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HOCKEY ALBERTA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Terry Engen
Hockey Alberta's Chairman of the Board

Every June at the Hockey Alberta Annual General Meeting (AGM), Hockey Alberta's membership vote to elect vacant positions with the Board of Directors. At the 2013 AGM, there was only one position to fill; Chairman of the Board.

Rob Virgil had served as Chair for the past year and as President for a year prior to that (when the Board was re-structured at the 2012 AGM, President changed to Chair). With Virgil's term expiring, he moved on and became Past-Chair.

Running unopposed, Terry Engen of Eckville, Alberta was named Hockey Alberta's new Chairman of the Board.

Engen already has a long history with Hockey Alberta and its Board of Directors. Engen became part of the Hockey Alberta team when he joined the Board. In 1999, he served as the Zone 4 Director and then

became Vice-President of Operations and Vice-President of Development. In 2005, he was elected President of Hockey Alberta for the first time. He was recently named Volunteer of the Year by Hockey Canada and has also travelled to China with a coaching delegation, hoping to share his knowledge.

"I felt that I still had the passion for the organization and the game with the multitude of change that are occurring presently," said Engen. "Recognizing that not only is the organization in the midst of a huge structural change but also the game is under tremendous pressure to accommodate new ideas and society's expectations. I believe I can still provide guidance and input through these changes."

Engen is the first person in Hockey Alberta's history to serve as President/Chairman of the Board twice.

LEN SAMLETZKI

1. Consultant
2. Saskatoon Blades and Edmonton Oilers
3. #1
4. CEO or CFO of a sport organization
5. None. They have all been learning experiences.
6. Cricket - looks like fun.
7. I would probably try most - except some of the extreme sports
8. I thought there was only one - Slap Shot

DAVE SEVALRUD:

1. Lawyer with Carscallen LLP
2. Right now; the University of Alaska-Anchorage Seawolves & Calgary McKnight Midget Mustangs where my sons play.
3. 5
4. I have it.
5. I have never had a job I did not like.
6. Heli-Skiing
7. Ultimate fighting
8. The Rocket

ROB VIRGIL

1. Standards Specialist with TELUS Communications
2. Any Team Canada or Team Alberta team, The Edmonton Oilers and Edmonton Oil Kings
3. 16 (one of my favorite player's number)
4. Jet pilot or golf pro
5. Digging electrical trenches in the winter by hand.
6. Bull Riding
7. Bull Riding
8. The Hockey Sweater by Roch Carriere. Not really a movie but definitely a classic short film.

FRAN ZINGER

1. Lawyer; practicing personal injury law exclusively
2. Oilers are my favorite pro team
3. #6
4. A golf pro on a tour or being a personal shopper
5. First full time job (for the summer after graduating from high school) as a waitress
6. Hang gliding or parachuting
7. High diving
8. No particular favorite

ROB LITWINSKI

1. Executive Director of Hockey Alberta (8 yrs)
2. Amateur: whatever teams my kids are on + NJ Devils (since 1982)
3. I am jersey #27 for Pylons Adult Rec team
4. I bet it would be safe to say this one, correct?
5. Removing Paint /repainting School Doors (summer job)
6. Cricket
7. UFC
8. Is it okay to say Slap Shot?

LAURY SCHMIDT

1. General Sales Manager of New West Truck Centers of Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat
2. Okotoks Oilers (AJHL)
3. #9
4. Lottery Administrator
5. Cutting an 11 year old from a Peewee Team
6. Surfing
7. UFC Fighting
8. Slap Shot (Original)

Back Row (L-R): Rob Litwinski, Dave Sevalrud, Laury Schmidt, Len Samletzki. Front Row (L-R): Fred Horbay, Fran Zinger, Terry Engen, Rob Virgil



1. What is your Full-Time Job?
2. What's your favourite hockey team, pro or amateur?
3. What would your jersey number be?
4. What is your dream job?
5. Least favourite job you've had?
6. What sport have you never tried that you'd like to try?
7. What sport would you never try?
8. Favourite hockey movie of all time?



TERRY ENGEN

1. Commissioner, Alberta Energy Regulator
2. Montreal
3. 7
4. Politician
5. Pipeline labourer
6. Fencing
7. Bull riding
8. Slap Shot

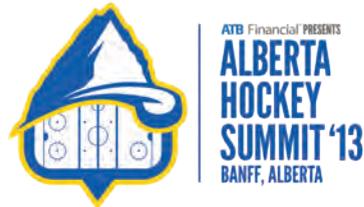
FRED HORBAY

1. Retired
2. Montreal Canadiens
3. 11
4. Golf Pro
5. Digging ditches
6. Kayaking
7. Extreme mountain climbing
8. ??????

SUMMIT CREATES OPEN DIALOGUE ON HOCKEY IN ALBERTA

BY | Nicole Starker

2013 was a landmark season for hockey in the province when Hockey Alberta, along with invested stakeholders Hockey Canada, the Calgary Flames, the Edmonton Oilers and the Western Hockey League created the Alberta Hockey Summit held on August 22-24 at the Banff Centre in Banff, Alta.



"With the game consistently evolving and changing, we felt it necessary, and that the timing was right to host a hockey summit in Alberta," said Hockey Alberta executive director Rob Litwinski. "It gave not only Hockey Alberta, but all involved in the game, the opportunity to meet collectively and open the dialogue on current topics and the future direction of hockey in Alberta and also on the greater scale."

The summit was developed with a roster of some of the greatest hockey minds in the country including opening speaker and former NHL goalie Ken Dryden, world renowned coach George Kingston, former NHLer Ryan Walter and Dr. Steve Norris, former vice president of WinSport Canada, Stanley Cup winning coach Ken Hitchcock and two-time Olympic gold medal winning coach Mel Davidson. Hockey leaders like Bob Nicholson of Hockey Canada, Patrick LaForge of the Edmonton Oilers, Ron Robison of the Western Hockey League, Bob Hartley and Jim Peplinski of the Calgary Flames and Rob Litwinski of Hockey Alberta participated in panel discussions on the future of the game in areas including player development, safety and recruitment.

Heading into the three-day summit, Western Hockey League commissioner Ron Robison

said there were two areas in particular that he hoped would be discussed - officiating and player safety.

"I think that we have done an excellent job in player development and in coaching development," said Robison. "But I believe we need to invest more of our time and attention in the area of officiating to ensure that the quality of officiating keeps pace with the quality of play."

Robison also hoped to focus in on providing the best possible environment to encourage participation and fun, and at the same time a competitive environment.

"We do a lot of research in the area of player safety and making sure that the environment is a positive one for the players, so sharing the information we have with the other constituents in Alberta."

Hockey Alberta is the first western province to host a hockey summit and Robison said the Western Hockey League was looking forward to discussing issue and ideas in the open forum that Hockey Alberta has fostered.

"We in the hockey system in Alberta share a responsibility to always challenge ourselves in how we can improve the game at every level," Robison said. "We are a major constituent who benefits from the great work that is done in the minor hockey system throughout the province, and we feel this is an opportunity for us to contribute to those discussions and debate the issues that are of concern to hockey constituents today in Alberta."

Hockey Quebec was the first Hockey Canada branch to deliver a provincial summit on the same scale as Hockey Alberta's Banff event. The Quebec summit was held in 2011 with the participation of the Montreal Canadiens and the Quebec Major Hockey League.

Hockey Alberta hosted seven small summit events around the province during the 2007-2008 season as part of Hockey Canada's Grassroots Summits initiative that saw every



branch host either one large summit or series of smaller regional summits.

The Alberta Hockey Summit was developed to include all members of the hockey community whether a player, coach, parent, official, or simply a fan, and over 200 tickets to the event were snapped-up by members of the public.

Increasing the number of hockey fans and membership in the hockey community is something Paul Carson, Hockey Canada's vice president of hockey development, said is crucial to the game.

"While there's a topic of leadership and there's a topic of player development, those are really foundational discussions around the critical piece - which is growing and sustaining the game," Carson said in an interview leading up to the Banff event. "I think our biggest challenge is that we have to understand the changing demographics of Canada, the nature of participation in sport and what hockey, like other sports, has to do to not only encourage and attract youngsters to the game, but also to keep them in the game."

Carson said the Western Hockey League, Calgary Flames and Edmonton Oilers participation in those talks is important because those organizations aren't simply concerned about elite players, they too are looking to build and grow the hockey community at the grassroots level.

"Those really high-end players that percolate to the top, they would never be able to do that without a system that supports entry and participation in sport, so (the Flames and Oilers) are more about that broader base and making sure that kids have a place to go, kids have a place to play," Carson said. "It's a community approach and I really believe that the Oilers and the Flames - that's what their development departments do is to give back to communities and programs to make sure that they're continuing to build that base of families and communities that contribute to the sport."

In an interview prior to the summit, Jim Peplinski, a former NHLer and current vice president of business development for the Calgary Flames said that he was looking forward to listening to the different perspectives and different ideas that the group assembled by Hockey Alberta would bring to the table. People like Ken Dryden, Ryan Walter, George Kingston and Dr. Steve Norris.

"To have people like that speak openly and frankly about what they see as it relates

to leadership and the development of the game and the development of the athlete," Peplinski said. "I think it's important to go and listen and to discuss what actions can come out of observations that intelligent, well-intentioned people make."

Both of Alberta's NHL teams lent their support to the event and Peplinski said the Flames organization wants to support these types of conversations about hockey.

"It's important to always have an open mind and get people together to talk about yesterday's game and today's game and what tomorrow's game is going to be."

Hockey is a team sport at every level and that sentiment was reflected in what the former Flames captain had to say about his take on the goals of the stakeholders around the table at the Alberta Hockey Summit.

"The objective is not perfection," said Peplinski. "The objective is to always look to improve and to try to assist others to do the same thing, because hopefully they're trying to assist you."





7 THEMES EMERGE FROM 2013 ALBERTA HOCKEY SUMMIT

BY | Jimmy Adams

Trying to consolidate two and half days of discussions and presentations on any topic can be difficult, especially when the discussion is based around providing clarity and direction in hockey. The 2013 Alberta Hockey Summit, presented by ATB Financial, brought the invested stakeholders of hockey in Alberta together in one room for the first time in the province's history. The invested stakeholders; Hockey Alberta, the Calgary Flames, the Edmonton Oilers, the Western Hockey League, and Hockey Canada, were joined by over 200 delegates.

The delegate group was made up of hockey minds from all levels of the game. There were volunteers from local minor hockey associations (LMHAs), representatives from the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS), the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC), sport schools, facility operators, hockey parents and many more.

After the presentations by the keynote speakers and discussion periods with panelists, seven themes emerged:

1 SHARED LEADERSHIP ACROSS SPORTS

Strive to be a stronger sport leader and use our leverage to influence government for better funding of all sports. Promote registration in multiple sports, reduce costs, lead perspective in the game that hockey isn't everything and work with those that are willing to accept change to deliver these objectives.

2 TRAIN OUR FUTURE LEADERS

Be intentional about developing hockey trailblazers by identifying potential leaders at younger ages and fostering their growth. Ways to accomplish this are to engage the education system and utilize stakeholders and partners to train hockey leaders under their personnel development.

"What we don't want to have happen in a sport that we all love, is get blindsided," said Associate Coach of the 2013 Canadian Men's National Team, Ken Hitchcock. "You want to look ahead and you want to do it with creativity but you also want to make sure you're working together."

3 STRENGTHEN BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS

Use the size of the game to leverage relationships with businesses who have a vested interest in the game and can help with initiatives.

"Hockey is a huge economic driver in Alberta; over \$418 million is spent each year in the economy through participation by Minor Hockey," said Hockey Alberta's Senior Manager of Business Development, Scott Robinson. "We need to use this leverage to get the attention of businesses and help them to understand hockey as a healthy, vibrant and growing sport is good for Alberta communities."

4 DEVELOP A MODEL FOR THE IDEAL LOCAL MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (LMHA)

Develop a model for hockey in Alberta built by hockey in Alberta. The model will establish metrics of success which emphasize the principles of Long-Term Athlete Development. Using technology to communicate and educate the stakeholders within the LMHA on the vision.

"I think the most important people are the LMHAs," said Managing Director of the NHL Coaches' Association, George Kingston. "They have the opportunity to influence every child, every young person to play the game. Come and enjoy hockey, come and participate in hockey. You can be a player, you can enjoy the experience of playing hockey."

5 REDUCE SYSTEM BIAS

Work to benefit a broader cross section of players by challenging the one-size-fits-all system that discourages participation.

"I don't think it's possible to shut off the more and more and more. If more is possible,

more will become the norm and has become the norm," said former NHLer and Hockey Hall of Fame member, Ken Dryden. "What then for that increased majority of people who are looking for less?"

6 OPEN THE DOORS TO NON-TRADITIONAL PARTICIPANTS

Market and brand the game to open the door to non-traditional markets. Change the perception that hockey is only for the elite and fully-committed by promoting the game as fun, family-friendly and flexible.

"I think it's really important to clarify what the objective of minor hockey is," said Calgary Flames' Vice-President of Business Development, Jim Peplinski. "Is it to create NHLers or is it come up with an activity that you can play until you're 80 years old?"

7 FOCUS ON THE PLAYER

Focus on making the game fun by developing programs designed for a player's need and shrinking the game to their size.

"Players are leaving the game, the number one reason, because they're not having any fun. They're finding another game that is more fun and occupies them. That to me, is a real tragedy," said Kingston.

The first hockey summit held in Canada was the Molson Open Ice Summit held in Toronto, Ontario during the summer of 1999. The primary focus of the event was to discuss player development in Canada where 11 recommendations were produced. Five years after the Open Ice Summit, Hockey Canada released a report on those initiatives. In summary, Hockey Canada stated it was difficult to speculate on the outcomes, as many of the programs that came from the event were just beginning to take shape and Hockey Canada was still in the marketing and promoting phase and just starting to grow at the grassroots levels.

Like the Open Ice Summit, the Alberta Hockey Summit was only a starting point. The planning and hosting of the event was the easy part according to Robinson.

"We'll be gathering the information we learned and the expert input we received then formulating action plans for impacting that change in the months and years ahead," said Robinson. "The Summit made it clear we need to change the way hockey is delivered in Alberta if we want it to grow, if we want to serve the athletes and communities in a positive and healthy way."

Full reports on the 2013 Alberta Hockey Summit are expected to be put together sometime in late 2013.

"We gained a lot of knowledge from this summit and we will be doing something with it," said Robinson.



ALBERTA HOCKEY SUMMIT FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

BY | **Troy Gillard**, News & Sports Director, Rebels Host for Big 105 and 107 The Drive in Red Deer

As I was leaving the Banff Centre following the ATB Financial Alberta Hockey Summit, I was thinking to myself about how best to sum up what the event was about. The answer hit me as soon as I looked at an envelope sitting on my desk.

CHALLENGE THE FUTURE.

Those three words on that envelope, right below the Hockey Alberta logo on the upper left corner, perfectly captured what the Summit was all about. How do we change the perceptions and eliminate the barriers that are pushing players away from minor hockey and keeping others from joining. How do we make sure everyone has fun being a part of Canada's game in this great province?

By now you have read about the seven themes that emerged from the Summit, so I will just touch on some of what stood out to me from the Summit keynote speeches. Ken Dryden asked "Do you want to make the future?" In order to do so we must learn from the past and understand the present. Definitely a great bit of introspective thinking.

Ryan Walter, in his speech on leadership, explained that leadership is in fact getting people to do what you want them to do because they want to do it. What a great way to get people involved in creating change!

Dr. Steve Norris touched on the idea of having kids take part in other sports and activities, outside of hockey, in order to help

keep the game fun and to help overall player development. This has long been a personal belief of mine and hearing Dr. Norris speak about it strengthened my convictions on this concept.

George Kingston emphatically said that the 'fun' needs to be brought back into teaching fundamentals. What more needs to be said? If it's not fun, kids aren't going to do it.

Having these great discussions and identifying the seven themes is a great start. But it can't be where it ends... get involved, folks! It is you the parent, player, coach, official, administrator and fan who is an important stakeholder in the game. As Rob Kerr emphatically told Summit delegates "We're all hockey players!" One way or another, we are all players in this game. And this Summit was about making the game as good as it possibly can be for the players. And as Scott Robinson with Hockey Alberta told Summit delegates "Leadership is a dialogue, not a monologue." He's right, folks. So let's keep the dialogue rolling.

Visit Hockey Alberta's website and download the powerpoints from keynote presentations by Ryan Walter, Dr. Norris, and George Kingston. Their wide range of thoughts is very interesting, informative, and hard-hitting. They helped kick start some important conversations and they certainly have me thinking about the game of hockey in ways I hadn't before the Summit.

Our game isn't broken, but it can always be better. And that's what the Summit, and these important discussions moving forward, is all about.



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HOCKEY COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER IN TIME OF NEED

UNBELIEVABLE RESPONSE FOR HOCKEY EQUIPMENT DRIVE IN WAKE OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA FLOODS; Q&A WITH TAMARA ROBBINS, THE WOMAN WHO STARTED IT ALL

BY | Andrew Chong



In the aftermath of the Southern Alberta floods, a Hockey Alberta zone representative initiated an equipment drive—and the support was extraordinary.

Tamara Robbins and her crew had so much support that they figured they be able to outfit a large portion - if not the entire - Foothills Minor Hockey Association.

From a closing-down sporting goods store that donated all their gear, to Hayley Wickenheiser spreading the word via Twitter—it was an unbelievable effort by the hockey community.

“[Tamara] was the catalyst and sent out an email to her colleagues within Hockey Alberta,” said Derek Harper, president of Foothills MHA. “It made its rounds on Hayley Wickenheiser’s Twitter account and, since then, it has been grown rapidly at a pace we could not control.”

“The actual support compared to the initial expectations has been overwhelming. I never anticipated the generosity from all over the country...It took the focus off of everyone’s hardships and it gave everyone hope, again... Without this opportunity, the registration numbers would have dropped substantially and we would potentially not have hockey this year.”

To complement the incredible work of the equipment drive at the grassroots level, Hockey Canada donated a \$250,000 registration assistance pledge, the NHLPA and RBC partnered to donate \$50,000 in equipment, and Bauer donated \$37,000 worth of new home and away jerseys.

“Equipment drives like this inspired additional flood relief efforts like Hockey Canada Foundation’s \$250,000 dollar registration assistance pledge that we, Hockey Alberta, helped them administer and distribute,” said Greg Pallister, manager at Hockey Alberta. “Gathering the registration assistance applications has called for a tremendous effort from all the volunteers involved. I believe Hockey Alberta and the Hockey Canada Foundation have done a great job of reaching out and assisting a large majority of those players in need.”

Talk about a success story; and it all started with an idea from Tamara Robbins.

AC: Tamara, how did this amazing journey begin?

TR: This all started when I ran into the Foothills Minor Hockey registrar a few days after the flood, while they were still evacuated. She started to tell me that she didn’t know if their community would be able to have hockey this season; the arena was

flooded, and they may have lost some of the association’s gear. She said, even if they could get everything replaced, she didn’t believe they would have players, as so many had lost their homes, their hockey gear, and with the insurance questions looming, this would be a low priority when you consider the magnitude of the situation.

Many families also had their businesses or places of work impacted, drastically.

I came home; thinking about my own family, and was heartbroken. For these children and their families, their lives have been turned upside down and now the children may not be able to play hockey.

I sat down and started thinking about it. Then, the idea came to me, as I thought, I have extra gear downstairs, if I could collect enough to help them out, we could at least dress them; then I thought, for those who may not have extra gear - if we can collect some financial donations to help bring the registration fees down - maybe we could get the children playing hockey and help heal this community, bring them some normal in all the chaos - to everyone - if they can go to the rink and forget about everything for even just for an hour or so, visit and watch hockey, that’s what its all about.

AC: So, how did you get the word out?

TR: I sat down and wrote an email and posted the letter on social media, explaining the situation and my goals with my requests for High River Hockey players. I sent it to all my hockey contacts and family and friends throughout Alberta. I have experienced this great hockey community in Alberta for the past 15 years, so I was very optimistic.

AC: And what were people’s initial reactions?

TR: The word spread quickly and the response was phenomenal. Then I received a call and was informed Hayley Wickenheiser was Tweeting about it. I was speechless—the queen of hockey had my email and was spreading it around.

AC: So, how did the equipment start coming in?

TR: Alberta really came forward; people started hockey equipment drives and so forth in Slave Lake, Fort Saskatchewan, Taber - plus, Shaunavon, Sask. - and many associations in Calgary—this was just the start. People were volunteering throughout the province to help - especially Calgary, who also had been affected from the floods and wanted to help—equipment drives, hockey tournaments & fundraisers. Within the first week, I had to find a hall to store everything—my garage was full. Vince Miller with the High River Junior B team found me a hall, free of charge, for the summer. Then,

calls and emails started to come in from across Canada, equipment came out from as far as Stirling, Ont. Telus then came on board with volunteers and a financial donation to the association.

AC: How did Hockey Canada come on board?

TR: I had calculated the average cost for players in High River and the number of players affected and it was going to cost approximately \$110,000 to cover their registrations. I received a call from Hockey Canada; they wanted to know the costs and informed me they were going to donate \$250,000 to all players affected from the flood in Southern Alberta to pay for their registration fees.

AC: And what was your reaction at that point?

TR: We did it. We had a lot of the gear and hockey fees covered. I then received a call from the NHLPA. Devin asked where donations were lacking? I explained I am concerned with used helmets as a safety issue; also, we did not have enough used bags or sticks to give everyone. He called me back and informed me they had partnered up with RBC and were donating \$50,000 worth of equipment for all players in the minor hockey association. They supplied brand new helmets, sticks, bags and gloves for all 304 players.

AC: In the end, how much equipment did you collect?

TR: We had enough gear to completely dress all hockey players in High River from head to toe: skates, socks, jerseys, shin pads, pants, chest protector, elbow pads, gloves, and helmet. And that’s for minor hockey, Junior B, coaches, senior men, ladies, and children that just want to play hockey on the pond. We also took out two truck-and-trailer loads with enough gear to dress 200 players with Siksika First Nations. And all players that were affected by the floods had their registration covered. We had surpassed the goals by a mile—this could have not been done without this great hockey community we live in throughout Canada.

AC: Looking back at all that transpired, what are your conclusions?

TR: This experience has changed my life. What started as a need to help the children and the community turned into so much more than that. The response across this country from a hockey parent to a large organization—everyone came together to help this community. You have to remember, also, this was off-season - summer holidays - so to have so much involvement was beyond words. I will never be able to put into words how it felt that day, watching the hockey players dress-up and the families chatting hockey. I felt so privileged to have been a part of that date.

MORGAN KLIMCHUK'S PATH TO THE NHL

KLIMCHUK CLIMBS HOCKEY RANKS IN WILD ROSE COUNTRY, ALL THE WAY TO NHL DRAFT

BY | Jimmy Adams

Morgan Klimchuk was born in Regina, Saskatchewan, lived in Calgary, played in the Calgary Buffaloes system, drafted by the Regina Pats, represented Team Alberta at the Canada Winter Games before moving on to play for Team Canada at the Ivan Hlinka Memorial Tournament and again at the IIHF World U18 Championships. In his NHL draft year, he scored 76 points in 72 games and was subsequently drafted by an Alberta-based NHL team in the first round.

Klimchuk got his start with the Team Alberta program at the 2010 Alberta Cup (now known as the ATB Alberta Cup), scoring nine points in five games while suiting up for the Calgary South Flames. At the 2011 Canada Winter Games, Klimchuk donned the Team Alberta jersey for the first time, finishing with three goals and an assist in six games helping Alberta win a bronze medal.

"I really enjoyed the opportunity [to play for Team Alberta] and learned a lot," said Klimchuk. "You get to wear your jersey in front of all the scouts and get to see how you stack up against top talent in your area."

The Team Alberta program is designed to lead athletes into Hockey Canada's Program of Excellence. 160 athletes compete at the ATB Alberta Cup, after which they are invited to participate in one of Hockey Alberta's week-long camps, Team Alberta U16 Provincial Camp or Team Alberta Elite Development Camp. Through high intensity on and off-ice training, players are given the chance to develop their skills as hockey players and people.

Once the camps are done in the summer time, Team Alberta short lists the Top 35 players in the province. Those players are then scouted with their club teams, in Klimchuk's case, the Calgary Buffaloes, until the Under-16 team is named.

"It was pretty nerve-racking because I had never really been through that and you're not really sure where you fit in. You get to see how the team is going to shape up as players get turned down so you just have to keep battling through the cuts," he explains.

The U16 Program strives to create an environment where players, coaches, trainers and administrators can meet new friends, compete with peers and approach levels of commitment and excellence everyone has the potential to achieve.

"It's pretty special; to wear the Team Alberta jersey is one thing and it was an honour but the friendships make it all the more special," says Klimchuk.

After competing at the Canada Winter Games in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Klimchuk continued to progress within the Team Alberta Program. He was invited to participate in the Under-17 Provincial Camp where he would be identified as one of the Top 11 players from Alberta and named to the Team Pacific roster that would compete at the World Under-17 Hockey Challenge. He would finish the tournament second in team scoring with six points in five games, good enough to be sixth in scoring among

Canadian-born players.

"The Team Alberta program prepares you for what to expect with Team Canada, the preparation it takes to get ready for games and practices and how seriously you have to take things," said Klimchuk.

The World U17 Hockey Challenge is the first step of Hockey Canada's Program of Excellence, giving Hockey Canada their first opportunity to evaluate the country's top 110 athletes.

Following his appearance with Team Pacific, Klimchuk would wear the Team Canada crest twice in his NHL draft year. His first taste of hockey as a member of the national team would yield him a gold medal at the Ivan Hlinka Memorial Tournament before the 2012-13 season. His second showing would

// HEARING YOUR NAME IN THE FIRST ROUND AND HEARING IT CALLED FROM YOUR HOMETOWN TEAM IS SOMETHING YOU DREAM OF AS KID AND SOMETHING I'LL NEVER FORGET. //

also result in a gold medal at the 2013 IIHF World U18 Championships, where he was among tournament scoring leaders with eight points in seven games, tied for second on Team Canada.

That event ended just less than two months before the 2013 NHL Draft in New Jersey. Going into the draft, Klimchuk was ranked 25th among North American skaters and his hometown team, the Calgary Flames had three picks in the first round, two of which were acquired in trades with the St. Louis Blues and Pittsburgh Penguins, so they were late in the round.

With Calgary's final first round pick, 28th overall, Morgan Klimchuk heard his name called by General Manager, Jay Feaster. Klimchuk was the 19th North American skater taken.

"It was pretty special," says Klimchuk. "Hearing your name in the first round and hearing it called from your hometown team is something you dream of as kid and something I'll never forget."

When asked what he was thinking while he was making his way down to the stage, Klimchuk jokes that he had to tell himself not

to fall, "I knew a lot of people were watching but there were a lot of emotions going through my head."

Meanwhile on TV, TSN's Hockey Analyst Ray Ferraro compared Klimchuk to the 1983 Calder Memorial Trophy winner, Steve Larmer, a remark that wowed Pierre McGuire and Bob McKenzie, the other analysts.

"Wow... that's a tremendous hockey player, Steve Larmer, one of the better, unsung players that's played in the National Hockey League in the last 25 years," claimed McGuire.

"The scouts always like to get perspective from the peers, guys they play with and against... the scouts I talked to said that, over and over again, players said Morgan

Klimchuk is a guy they respect, they like playing with and find hard to play against," said McKenzie

There was one other player Ferraro mentioned at the draft; Jordan Eberle of the Edmonton Oilers.

Klimchuk and Eberle have become good friends and training partners, but they've also followed very similar hockey paths.

Eberle was born in Regina, Saskatchewan, lived in Calgary, played in the Calgary Buffaloes system, drafted by the Regina Pats, represented Team Alberta at the Canada Winter Games before moving on to play for Team Canada at the Ivan Hlinka Memorial Tournament and again at the IIHF World U18 Championships. In his NHL draft year, he scored 75 points in 70 games and was subsequently drafted by an Alberta-based NHL team in the first round. He went on to play a major role with Team Canada at the World Junior Championship and World Championship and scored 156 points in 195 games in his first three NHL seasons.

"If I can become half the player and half the person that Jordan is, that's an honour in of itself," says Klimchuk.

HIGH HOPES FOR 'HEFFS'

SKY'S THE LIMIT FOR ALBERTA UNDER-18 STAR

BY | Andrew Chong

There's an Alberta female hockey star on the rise and it doesn't look like anything can stop her ascent.

Sherwood Park's Karly Heffernan had her first big starring moment when she scored the gold medal-winning overtime goal for Canada against Team USA in the final of the Women's World U-18 Championship in Finland, this past January.

The 17-year-old forward had two goals and four points in five tournament games.

And there's sure to be plenty more where that came from.

“[THE OLYMPICS ARE] DEFINITELY MY ULTIMATE GOAL BUT FOR RIGHT NOW I'M FOCUSING ON GETTING TO THE NEXT LEVEL AND BEING THE BEST I CAN WITH THE U-18S.”

Heffernan is playing for Kelowna, B.C.'s Pursuit of Excellence Hockey Academy, this season.

The Grade 12 student was an elite goal-scorer in the Junior Women's Hockey League last season, scoring 28 goals and 44 points in 31 games with Calgary's Edge Mountaineers—six of her goals were game-winners.

HARVARD-BOUND

Verbally committed to Harvard for the 2014/15 season, Heffernan has already become quite familiar with the NCAA Division I program and the school, itself.

“Harvard is obviously an amazing school, but it wasn't the label that drew me towards it,” she said. “It's the academics, coaching, team, and atmosphere.”

“I've visited Harvard, every summer now, and every summer I go back, I feel completely at home. It's almost surreal to be in this position, so it's nice to take a step back and look at everything and take nothing for granted.”

At press time, Heffernan had her fingers crossed, waiting to hear official word on her acceptance to the school, with the big news expected to come in November.

NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

Heffernan is looking ahead to some more big dates in November, with the 2013 National Women's Under-18 Championship, Nov. 6 to 10 in Calgary.

Heffernan believes Team Alberta can definitely be a contender for the gold in their home province.

“I expect a lot from this year's Team Alberta experience,” she said. “Winning gold is the ultimate goal and I see so much potential in our team. We aren't all skill—we have a lot of

grit and passion for the game.”

“We definitely have every piece to the puzzle which was what I felt we were lacking the past few years. Our coaches are confident in us and our biggest thing, as a team, right now, is believing we can do it. Being the hosts of Nationals will allow for an amazing atmosphere and it will be so nice to play in front of family and friends. I'm just really excited to be apart of it with this group of staff and girls.”

BECOMING A COMPLETE PLAYER

Heffernan is lauded for her speed and goal-scoring ability, but she has been particularly conscientious in working-on a more complete game.

“A few years ago, some may have known me as a toe drag queen but since then I've been growing towards an all-around player,” she said. “Don't get me wrong, I love nothing more than scoring goals and winning but I have learned to use my skill set in the defensive zone in order to be able to be more offensively effective.”

“I love making plays and I feel I see the ice well; but again, I'm learning to grow as an all around player so I'm trusted in all aspects of the ice.”

THE BIGGEST DREAM OF ALL

Heffernan will turn 18-years-old, the day before the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. And no doubt, as she watches Canada's national women's team compete, she will have visions of the 2018 Olympics running through her mind.

It's arguably the ultimate for any female hockey player.

QUICK HITS: KARLY HEFFERNAN, TEAM CANADA U-18 WOMEN

Hollywood crush: country singer, Luke Bryan

Favourite NHL player: Pavel Datsyuk, Detroit Red Wings

Favourite pro team: Edmonton Oilers

Favourite goal you've scored: U-18 gold medal OT-winner

Biggest JWHL rival: Okanagan Hockey Academy

Favourite female player: Meghan Agosta

Started hockey at what age: 3

Favourite school subject: Math

Non-hockey hobby/interest: Jogging and spending time with family

Nickname teammates give you: Heffs

And as Heffernan has shown prowess and ability in playing for Team Canada's Under-18 squad, she is definitely on the radar as a future member of the women's national team.

I asked her where she plans to be in February 2018. She has an idea, but isn't getting too caught-up in the idea, just yet.

“Well, hopefully Korea,” she said, laughing. “It's definitely my ultimate goal but for right now I'm focusing on getting to the next level and being the best I can with the U-18s, then building from there.”

“Being with the Hockey Canada program and Team Alberta has taught me so much as to who I am as a person and what I need to do in order to achieve anything in life. They've given me all the tools in order to succeed and now it's all hard work and mindset from here and I'm loving every second of the journey.”



PLAYING OTHER SPORTS HELPS HOCKEY PLAYERS IMPROVE

BY | Mark Janzen

Recently, two Western Hockey League general managers - Scott Bonner of the Vancouver Giants and Brent Sutter of the Red Deer Rebels - have aired their anxiety about the state of hockey and the current era of uber-specialization.

They believe the relatively new idea of a one-sport focus is a detriment to the game.

"It's good for guys to get away from the game," Bonner said. "Last year, some of our guys were playing basketball and it was shocking how bad some of them were. We're in an era in which hockey players are becoming one-dimensional at a young age. I think society is at risk of losing a generation of quality all-around athletes and it's a dangerous precedent."

In a story written in the Edmonton Journal in early 2013, Sutter made his position on the matter clear.

"You just don't have as many players today that are as good athletes as they used to be," Sutter told the Edmonton Journal. "Too much today, especially in young players, is focused on hockey 12 months a year. They don't play soccer, they don't play baseball or tennis or the other things that people used to do."

"It is so noticeable on a hockey team that the kids who have played other sports and experienced different things are always the smarter players on your team, and they are able to handle adversity better."

PROOF THAT MULTI-SPORT ATHLETES CAN THRIVE IN HOCKEY

There are few teams in the WHL that can rival the lineage of talented stars produced by Bonner's Giants.

For five years in particular, from 2005 to 2010, the Giants churned-out the likes of budding NHL stars Milan Lucic of the Boston Bruins, Evander Kane of the Winnipeg Jets and, most recently, Brendan Gallagher of the Montreal Canadiens.

Not surprisingly, all three have one thing in common: a sporting passion away from the rink.

As teenagers, Lucic was boxer, Kane was a soccer-playing striker and Gallagher was a

baseball player.

"Hockey doesn't become mundane," Bonner said. "You don't necessarily have to play (these other sports) at a high level. I would just suggest they enjoy other sports, meet other people and work to become a more well-rounded person."

ATHLETICISM AT THE CORE OF THE ELITE HOCKEY PLAYER

If there's one person who is most qualified to discuss the how-to of developing hockey players, it's Peter Twist.

The founder and CEO of Twist Conditioning has coached over 700 pro athletes and mentored thousands of young players.

"Without question, the best athletes rise to the top," Twist said. "Elite hockey requires a plethora of physical ingredients and movement strategies that are best grown and compiled from varied sport participation."

"The body and mind would appreciate variety and, really, at an early age, you don't know which sport a child even has the best potential to excel in, or which one best lights his fire."

THE CORNER PIECE: MENTAL VARIETY

Dr. Douglas Smith, working with Pro Mind Sports Psychology, is a leading psychologist Ontario who has

worked with professional and elite-level athletes for the last 20 years. For Smith, life is all about striking a balance.

"Sometimes, I think we get too narrow with one sport and see it as do or die," Smith said. "Playing different sports allows the player to stay fresh and enjoy life even when things don't go so well with hockey."

Recently, Smith has been working with a few elite level hockey players. This summer, he is encouraging them to get away from the rink and try something completely new. And forget even baseball or soccer. How about whitewater rafting or canoeing or kayaking?

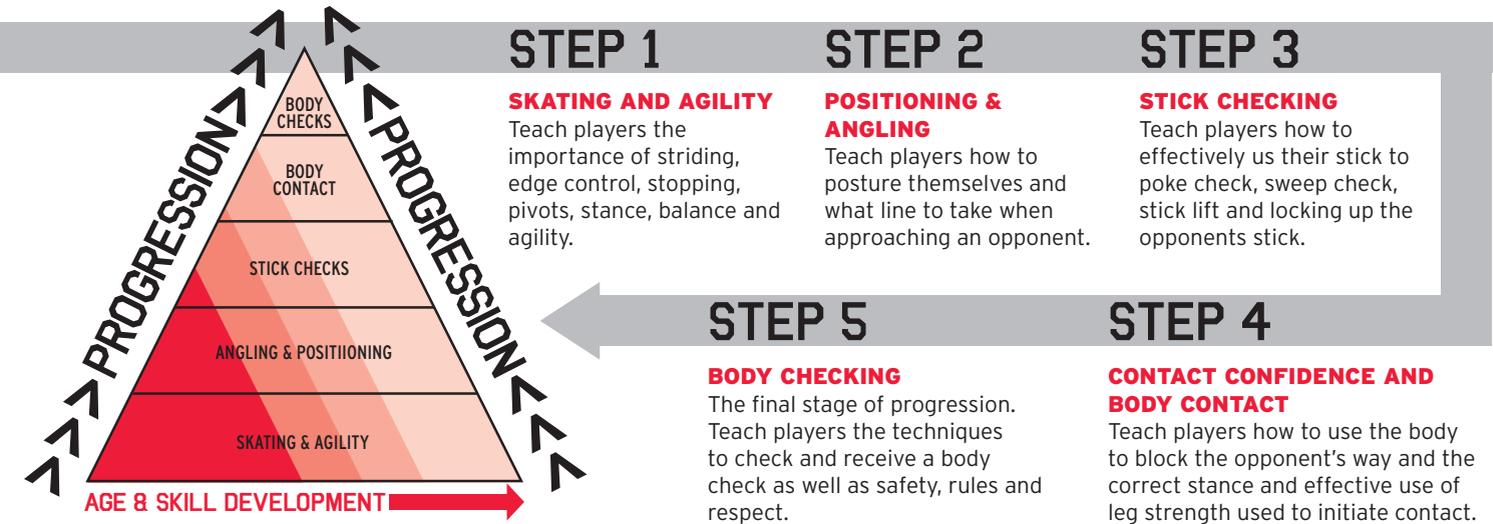
"Let kids have fun," Smith said. "When you get to be an adult, then you can be a professional. But even then, when (adults) haven't learned that balance as a kid, they have major problems, which I'm dealing with a lot. And then, when they're not playing well or their team isn't playing well, it's like the end of the world."



POINT BLANK:

QUICK SHOTS FROM THE BODY CHECKING RULE CHANGE IN ALBERTA

Hockey Alberta's Board of Directors approved a motion from the Body Checking Review Committee in April 2013, to remove body checking at the peewee level starting in the 2013-14 season.



66,800

Registered male and female players in Alberta playing minor hockey.

12,000+

Registered coaches and team officials in Alberta.

BODY CHECKING

vs.

BODY CONTACT

Body Checking: An attempt by a player to gain an advantage on the opponent with the use of the body. Body checking results when two opposing players collide while skating in opposite direction or when positioning and angling allow the checker to use the force of the body to gain the advantage.

Body Contact: Incidental contact of two opposing players in pursuit of the puck or position on the ice in the same direction. Body contact occurs as a result of movement by the offensive player. There must be no action where the offensive player is pushed, checked or shoved into the boards.

70%

of all minor hockey across Canada is being played without body checking, including male and females of all levels and abilities.

There is a 4 fold **INCREASED RISK** of concussion in Peewee Hockey players in leagues where body checking is allowed compared to leagues where it is not allowed.

DR. STEVEN NORRIS: STUDENT OF THE GAME

BY | Derrick Newman

"What it takes to become a champion is very different than what it takes to be a champion."

This is what Dr. Steven Norris, a renowned sports scientist, firmly believes regarding the process of developing athletes in the 21st century.

"One of the things is that we rush to make hockey look like the adult game but we don't understand that we haven't put the building blocks in place to be able to play the game," Norris said. "Just because that's the way it's always been done doesn't mean it's the best way and the most appropriate."

Before taking the job as vice president of sport at WinSport Canada in Calgary, Norris was a critical behind-the-scenes player in the past three Winter Olympics and helped play a key role in the Own the Podium high performance and technical program from 2005 to 2010.

"Many of the deficiencies in technical acumen are because we tend to rush - imposing an adult game on youngsters - at a time when you also have to superimpose gross maturation differences, and particularly at critical ages."

The former Director of Performance and Strategy with the Canadian Sport Institute views hockey, and all other sports, in the realm of performance arts and believes parent education is at the forefront of changing the way child athletes develop.

"Dr. Cal Botterill, a very eminent sport psychologist, is often quoted as saying: 'Sport allows us to care passionately about something that doesn't really matter.' I think he says that kind of tongue and cheek," Norris said, pointing out that sport, like art, is a very important aspect of people's lives.

"The aspect of sport at the highest end is about pushing those boundaries; how far can we go? And then as you come down through the development ranks it's almost a microcosm of life. Life itself is this athletic event and every child is an athlete. If we are lucky we have about 80 years on the planet. It's largely aerobic endurance type activities, wandering around, jogging here and there. Sporadically we have some lifting and some sprints thrown in for fun. That's life."

The British sports scientist is adamant to point out that sports have some harsh realities for parents and children alike to learn and it's about understanding those realities that will enable the athlete to succeed in life.

"What the parents have to do is instill in children some of the values that sport can teach them. And if they are lucky enough to have both the attitude and desire to be one of those few that go to the Olympics or makes a professional career out of it, then so be it."

He constantly points to the more prevalent issues in this day and age that we specialize too early in a child's life, where as we should be doing the exact opposite.

"We've moved very rapidly into this age and parents are caught up in the trap of thinking that more is better. They want to put all their resources into one activity at very early ages and not understand the process of

doing as many things as possible initially and gradually specializing.'

"What I tend to see with increasing frequency is kids that can't throw or catch or can't run. They might look quite good as a young skier or young hockey player but there are too many cracks or deficiencies so what actually happens is parents actually limit where their child can ultimately get to. We have to put a lot more time into parent education," Norris said despite stating that he thinks some organizations are getting better in this aspect.

comes through the brutally honest truth that child sport has quickly become adult entertainment.

"It's because of what people want to watch. We rush everything and we don't teach anything effectively. Personally, I'm fed up as a professional dealing with 23-year-old defencemen at the highest level of the game that can't even skate backwards because people haven't spent the time early on to do that. We just are not students of the process."

WE RUSH TO MAKE HOCKEY LOOK LIKE THE ADULT GAME BUT WE DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT WE HAVEN'T PUT THE BUILDING BLOCKS IN PLACE TO BE ABLE TO PLAY THE GAME.

Norris continually makes it clear that parents far too often focus on what the professional game looks like and they try to mirror that for the 10-year olds going out on a Saturday morning at the community rink.

"What does hockey look like for a vast majority of participants? Although we focus on the professional game, that's not necessarily the real game that everyone plays. Can we manage to be all things to everyone that plays the game and understand where certain decisions have to be made? It's not simply one-size fits all. It's a blend. It's slight alterations that really fit what the different demographic require."

"Many of the very important discussions degenerate into emotional arguments rather than necessarily looking at the facts."

Furthermore, when asked to discuss the new bodychecking rules in Pee wee hockey, Norris is quick to say that the emotional discussion



GOLDEN MOMENTS

ALBERTA TEAMS STOCKPILE MEDALS IN 2012/13, HIGHLIGHTED BY THREE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

BY | Jimmy Adams & Andrew Chong

It was an unprecedented year for Alberta hockey on the national stage in 2013.

Three out of four national championships were won by Alberta teams: the Bentley Generals, the Red Deer Optimist Chiefs and the Brooks Bandits were named the best teams in the country over the course of April and May. In the fourth National Championship, the Midget AAA Female Edmonton Thunder also won the bronze medal.

And if that wasn't enough, the SSAC Southgate Lions won the Western Canadian Bantam championship and the Okotoks Bisons earned bronze at Keystone Cup, Western Canada's Junior B championship.

It was a quite a season, to say the least.

BENTLEY GENERALS CAPTURE ALLAN CUP

It started with the Senior AAA Bentley Generals in mid-April. The Gens hosted the Allan Cup at the Red Deer Arena and went into the event as one of the favourites. After getting through the Rosetown Redwings and the Kenora Thistles in the preliminary round they were awarded a bye into the semi-finals. The Generals would face the Thistles again in the semi-final, winning by a score of 3-2 to reach the Allan Cup final for the fourth time since 2009, when they last won the Allan Cup, and fifth time since 2008. The championship final was set between Bentley and the Clarenville Caribous, who were looking for their second title in just three years.

The Generals' Chris Neiszner started the scoring in the final, 14 minutes into the second period which was followed up four minutes later on a goal from Scott Doucet to make it 2-0. In the third period, Keenan Desmet would give the Generals a 3-0 lead and Dan Bakala would hang on to the 35 save shutout, making the Generals the fifth host team in the last decade to win the Allan Cup.

"Winning the Allan Cup in Red Deer; in front of our friends and family was a special

moment, and to win it with the great group of guys that we had made it extra special," said Generals Head Coach, Brandin Cote. "It's something that we'll all remember for the rest of our lives."

RED DEER OPTIMIST CHIEFS REPEAT AT TELUS CUP

The following week, the Midget AAA Red Deer Optimist Chiefs made their way to Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario on a quest to defend their 2012 Telus Cup Championship. In 2012, the Chiefs won in dramatic fashion, coming back from a 5-1 deficit to win 6-5 in double overtime.

After a 2-1-2 preliminary round, the Chiefs found themselves facing the Saskatoon Contacts in the semi-final, one of the teams they tied with in the prelims. They made short work of them, winning 5-1 and setting up a final against the Ottawa Jr. 67's, the other team they had tied in the prelims.

Red Deer, much like the Generals, would win the championship on a shutout performance from their goalie. Matt Zentner faced 27 shots and stopped them all while his team used five different scorers to take a 5-0 victory.

Chase Thudium, Trey Degraaf, Ryker Leer, Chris Gerrie and Ian McLellan scored the goals in the win, making Red Deer just the fourth team to ever repeat as Telus Cup champions in history.

Thudium opened the scoring on a late powerplay goal in the first period. Early in the second period, Degraaf and Leer would score just over a minute apart to make it 3-0. Gerrie would put the Chiefs up 4-0 later in the second, in a period which saw Red Deer outshoot the 67's 24-7.

The Chiefs though, knew all too well that a four-goal lead going into the third period might not be safe. The Chiefs would make sure that a comeback wouldn't happen, when McLellan added the fifth goal with 6:21 left in the third.

"It was great to win and to know all the

hard work we put in as a team had paid off. Knowing that we accomplished our ultimate team goal of winning a National Championship, the feeling was almost surreal," said Leer. "Scoring a goal in the championship game was a great feeling and knowing that people all around the country saw it on TSN made the moment that much more special."

BROOKS BANDITS WIN PRESTIGIOUS RBC CUP

The Brooks Bandits, who tore up the Alberta Junior Hockey League during the regular season, finishing the campaign with a 53-4-3 record, setting league records for wins and points during a season. They spent the final 22 weeks of the season as the top-ranked Canadian Junior Hockey League team, never dropping below the number two spot at any point in the season.

After winning the AJHL league championship, Brooks faced off in the first ever Western Canada Cup, bringing together the winners of the BCHL, AJHL, SJHL, MJHL as well as the host Nanaimo Clippers. The Bandits would clinch top spot in that event as well, but still had to win one of its final two games to earn a berth at the RBC Cup. After missing on their first chance, losing to the Surrey Eagles, the Bandits would blank Yorkton to get to the RBC Cup for the first time in the team's history.

Brooks proved why they were one of the country's top teams quickly in the preliminary round, winning its first two games by a combined score of 13-4 and finishing the round with a 3-1 record, their only loss coming to the hands of the Summerside Western Capitals.

They would face the Minnesota Wilderness in the semi-final, a team they had beat by a score of 6-2 on day two of the event. The Bandits went into the third period down two goals and eventually would score the tying goal with their goalie pulled and 48 seconds left in the third. They'd pull out the win in overtime on a goal by Mark Reners, setting up a rematch against the host Summerside Western Capitals.

Anthony Pretuzzelli would score the opening goal for Brooks just over seven minutes in, and Dakota Mason would double the lead just over a minute later. The Western Capitals would cut the lead halfway through the period. The 2-1 score would hold until late in the third period until Brooks' captain and national player of the year honouree, Cam MacIse, would add an empty netter to give the Bandits a 3-1 victory.

The Brooks Bandits are the eighth team from the AJHL to win the Canada's National Junior A Championship, the first team to do it since Camrose last won in 2001, and therefore completing the National Championship Hat Trick for Alberta.

EDMONTON THUNDER WIN BRONZE AT ESSO CUP

Representing the Pacific region at the Midget female national championship, the Edmonton Thunder took home the bronze medal.

The Thunder knocked-off the Regina Rebels (West), 1-0 in the bronze medal game at Bill Copeland Sports Centre in Burnaby, B.C.

Elizabeth Salyn (Edmonton, Alta.) scored the lone goal midway through the third period.

SSAC SOUTHGATE LIONS WIN WESTERN CANADIAN BANTAMS

The SSAC Southgate Lions won the Western Canadian Bantam championships in Kindersley, Sask., with a win over cross-provincial rivals, the North Shore Winter Club Winterhawks (North Vancouver, B.C.)

It was a bit of redemption for SSAC; in January, the Southgate Lions reached the final of the John Reid Memorial Tournament, only to lose to North Shore in overtime.

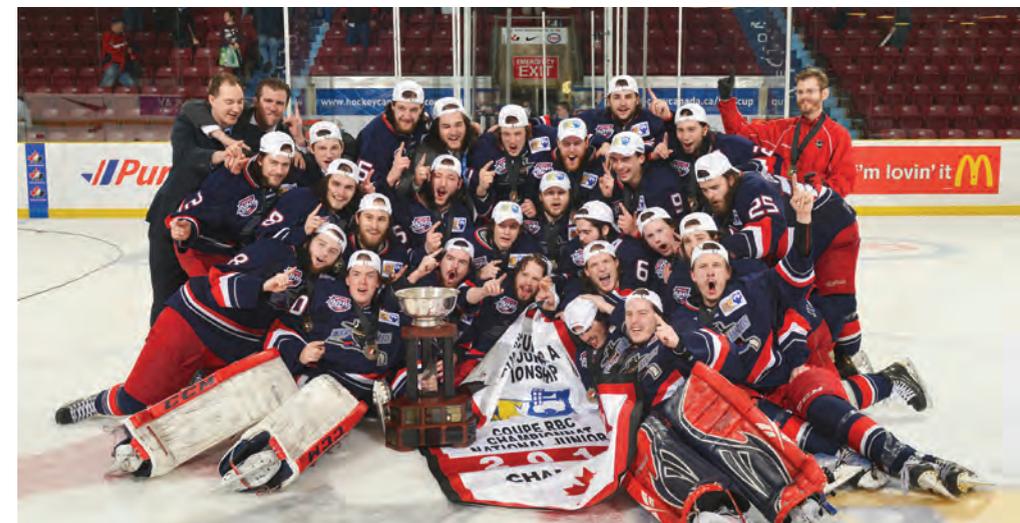
In the final game of Westerns, the Lions won the championship with a 5-3 victory.

OKOTOKS BISONS EARN BRONZE AT KEYSTONE CUP

The Okotoks Bisons finished their season with an 11-4 win over the Peguis Juniors to capture a bronze medal at the Keystone Cup, the Western Canadian Junior B championship.

The Bisons reached the bronze medal game with a 2-1-1 record.

B.C.'s Richmond Sockeyes won the Western Canadian Junior "B" Hockey title with a 5-2 win over the Saskatoon Royals in the gold medal final.



CHANGES TO THE ALBERTA WINTER GAMES PROGRAM

The 2014 Alberta Winter Games will be hosted in the beautiful mountain towns of Banff and Canmore, February 6th to 9th, 2014. The Games are held every two years, opposite of the Summer Games, and this year will involve 19 sports.

Hockey is one of those sports, but this year the event will be slightly different on the male side. In past years, the male event was a peewee club team competition. Meaning local peewee teams from around the province competed to represent their zone at the Alberta Winter Games.

