 77-game career with Canada's National Women's Team with 43 points (seven goals, 36 assists).

As a member of Canada's National Women's Under-22/Development Team, Ward played 24 games, registering 15 points. She won a pair of gold medals at the Air Canada Cup, in 2007 and 2008, and added a silver at the MLP Cup in 2009.

Price is right

Goaltender caps record-setting year with Lou Marsh Award as athlete of the year

by Jason La Rose



Photo: Andre Ringue/HHOF-IIHF-IOC

Almost two years ago, Carey Price was the backbone of the Canadian entry that shut down the world's best hockey players en route to an Olympic gold medal, allowing just a single goal in medal round victories over Latvia, the United States, and Sweden.

And until a lower-body injury put the goaltender on the shelf in early November, Price had used his Sochi success to help cement himself as unquestionably the best goaltender in hockey, and quite possibly the best player in the game, period.

His 2014-15 season rewrote the Montreal Canadiens record book; Price posted a franchise-record 44 wins, and led the National Hockey League with a 1.96 goals-against average and .933 save percentage.

So it wasn't too surprising when he cleaned up at the NHL Awards in June, winning the Hart Trophy (NHL MVP), Vezina Trophy (top goaltender), Ted Lindsay Award (NHL MVP, as voted by the players), and William Jennings Trophy (lowest goals-against average).

But the biggest honour may have come in mid-December, when Price won the Lou Marsh Award as Canada's athlete of the year, becoming just the ninth hockey player – and third Canadian – since 1936 to receive the award.

"For sure it's an honour to get that recognition from the sport of hockey. But this is another level for me," Price told NHL.com when the award was presented on Dec. 15. "Being compared to so many great athletes in Canada is definitely humbling. There's so many athletes that had such excellent years this year."

Price joins fellow Montreal winners Maurice "Rocket" Richard (1957) and Guy Lafleur (1977).

The other hockey players to receive the honour are Bobby Orr (1970), Phil Esposito (1972), Bobby Clarke (1975), Wayne Gretzky (1982, 1983, 1985, 1989), Mario Lemieux (1993), and Sidney Crosby (2007 and 2009).

He is the first goaltender to win the award, which is voted on by a committee of media members at the Toronto Star.

"I was actually surprised at that because this country's had so many outstanding goaltenders, which speaks volumes of our athletic system in general," Price said. "We have so many great athletes year after year putting up such great performances, and to be able to top some of those is truly an honour."

The Anahim Lake, B.C., native has found success throughout his Team Canada career; in addition to his Olympic gold, Price won a silver medal with Pacific at the 2004 World Under-17 Hockey Challenge, and silver with Canada's National Men's Under-18 Team at the 2005 IIHF World U18 Championship.

His biggest international achievement, prior to Sochi, came at the 2007 IIHF World Junior Championship, where he backstopped Canada to a gold medal, earning Top Goaltender and MVP honours.

Quinn to be inducted into IIHF Hall of Fame

Late coach guided Team Canada to Olympic gold and World Cup title

by Jason La Rose

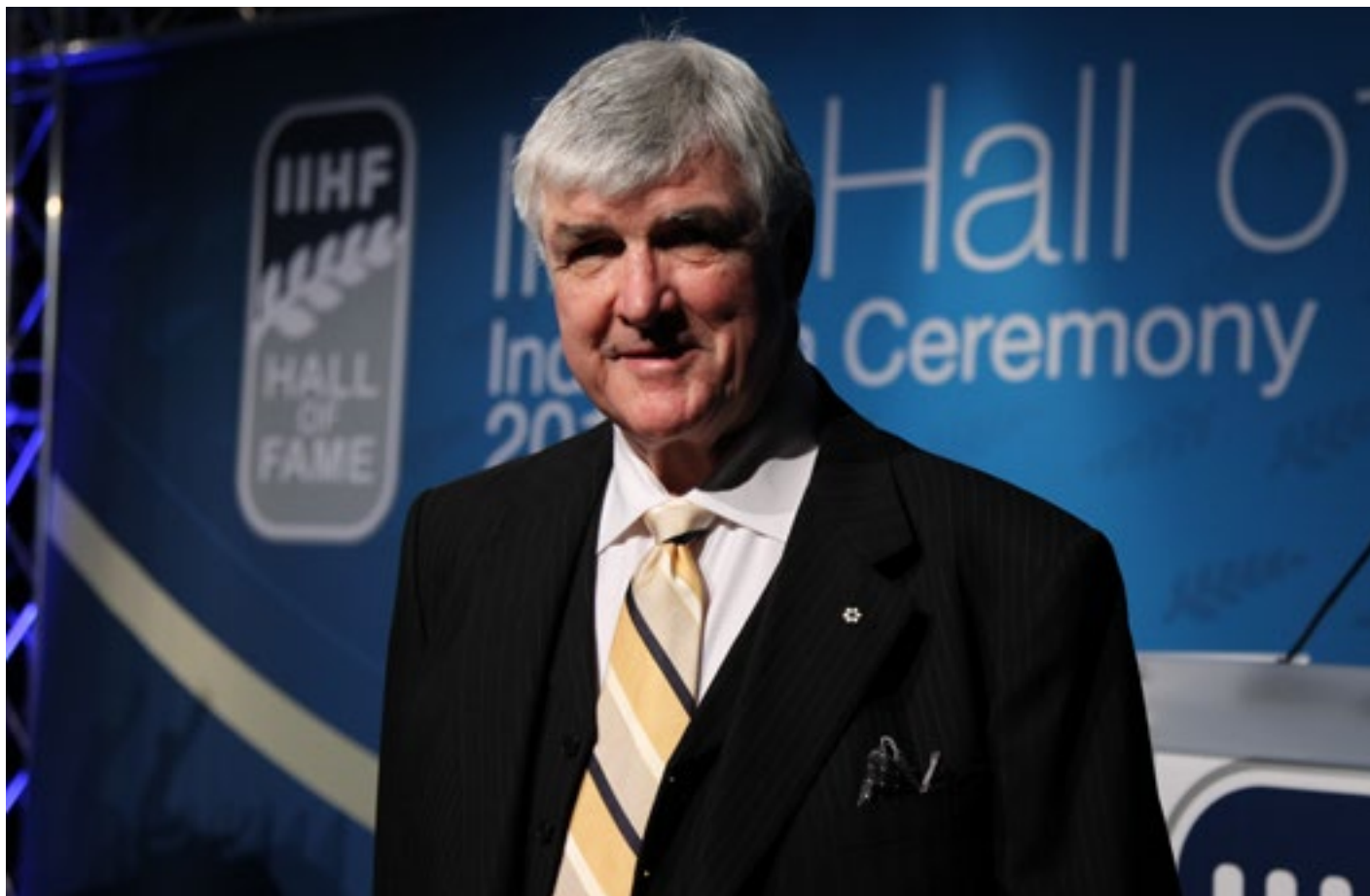


Photo: Andre Ringue/IIHF-IIHF Images

The International Ice Hockey Federation announced Dec. 18 its newest class of inductees into the IIHF Hall of Fame, and the late Pat Quinn, who led Canada as head coach at seven international events during his decorated career, is among the honourees.

In addition to his coaching career, Quinn worked as a general manager or assistant general manager on four other occasions, helping Canada to five medals and a World Cup championship in total.

The Hamilton, Ont., native got his start with Team Canada as head coach at the 1986 IIHF World Championship, winning a bronze medal in Moscow, Soviet Union.

It would be 10 years before he was involved again with a national team, serving as assistant general manager at the 1996 World Cup of Hockey, but that marked the start of a long relationship with Hockey Canada.

Quinn was co-general manager of Canada's gold medal-winning entry at the 1997 IIHF World Championship, and returned to the worlds to serve in the GM's role by himself one year later.

His most notable Team Canada achievement came in 2002, when, as head coach, he helped end Canada's 50-year Olympic gold medal drought with a historic win in Salt Lake City, Utah.

He was behind the bench again in 2004, coaching Canada to victory at the World Cup of Hockey, and served at a second Olympic Winter Games in 2006 in Turin, Italy.

After leading Canada's National Men's Team to the final of the 2006 Spengler Cup, Quinn was head coach of Canada's National Men's

Under-18 Team at the 2008 IIHF World U18 Championship in Kazan, Russia, guiding a team that included Matt Duchene, Jordan Eberle, Taylor Hall and Cody Hodgson to Canada's second gold medal at the event.

