

**Calgary**

201-151 Canada Olympic Road SW
201-151 Canada Olympic Road SO
Calgary AB T3B 6B7
Tel./Tél. : 1-888-777-2192

Toronto

400 Kipling Avenue
400, avenue Kipling
Toronto ON M8V 3L1
Tel./Tél. : 1-888-777-2192

Gillian Apps, Hockey Canada Board of Directors and NWT alumna

A former member of Canada's National Women's Team, Gillian Apps has found success throughout her career as an athlete and in business through her willingness to adapt to new ideas and foster an environment of continuous learning and growth. Apps, a three-time Olympic gold medallist and three-time world champion, played 164 games wearing the Maple Leaf and spent five seasons in the Canadian Women's Hockey League before she retired as an athlete in 2015. She joined the Hockey Canada Board of Directors in November 2023.

Pierre Arsenault, chief executive officer of U SPORTS

The chief executive officer of U SPORTS, the national governing body of university sport in Canada, Arsenault has more than two decades of executive leadership experience in Canadian sport. Before joining U SPORTS, he was the Director of Athletics and Recreation at Mount Allison University, and previously held the role of Executive Director with the New Brunswick Golf Association. Arsenault worked at Hockey Canada's Atlantic Centre of Excellence and as technical director with Hockey Saskatchewan.

Thérèse Brisson, president and chief executive officer of Alpine Canada and NWT alumna

The president and chief executive officer of Alpine Canada since 2020, Therese Brisson won six IIHF women's world championships and one Olympic gold medal as a member of Canada's National Women's Team. Since her retirement as an athlete, Brisson has consistently contributed to the Canadian sporting landscape, including as a Director of the Canadian Olympic Committee and former Director, Corporate Treasurer & Secretary of Own the Podium.

Cassie Campbell-Pascall, broadcaster, special advisor to the Professional Women's Hockey League (PWHL) and NWT alumna

Cassie Campbell-Pascall is a three-time Olympic champion, an eight-time world champion and the only captain to lead Team Canada to two Olympic gold medals. Campbell was also the first female hockey player inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, is an Order of Canada recipient and was on the Hockey Canada Board of Directors from December 2022 to November 2023. Campbell made strides as the first woman to provide colour commentary on Hockey Night in Canada and has continued her career as a sports broadcaster for ESPN.

Debra Gassewitz, president and chief executive officer of the Sport Information Resource Centre

Debra Gassewitz has led Canada's Sport Information Resource Centre (SIRC) for over 25 years, transforming it into a dynamic knowledge hub. Achievements include digitizing extensive sport research, negotiating major database sales, and establishing global partnerships. A key player in shaping Canada's sport policy, Debra is a member of numerous federal provincial territorial workgroups, as well as a Member of the Canadian Olympic Committee Governance and Ethics Committee. Her expertise in stakeholder communications and digital technology has been

pivotal for sport organizations. Committed to research and education, Debra sets a high standard for SIRC's services in the Canadian sport system.

Jayna Hefford, senior vice-president of hockey operations for the PWHL and NWT alumna

Jayna Hefford is one of the most decorated Canadian Olympians of all-time and won multiple medals at the Winter Olympics and IIHF World Women's Championships. Now the senior vice-president of hockey operations with the Professional Women's Hockey League (PWHL), Hefford has overseen the PWHL's successful launch after serving as an operations consultant with the Professional Women's Hockey Players' Association. In 2019, Hefford was inducted into the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame and invested into the Order of Hockey in Canada.

Katherine Henderson, president and chief executive officer of Hockey Canada

Katherine Henderson was named president and chief executive officer of Hockey Canada on July 4, 2023. The co-chair of the Winter Caucus of Sport, Henderson's first event with Hockey Canada was the inaugural Beyond the Boards Summit, which brought together leaders in hockey, subject-matter experts and individuals with lived experiences to identify ways to guide actions that will make positive changes to the culture of hockey. Before joining Hockey Canada, Henderson was the chief executive officer of Curling Canada, where she successfully led initiatives to introduce new Canadians to the sport, spearheaded pay equity for Canada's men's and women's curling teams, and drove a financial turnaround of the organization's business model.