This year, Hockey Alberta and the Team Alberta Program has gotten involved with the Alberta Winter Games. Like the female program, the male program will now be a select team event. All peewee players born in 2001 will be eligible to try-out for the chance to be one of 20 athletes to represent their zone.

"The change aligns with the Learn to Train stage of the Long Term Player Development Model, allowing Hockey Alberta to provide guidance to players and coaches in a positive developmental environment," said Hockey Alberta's Manager of Hockey Development, Justin Fesyk.

The female event is held in opposite years of the ATB Alberta Challenge and is the first stage of the Team Alberta Female Program. Female players born from 1999-2002 are eligible to try-out. After the event, 60 athletes are invited to attend the Team U16 Female summer development camp.

The Alberta Winter Games were established in 1974 as multi-sport event to provide develop opportunities for amateur athletes and help them advance their skills in a competitive yet friendly environment. The Alberta Winter Games will host over 2800 athletes, coaches and referees all participating in 24 different sports such as: badminton, wrestling, squash and more.

Female Program Dates:

Selection Camp: Nov. 29 - Dec. 1, 2013
Team Training: Jan. 25 or 26, 2014

2013-14 HOCKEY ALBERTA EVENT SCHEDULE

Date	Event	Category	Location
OCT 31 - NOV 3, 2013	Western Canada U16 Challenge Cup	Team Alberta Under-16 Male	Calgary, AB
NOV 4 - 10, 2013	World Junior A Challenge	Junior A	Yarmouth, NS
NOV 6 - 10, 2013	National Women's U18 Championship	Team Alberta Under-18 Female	Calgary, AB
DEC 26, 2013 - JAN 5, 2014	IIHF World Junior Championship	Under-20 Male	Malmö, Sweden
DEC 29, 2013 - JAN 4, 2014	World U17 Hockey Challenge	Team Pacific Under-17 Male	Cape Breton, NS
FEB 6 - 9, 2014	Alberta Winter Games	Under-14 Male & Under-16 Female	Banff/Canmore, AB
TBA	Western Canadian Sledge Hockey Tournament	Sledge Hockey	Leduc, AB
MAR 8 - APR 6, 2014	Investors Group Hockey Alberta Provincials	Atom - Senior Male and Female	VARIOUS
APR 10 - 13, 2014	Western Canadian Shield (Regional Championship)	Senior A & B Female	Calgary, AB
APR 14 - 19, 2014	Allan Cup (National Championship)	Senior AAA Male	Dundas, ON
APR 20 - 27, 2014	Esso Cup (National Championship)	Midget AAA Female	Hamilton, ON
APR 21 - 27, 2014	Telus Cup (National Championship)	Midget AAA Male	Moose Jaw, SK
APR 24 - 27, 2014	ATB Alberta Cup	Under-16 Male	Strathmore, AB
MAY 10 - 18, 2014	RBC Cup (National Championship)	Junior A Male	Vernon, BC

Male Program Dates:

Selection Camps: Dec. 6-8, 2013



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Stettler

SYLVESTRES'
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Source For Sports®
High Level

TOP
Source For Sports®
Lloydminster

JASPER
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MAKING IT HAPPEN:

THE ROAD TO PROVINCIALS

BY | Jimmy Adams

Every March, with the help of many volunteers and Minor Hockey Associations, Hockey Alberta hosts the Investors Group Hockey Alberta Provincials. In total, 45 provincial champions are crowned with more than 6,000 players and 400 teams participating. What doesn't happen every March though, are massive snow storms that shut down highways across the province.

On March 21st, 2013 much of northern and central Alberta was struck with such a storm. Reports indicate over 25 centimeters of snowfall, resulting in slippery road conditions with low visibility. The worst came on the QEII Highway, where a pileup left over 100 people injured. Alberta Transportation was forced to close many sections of highways all the way east to the Saskatchewan border.

About one hour northeast of Edmonton, the small community of Redwater was busily getting ready to host the Pee wee C provincials. They were expecting teams from Sundre, Athabasca, Bentley, Elk Point, Valleyview, Bow Valley and Provost.

In Provost, Jack Schneider was getting ready to go to provincials. It had already been a long, difficult road to get the opportunity to represent his zone at provincials. Going back to January and February of 2012, Jack's team had beat Wainwright and New Sarepta to face Coronation in the Zone 7 playdown finals. The series, which was two-game total score, had Provost down by a goal heading into game two. Provost would pull off the 5-3 win in the second game, and win the right to go Redwater in March.

There was just one problem for Jack, the actual road outside the family farm, located 24 km outside of Provost and 12 km away from a secondary highway, was snowed over.

"Anyone that lived in the country was blocked in," said Jack's mom, Jennifer. "We didn't get plowed out until the Sunday, and even then only one vehicle could get through."

It wouldn't be enough to stop Jack from getting to Redwater though.

The family put his goalie equipment on a sled and dragged it about a quarter-mile through the field, up a snowbank and over a fence where their neighbour, Erick Landmark, was waiting with a snowmobile.

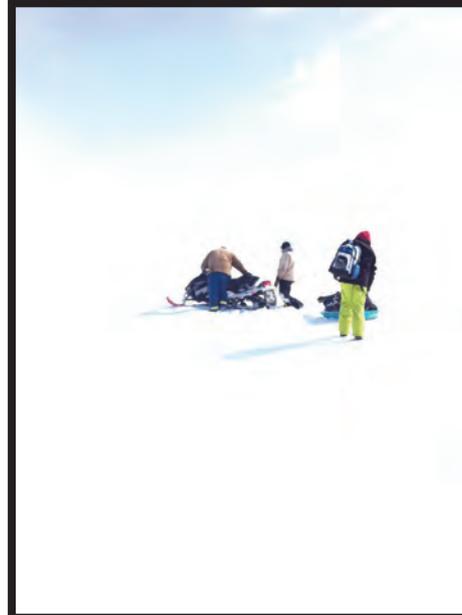
"It's hard to explain, it was crazy," recalls Jennifer. "Jack missed the first day of provincials but the snowplow got to Erick's house just as he was coming out to get Jack."

Landmark loaded up Jack and dragged his equipment behind the snowmobile and drove back to his vehicle and into town where some of the other parents were waiting so Jack could make it to Redwater.

"Our neighbour had kids that had played at provincials themselves, so they took it upon themselves to make it happen for Jack," said Jennifer. "It was pretty nice."

The Provost Blades would end up having a successful weekend in Redwater, reaching the championship game, in which they faced Valleyview and would take home the silver medal.

On the bright side, Jennifer didn't miss too much of the action because the Redwater provincial hosts broadcasted Provost's final two games online, so that those who were unable to attend could still cheer on from home.



RAISING FUNDS FOR THE EVERY KID EVERY COMMUNITY PROGRAM

BY | Jimmy Adams

At the inaugural Glencross Invitational Charity Roughstock Event in 2012, \$196,000 was raised for the Ronald McDonald House in Red Deer and minor hockey programming in Alberta through the Hockey Alberta Foundation. On August 23rd, 2013 the 2nd Annual Glencross Invitational Charity Roughstock Event, presented by the Calgary Flames and PennWest Exploration, was back and once again all the proceeds were directed to the two charities.

The roughstock event consisted of bull, bronc, and bareback riding with some of the most accomplished riders in North America. The event itself has more to it than just the rodeo. The Thursday night featured a poker tournament for the event sponsors, with the winner taking home \$2,500 and a performance by country artist, Jason Greeley. The Friday night also included performances by the award-winning artist, Gord Bamford and The Boom Chucka Boys.

"All proceeds are directed to the Ronald McDonald House in Red Deer and the Hockey Alberta Foundation in support of minor hockey programs in Alberta. I grew up playing the game that I love in the province that I love," said Calgary Flames forward, Curtis Glencross. "There are many families who do not have the opportunity to play hockey. Through Hockey Alberta and fundraising efforts like tonight and tomorrow, we can help to eliminate barriers that restrict youth in playing the game."

Minor hockey support will be directed through the Every Kid Every Community program through the Hockey Alberta Foundation. The program, created as a funding based program, offers an opportunity for groups to create innovative ways to get more kids involved.

Funds for Hockey Alberta's Every Kid Every Community Project are made available through Government of Alberta's Community Spirit Program Grant, generous contributions from ATB Investor Services and the Glencross Roughstock Event and Hockey Alberta Foundation's fundraising efforts, like the Hockey Alberta Foundation Golf Classic.

The 2013 Golf Classic was held at the Stewart Creek Golf and Country Club in Canmore, Alberta. The tournament raised over \$65,000 through sponsorships, a live auction and a silent auction.

"We're always trying to find ways to make the Golf Classic more and more successful," said the Hockey Alberta Foundation's Executive Director, Scott Robinson. "Every year we're amazed at the funds raised at this event, and it goes to show how important hockey is to everyone and reinforces our belief in the Every Kid Every Community program."