Five months later Quinn stepped in as head coach of Canada's National Junior Team and won another gold medal at the 2009 IIHF World Junior Championship in Ottawa, Ont., Canada's record-tying fifth consecutive world juniors gold.

Quinn was an NHL head coach for parts of 20 seasons with the Philadelphia Flyers, Los Angeles Kings, Vancouver Canucks, Toronto Maple Leafs and Edmonton Oilers, winning the Jack Adams Award as NHL coach of the year in 1979-80 with the Flyers and 1991-92 with the Canucks.

He sits fifth all-time in NHL history with 684 wins (in 1,400 games) and twice led his teams to the Stanley Cup Final – in 1980 with Philadelphia and 1994 with Vancouver.

Quinn served as chairman of the Hockey Hall of Fame Board of Directors, a position held from August 2013 until his passing on Nov. 23, 2014, and spent 15 years as a member of the Hockey Hall of Fame selection committee.

He will officially be inducted on May 22, 2016 in Moscow during the 2016 IIHF World Championship, along with Peter Bondra, Sergei Fedorov, Valeri Kamensky, and long-time U.S. women's team head coach Ben Smith.

Upcoming and Past Events

Halifax to host 2016 Hockey Canada Foundation Celebrity Classic

All proceeds from two-day gala and golf event geared to growth of sport locally, and across country



Photo: David Chan

Get ready, Halifax. Hockey Canada is tapping into Maritime hospitality and bringing the 13th annual Hockey Canada Foundation (HCF) Celebrity Classic to the East Coast for the first time. Halifax is the first city without an NHL team to host the prestigious event.

The two-day event features a star-studded gala hosted at the Cunard Centre on June 20, where Canada's national teams who have won gold at IIHF world championship events throughout the season will be honoured. A celebrity golf tournament will follow on June 21 at Glen Arbour Golf and Country Club.

"The Hockey Canada Foundation's mission is to promote and foster accessibility to the game of hockey by recruiting new players to the game; promoting lifelong health and wellness through sport; providing greater access for all participants to benefit from the game; developing skills for players, coaches, and officials; and celebrating Canada's hockey heritage," said HCF chair Jim Treiving. "The Celebrity Classic is an exciting event, and we're looking forward to sharing it with the city of Halifax and the province of Nova Scotia."

"We're delighted that Hockey Canada has chosen Halifax to host this event, and we're proud to put ourselves on the national stage, demonstrating through hockey that ours is a province full of capable, enthusiastic people who will help you deliver a first-rate show in an exciting community," said Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil. "I know there will be a lasting legacy for Nova Scotia from this event."

Included in the gala evening will be the honouring of that year's Distinguished Honourees of the Order of Hockey in Canada. First introduced in 2012, the Order of Hockey in Canada honours a select number of individuals annually whose role or service in the game is recognized as extraordinary in Canada.

"The list of past honourees speaks for itself – Howe, Gretzky, Campbell-Pascall, King, Henderson, Quinn, and many more. The Order of Hockey in Canada is a special honour, and the Hockey Canada Foundation gala is a special night for us to celebrate some of our country's legends of the game," said Tom Renney, president and chief executive officer of Hockey Canada. "We look forward to joining with the Halifax community in June to celebrate Canada's game and the special people who have helped build it throughout the years."

The 2016 Distinguished Honourees of the Order of Hockey in Canada will be announced in the coming weeks.

The Celebrity Classic is foundation's largest annual fundraiser; all proceeds from the gala and golf tournament go back to supporting the growth of the game across Canada, with half staying in the Halifax region.

"An important element of the Celebrity Classic – and most of Hockey Canada's events – is to ensure that we are putting the proceeds back into putting more kids on the ice and enjoying the game of hockey," said Renney. "We do that across the country through different programs delivered by Hockey Canada and the Hockey Canada Foundation, and by working with the local event steering committees to develop strong legacy plans within their own regions."

For more information on the Hockey Canada Foundation, please visit hockeycanada.ca/foundation

The next step toward a lasting legacy

The impact of the 2015 Hockey Canada Foundation Celebrity Classic will live on in the hands of the MLSE Foundation

by Wendy Graves



Photo: Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment

Two days in June promise to now live on forever in Toronto.