Marian Jacko, Hockey Canada Board of Directors

Marian Jacko, Anishinaabe from Wiikwemkoong First Nation, is the Assistant Deputy Attorney General for the Indigenous Justice Division of the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General. Jacko has over a decade of coaching experience having coached at the Little NHL over many years, at the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships and the Ontario Summer Games. Marian is passionate about the sport of ice hockey and believes it has the potential to change the narrative for Indigenous children and youth to one of resilience.

Angela James, Hockey Canada Foundation Board of Directors and NWT alumna

An Order of Canada recipient in 2022, Angela James was a four-time gold medallist at the IIHF World Women's Championship and finished her international career with 33 goals and 21 assists in 50 games. Among her accolades, Angela has been inducted in the Hockey Hall of Fame, Black Ice Hockey and Sports Hall of Fame, International Ice Hockey Federation Hall of Fame, Canada's Sports Hall of Fame and the Ontario Sports Hall of Fame, and received the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal in 2022. She joined the Hockey Canada Foundation Board of Directors in 2023.

Rob Knesaurek, senior vice-president of youth development and industry growth with the National Hockey League

A driving force behind hockey's expansion and accessibility, Rob Knesaurek oversees national and international programs aimed at nurturing hockey at its grassroots, creating new avenues for enthusiasts of all ages and weaving more youth and families into the vibrant tapestry of the hockey community. Rob's portfolio includes overseeing the Industry Growth Fund (IGF), a ground-breaking initiative to support programs and initiatives to bolster the growth of hockey's fanbase, and fostering diversity, equity and inclusion efforts through the IGF.

Anne Merklinger, chief executive officer of Own the Podium

An elite athlete for most of her life, Anne Merklinger was a member of Canada's national swim team and also consistently ranked as one of Canada's foremost curlers, twice leading her team to the final of the Scotties Tournament of Hearts. Before becoming chief executive officer of

Own the Podium, Merklinger was its director of summer sports. She has also worked with the Commission for Inclusion of Athletes with a Disability and the Canadian Federation of Sport Organization for the Disabled.

Mary-Kay Messier, vice-president of marketing for Bauer Hockey

A member of Bauer Hockey's senior leadership team, Mary-Kay Messier oversees all of Bauer's global marketing efforts, including with the NHL, NHLPA and international federations such as Hockey Canada. Since joining Bauer in 2012, Mary-Kay has held progressively senior roles while overseeing the creation and growth of The First Shift, a program that has introduced over 30,000 families to hockey. In 2023, Mary-Kay was a member of Hockey Canada's president and chief executive officer search committee, which led to the hiring of Katherine Henderson.

Brad Morris, Hockey Canada Foundation Board of Directors

As an advocate of opportunity and empowerment for women, Brad Morris served 15 years as a director of the Ladies First Hockey Foundation, supporting Team Canada players while partnering to support the Olympic family and friends program. Brad was a director and chair of the Canadian Women's Hockey League (CWHL) from 2012-17 and in 2018 was recognized as CWHL Humanitarian of the Year. He joined the Hockey Canada Foundation Board of Directors in 2023.

Allison Sandmeyer-Graves, chief executive officer of Canadian Women & Sport

Allison Sandmeyer-Graves is an experienced non-profit leader with a passion for social innovation that challenges the status quo. As CEO of Canadian Women & Sport, Allison is committed to achieving gender equity in society through the power of sport. She works extensively with organizations, governments and leaders to build knowledge, change attitudes, and develop capacity to create an equitable and inclusive Canadian sport and physical activity system.

Kim St-Pierre, regional manager at Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities and NWT alumna

Inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 2021, Kim St-Pierre ranks first among goaltenders in games played (83), wins (64) and shutouts (29) in Canada's National Women's Team history. St-Pierre won three Olympic gold medals, five IIHF Women's World Championship gold medals and two Clarkson Cups during her storied career, and was named Top Goaltender at the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. Invested into the Order of Hockey in Canada in 2022, St-Pierre works for Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities.