



2011 Alberta Hockey Hall of Fame Inductees

Achievement Category:

Roger Bourbonnais - Riviere Qui Barre, Alberta

Roger Bourbonnais started his hockey career with the Edmonton Oil Kings in 1960 and played with them through 1963. In his final year with the Oil Kings, he was the team captain that led them to a Memorial Cup victory. Bourbonnais then joined the freshly founded Canadian National Hockey Team and travelled with them to the 1964 Winter Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria where he contributed two goals to Canada's fourth place finish. Following the 1964 Olympics, Bourbonnais laced up his skates for Canada in the 1965, 1966 and 1967 IIHF World Championships capturing two bronze medals in three years. In 1968, he once again represented Canada in the Winter Olympics in Grenoble, France where he would score four goals in seven games to finish with a bronze medal. Bourbonnais also spent some time with the Edmonton Nuggets of the Western Canada Senior Hockey League during the 1967-68 season. Bourbonnais turned down offers to play pro hockey with the Detroit Red Wings and instead pursued his law degree which he obtained in 1967. Bourbonnais was awarded the honor of being inducted into the IIHF Hall of Fame in 1999.

1976-77, 1978-79, 1979-80 Red Deer College Kings – Red Deer, Alberta

The Red Deer College Kings were in fact the "kings" of the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association where they made four straight appearances in the national championship and captured three of a possible four gold medals. They were the first team in the Alberta Colleges Athletics Conference (ACAC) to finish first in the regular season for five consecutive campaigns. The Kings also brought home three 4-West titles and three ACAC titles. They became the first team to win back to back national titles. In each of their national championship seasons, the RDC Kings led the league with the most goals for and the fewest goals against. In regular season and post season action over the three years, the Kings won 78, lost 15 and tied two for a winning percentage of 0.83. Former Red Deer College President, Don Snow would describe the Kings as "excellent ambassadors for the college, the community, and the province."

1999-2000 University of Alberta Pandas – Edmonton, Alberta

The 1999-2000 University of Alberta Pandas were the start of an Alberta hockey dynasty. They became the first Western Canadian team to win the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union (now CIS) National Championship. The team had five players in the league's top scorers for the CIAU, the most out of any other teams. Goaltender Stacey McCullough and CIAU Rookie of the Year, Danielle Bourgeois, were also named to the CIAU All Canadian Team. After a strong season finishing first in Canada West, the Pandas were focused on nationals. This championship was not going to be an easy task as they were slated to face off against the Concordia Stingers in their home barn for the semi final game. The team remembers the semi-final game to be the "unofficial" championship, as both teams put up a fight for their spot in the final. The shootout winning goal by captain Sue Huculak secured their spot in the final game where they defeated the McGill Marlets 2-0. Since then, the Pandas, led by Howie Draper, have amassed a remarkable record of seven CIAU/CIS Championships and is without a doubt the premier Women's Varsity program in Canada.



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Builder Category:

Leo Wurtz – Lloydminster, Alberta

A rare and remarkable accomplishment, Leo Wurtz in his 30 year career, officiated in 3,500 games including several international assignments. In addition to officiating, he assigned thousands of hockey games each winter ensuring quality officials were present for games all over North East Alberta and Northwest Saskatchewan. At one point, Wurtz was assigning 12 different junior and senior leagues plus Lloydminster Minor Hockey. When Wurtz was in charge, it didn't matter if you lived in Provost, Manville, Lac La Biche or anywhere else in his zone, he bent over backwards to accommodate everyone. Wurtz was a school teacher and took it upon himself to recruit, promote and mentor young officials. In 1987, Leo was presented with the North East Referee Zone Award for recognition of dedicated service to the zone. In 1990 he was presented with the Hockey Alberta Ernie Boruk Award in recognition of dedicated service to the Hockey Alberta Referee Committee. When Leo retired in 1990, the North East Zone created the Leo Wurtz award, to be presented annually for recognition of outstanding dedication and commitment to officiating.

Dave Manning – Red Deer, Alberta

Dave Manning began his coaching career in Red Deer in 1974, and continued to coach the Red Deer Major Midget team (now AAA) until the 1984-85 season. Under Manning's leadership, his teams won the Alberta Major Midget Championship title five times. His 1978-79 team also won the inaugural MAC'S tournament in Calgary. Manning's contributions to the hockey community didn't stop there. He served as a director on the Board of the Red Deer Athletic Association for 10 years where he was President of the organization for four years. He has also provided legal counsel to Hockey Alberta for 25 years, and the AJHL for 10 years. In 1992, Manning received the Red Deer Sportsman of the Year Award. Then in 1995, he sat on the World Junior Championship Host Committee which was successful in bringing the tournament to Red Deer that year. Manning's players speak of him as the most influential coach they have ever had. Not only a great coach, but a mentor, role model and leader.

Loretta Normandeau – Sherwood Park, Alberta

Loretta Normandeau has contributed over 20 years of service to female hockey and athlete development in Alberta. Normandeau was on Hockey Alberta's Female Council for 16 years from 1984-2000. During that time, she was also an instructor for Hockey Alberta development programs and involved with the Alberta Winter Games. She was Team Alberta's Assistant Coach at the 1991 Canada Winter Games where they captured the gold medal. In 1999, Normandeau took on the role of Director of Operations for the Canada Winter Games team that brought home the bronze medal. Her involvement with Team Alberta at the Canada Winter Games continued until 2003 where she worked with the coaching staff. She continued to be a coach mentor with the U18 program, and put in countless hours with the U18 regional and provincial camps. Normandeau also held positions in the Western Women's Hockey League, National Women's League, Edmonton Chimos, and Edmonton Capitals.



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Pioneer Category:

Edmonton Northlands - Edmonton, Alberta

Edmonton Northlands left a lasting mark in hockey history in Alberta. They were responsible for the first large spectator indoor rink in Edmonton in 1913. The Gardens would go on to host the Alberta senior champion Edmonton Flyers, Edmonton Eskimos, Edmonton Dominions, the legendary Edmonton Oil Kings and the Edmonton Oilers in their early World Hockey Association years. After the opening of Northlands Coliseum in 1974, the Edmonton Gardens was an antiquated 5,200 seat facility that was no longer needed. It was demolished and on the same site where it stood, the Northlands Agricom - which hosts a variety of trade fairs, sporting events, concerts and events was built. Northlands Coliseum hosted Canada Cup Games in 1981 and donated the net proceeds to Hockey Alberta which helped form the Hockey Alberta Foundation's scholarship program. Northlands was instrumental in helping the Alberta Cup, Hockey Alberta's premier male athlete development program, get off the ground in 1986 hosting it three years as the title sponsor. Prior to the Alberta Hockey Hall of Fame moving its location to the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame and Museum in Red Deer, it was housed within Edmonton's Northlands from 1982-1992. Hockey Alberta Life Member, George Houghes was General Manager of Northlands from 1976-1990.



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