On June 10 and 11, in partnership with the MLSE Foundation, the Hockey Canada Foundation hosted its 12th annual Celebrity Classic gala and golf event. More than 800 guests – including members of Canada's National Junior Team and National Men's Team, which won gold at the 2015 IIHF World Junior Championship and 2015 IIHF World Championship, respectively – celebrated the achievements of the high-performance athletes in the name of fundraising for activities at the grassroots level.

During the first intermission of a game between the Maple Leafs and San Jose Sharks, Jim Treliving, chairman of the Hockey Canada Foundation, as well as co-chairs Brian Cooper and Mark Pacinda, presented a cheque in the amount of \$351,213 to Tanya Mruck, director of operations for the MLSE Foundation.

Fans at the Air Canada Centre saw video highlights of the Celebrity Classic, as well as footage of what the money will go toward: MLSE Launch Pad, a sport-for-development facility that will open in the Moss Park area of Toronto in January 2017.

"The Hockey Canada Foundation is proud to work with the MLSE Foundation on a project that promotes sport and youth development in Toronto," says Treliving. "While promoting accessibility to the game has always been a goal for us, so too is anything that fosters overall health and wellness. The MLSE Launch Pad will not only allow more kids to play but also encourage their development beyond a rink or court."

The MLSE Launch Pad will live in an existing six-floor Toronto Community Housing building.

"The main floor has been vacant for the last 20 years, so we put our hand up to come in and completely refurbish the space and [bring] programming to it as well," says Erika Minkhorst, manager of philanthropy for MLSE Foundation. "There's a plethora of youth and community mentors who we can engage to use the space. Our plan is to go in and complement, not change, what is already there."

That will include creating among other things a life skills zone, classrooms, learning centres and a kitchen, as well as three multi-sport courts.

"It'll really be a collaborative hub that's going to focus on youth development through a number of different avenues, using sport as the hook to get kids to come out and be a part of it," says Minkhorst.

This year marked the fifth time Toronto has hosted the Celebrity Classic; the city also held Hockey Canada Foundation's largest annual fundraiser in 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2012. From the 2012 event the foundation was able to donate \$300,000 toward an updated rink and field house at Regent Park Athletic Grounds, a revitalization project that's given 3,000 inner-city kids a safer place to skate and socialize. Alumni of Canada's 1994 and 1995 National Junior Teams helped open the site this past January, during the 2015 world juniors.

The Regent Park project really resonated with the foundation's directors," says Chris Bright, director of recruitment programs for Hockey Canada. "The MLSE Launch Pad is another project that's serving inner-city youth in Toronto and something I think that we'll be very proud to be a part of in the future."

Recent Events

International Events Recap

Canada brings home gold from five events

Canada's national teams went across the country and around the world during a busy three-month stretch from early November to late January, taking part in nine international events, and bringing home a medal from eight of them. Click the event names below for more information on each event.

Photo: Matt Murnaghan/Hockey Canada Images



2016 World Sledge Hockey Challenge

January 17-23 | Bridgewater, N.S.

The very best in sledge hockey visited the South Shore of Nova Scotia, as the Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre hosted Canada, Korea, Russia, and the United States. Canada's National Sledge Team finished atop the preliminary round standings, edging the Americans in a shootout in the round-robin finale to hand the defending champions their first loss in more than a year, but the U.S. got its revenge in the gold medal game; Canada erased a two-goal deficit in the third period, but an overtime goal left the Canadians with silver.

Photo: MJana Cnytilova/IIHF-IIHF Images



2016 IIHF U18 Women's World Championship

January 8-15 | St. Catharines, Ont.

For the first time since the inaugural tournament in 2008, the U18 women's worlds returned to Canadian ice at the Meridian Centre in St. Catharines, in front of record-setting crowds. The all-time attendance record fell before the end of the preliminary round (34,523 is the new number to beat), and the single-game mark was upped four times, with the 5,516 who watched Canada's National Women's Under-18 Team fall 3-2 in overtime to the United States in a thrilling gold medal game setting the new record.

Photo: Hockey Canada



2016 Nations Cup

January 4-7 | Füssen, Germany

Make it 11 gold medals for Canada's National Women's Development Team. The Canadians put in extra time (not once, but twice) to earn the top prize in Füssen; after Mélodie Daoust netted the lone goal in the shootout in a tournament-opening 2-1 win over Sweden, Jamie Lee Rattray scored 48 seconds into overtime in the gold medal game, giving Canada a 4-3 win over Finland. Daoust (3-6-9) and Rattray (4-5-9) were the offensive standouts, leading Canada in scoring with nine points apiece in six games (including pre-tournament play).

Recent Events

International Events Recap

Photo: Matt Zamboni/HHOF-IIHF Images



2016 IIHF World Junior Championship

December 26-January 5 | Helsinki, Finland

In defence of its gold medal, Canada's National Junior Team crossed the Atlantic for the seventh world juniors played in Finland. An up and down preliminary round included wins over Denmark and Switzerland, and losses to the United States and Sweden, and set up a win-or-go-home showdown with the host Finns in the quarter-finals. An early 2-0 lead became a 4-3 deficit, and despite a pair of power-play goals in the third period from Mitch Marner, the Canadians dropped a 6-5 decision en route to a sixth-place finish.

Photo: Gian Ehrenzeller/EQ Images



2015 Spengler Cup

December 26-31 | Davos, Switzerland

Canada's National Men's Team made its 32nd appearance at one of the oldest tournaments in the world, and put on one of its best performances ever. After a pair of close wins in the preliminary round, the Canadians earned a wild 6-5 semifinal win over HC Davos that included erasing a 4-1 deficit in the second period and two goals in the last 4:34. Matt D'Agostini got the winner with 12 minutes left in the championship game, giving Canada a 4-3 victory, just its third perfect record ever, its first title since 2012, and its 13th overall.

Photo: Matt Murnaghan/Hockey Canada Images



2015 World Junior A Challenge

December 13-19 | Cobourg & Whitby, Ont.

After two years without Canadian content in the gold medal game, Canada West returned red and white to the top of the podium. The westerners highlighted the preliminary round by ending the United States' tournament-record 14-game winning streak, and beat Canada East 8-5 in a crazy semi-final that featured a record nine goals in the third period alone. Facing Russia in the final, tournament MVP Tyson Jost scored the winner with three minutes left in a 2-1 victory, giving Canada its fourth WJAC gold medal.

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Recent Events

International Events Recap

Photo: Hockey Canada



2015 International Ice Sledge Hockey Tournament December 7-12 | Turin, Italy

Canada's National Sledge Team opened its 2015-16 season in style, dominating the competition on its way to gold in Italy. The Canadians outscored their opponents by a 38-2 margin in five tournament games, including a convincing 7-1 victory over the host Italians in the final. Tyler McGregor had his international coming-out party in Turin; including pre-tournament play, McGregor racked up 21 points (11 goals, 10 assists) in six games, almost doubling his career point total from the previous three seasons (nine goals, 13 assists).

Photo: Joel Ford



2015 4 Nations Cup November 4-8 | Sundsvall, Sweden

The road to the 2016 IIHF Women's World Championship on home ice continued for Canada's National Women's Team as it headed to Sweden for the 20th edition of the 4 Nations Cup. A loss to the United States was sandwiched around wins over Finland and Sweden in the preliminary round, setting up another all-North American gold medal game. Natalie Spooner and the returning Meghan Agosta gave Canada a 2-1 lead after two periods, but the U.S. tied it early in the third period and won it in overtime, leaving Canada with silver.

Photo: Matt Murnaghan/Hockey Canada Images



2015 World Under-17 Hockey Challenge November 1-7 | Dawson Creek & Fort St. John, B.C.

After failing to place a team in the semifinals in the first year of the national under-17 program, Canada rebounded in northern British Columbia. Canada White booked its spot in the gold medal game with a 2-1 semi-final win over Sweden, and only a goaltending performance for the ages by Russian netminder Maxim Zhukov kept it from being an all-Canadian final. Owen Tippett did the offensive damage in the gold medal game, scoring a hat trick to make White the first Canadian team to win gold since Ontario in 2011.

Operations Report: January 2016



Total Volunteer Hours:
1378

1,925
Kids impacted
in total

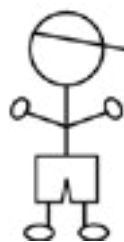
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