The 2013 Hockey Alberta Foundation Golf Classic featured celebrities like Jay Onrait and Dan O'Toole, the former TSN anchors and NHLers Jordan Eberle (Edmonton Oilers), Zach Boychuk (Carolina Hurricanes), Thomas Hickey (New York Islanders), Adam Cracknell (St. Louis Blues), Tyson Stratchan (Washington Capitals), one of Calgary's 2013 1st round picks, Morgan Klimchuk and more.

Next year's Hockey Alberta Foundation Golf Classic will return to the Stewart Creek Golf Club in Canmore for the fourth year in a row.

Follow the Glencross Invitational Charity Roughstock Event on Twitter | www.twitter.com/cgandfriendsinc/ and Facebook | www.facebook.com/encrossInvitationalCharityRoughstockEvent



BETTER LATE THAN NEVER

FINALLY, HOCKEY DAY IN CANADA COMES TO LLOYDMINSTER

BY | Andrew Chong

There was a little bump in the road - that whole NHL lockout thing - but Lloydminster, Alta. will finally get its much-deserved chance to host the Scotiabank Hockey Day in Canada festivities, Jan. 14 to 18, 2014.

The event was supposed to happen in January 2013, but the lockout meant Lloydminster had to do some waiting.

But that just meant more planning time for the city that has the unique distinction of straddling Alberta and Saskatchewan.

And Lloydminster already has a bit of a reputation for a "go big or go home" philosophy when it comes to hosting big hockey events.

Back in 2011, when the city hosted the Allan Cup (Canada's senior men's amateur championship), there was a special appearance by Brett Hull. And in recent years of hosting minor hockey provincials, Lloydminster has become known for some pretty intense smoke and light shows during their opening ceremonies.

And the five-day Hockey Day in Canada event will, no doubt, mean the city will be pulling out all the stops. It's a community that takes pride in coming together to host these types of events.

"It's going to be a once-in-a-lifetime event and we want to showcase what Lloydminster has to offer to the rest of Canada," said Cindy Rekimowich, project manager for

the festivities, in an interview with the Lloydminster Source. "People in our community just step-up and get it done."

There are no less than 40 committees planning the array of events that will happen between Tuesday and Saturday. And the ongoing call for volunteers has been successful, with people rallying behind Hockey Day.

"There are a lot of people that are signing up, that's for sure," said Rekimowich. "We'll be flexible and work around people's schedule and the sooner they sign up, the better chance they'll get the job that they wanted."

"It's going to be an amazing event for the

city and I know a lot of people want to get involved and be a part of it."

The planning team is looking at compiling a roster of 350 volunteers to work in 12 different areas, from security, to parking, to merchandise, to working in the winter festival.

Sponsorship dollars are being raised to put on the local events, with any extra funds set to go towards the renovations at Russ Robertson Arena. Sponsors get tickets, recognition, and signage.

As for the events themselves, there will be a mix of free and ticketed events.

Free events include a winter festival, a skate with the Stanley Cup, and a pancake

breakfast. Ticketed events include a banquet, pub night, concert, and celebrity breakfast.

The nationally-televised event, produced by the CBC, will surely be a hot ticket; and starting Nov. 1, people in Lloydminster will have the chance to get their hands on tickets to the various events—and they will probably be scooped-up, quickly.

"Our tickets are going on sale on Nov. 1, I'm thinking the last-minute Lloydminster people will not get tickets unless they move on it quickly," said Rekimowich.

To become a sponsor, contact Larry Sauer: lsauer@lloydminster.ca or 780-875-2737.

To volunteer, fill-out an application at Lloydminster.ca/shdic

IT'S GOING TO BE A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EVENT AND WE WANT TO SHOWCASE WHAT LLOYDMINSTER HAS TO OFFER TO THE REST OF CANADA.

DAY-BY-DAY: HOCKEY DAY HIGHLIGHTS

DAY 1: TUESDAY

- Opening Reception
- Lloydminster Hockey History Museum
- Interactive Hockey Skills Challenges

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY

- Stanley Cup Relay Begins
- Hockey Academy with Cassie Campbell
- CBC Shiny Game

DAY 3: THURSDAY

- Celebrity Breakfast w/ Cassie Campbell & Kelly Hrudehy
- Stanley Cup arrives in Lloydminster
- Referee Luncheon with Ron MacLean

DAY 4: FRIDAY

- Skate with the Cup
- Military Battle on the Border Winter Classic
- Banquet with Ron MacLean and Don Cherry

DAY 5: SATURDAY

- Live national broadcast on CBC
- Winter Fest Celebration
- Lloydminster Bobcats Junior A game



7 BIG EVENTS AT HOCKEY DAY IN CANADA IN LLOYDMINSTER

1. NHL ALUMNI GAME

The game goes Saturday, 1:00 p.m. and will either be at the Civic Centre or the outdoor rink.

2. HOCKEY HALL OF FAME HISTORY MUSEUM

The Hockey Hall of Fame is bringing a mini version of their museum of hockey nostalgia.

3. PLAYER CLINICS

Five player clinics, encompassing all levels of minor hockey, will feature celebrity players.

4. INTERACTIVE SKILLS COMPETITION

Events could include hardest shot, shooting accuracy, fastest skater, leading to an elite showdown.

5. WINTER CLASSIC: BATTLE OF THE BORDER

Two games, one Friday and one Saturday, featuring two local teams and two non-local teams.

6. COACHES CLINIC

Scotiabank and CBC are planning an opportunity for local coaches to work with pros.

7. BALL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Takes place Saturday during Winter Fest, featuring four outdoor rinks with bales and snow fences.



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REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRES

Did you know that Hockey Alberta has Regional Development Centres located throughout the province to assist Minor Hockey Associations in development?

Each Regional Centre offers the opportunity to Minor Hockey Associations and communities within their respective area to utilize the resources, skills, knowledge and a long list of programming available. Contact your local Regional Centre today to find out more about opportunities available, including: specialty skills clinics, coach clinics, coach mentorship, and much more.

Northeast (Lloydminster)
780-875-0238



Northwest (Grande Prairie)
780-532-7212

Central (Red Deer)
403-342-6777

Calgary
403-660-1049

South (Lethbridge)
403-380-0195



Find out more at:
WWW.HOCKEYALBERTA.CA/REGIONAL-CENTRES



2014 Annual General Meeting

June 6-8, 2014
The Westin
Edmonton, Alberta

In 2014, the Hockey Alberta Annual General Meeting will have a new host venue. The AGM will be held over the weekend of June 6-8, 2014 at The Westin in Edmonton.

We encourage all Hockey Alberta Members, Minor Hockey Associations and Volunteers to join us and take part in sessions, workshops and discussions beginning late Friday afternoon and concluding on the Sunday morning.

The weekend will also include a Hockey Leaders Conference with a number of professional development opportunities for all stakeholders in the game. More details on registration will be available on www.hockeyalberta.ca in the new year.

The Hockey Alberta Awards Gala, where the 2014 Alberta Hockey Hall of Fame Inductees will be recognized, will also be held at The Westin. Keep your eyes peeled for information regarding nominations and the Awards Gala throughout the year.

HOCKEYALBERTA.CA

WHO IS HOCKEY ALBERTA?

OUR VISION:

To become the most progressive and innovative sport organization in Canada.

OUR MISSION:

To create opportunities and valuable life experiences in hockey for Albertans by providing exceptional leadership and service.

OUR HISTORY:

Hockey Alberta was founded in 1907 and has acted as the governing body for the sport of hockey in this province ever since. Since then, Hockey Alberta has been designing and implementing new ways to organize and develop players, coaches, officials and administrators throughout the province to create positive experiences for everyone involved in the game.

OUR MEMBERS:

Hockey Alberta is the third largest provincial branch of Hockey Canada, which is the national governing body for amateur hockey in Canada. Hockey Alberta is the acting governing body for amateur hockey in the province of Alberta ranging from the levels of minor hockey to senior hockey including the Alberta Junior Hockey League. Hockey Alberta has approximately 450 member organizations representing over 90,000 participants. All players are coached, officiated and developed through the teachings and education that Hockey Alberta provides at all levels of the game.

OUR VOLUNTEERS:

Hockey Alberta is a volunteer driven organization with over 500 volunteers involved in different roles through our committees and programs. The direction

of Hockey Alberta is guided through a board of directors, councils, and many committees implemented through nine zone teams. Without the devotion of these people, Hockey Alberta would not be one of Canada's leaders in hockey development.

OUR STAFF:

Hockey Alberta consists of 27 staff members that facilitate the Operations, Development and Marketing/Communications/Foundation departments of the organization located in Red Deer. Hockey Alberta has five staff members who work remotely at Hockey Alberta Regional Centres - in Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Calgary, Lloydminster and Red Deer. The staff oversees all of the programs and services that Hockey Alberta provides its members through implementation, discussion and development on a day-to-day basis.

PROVINCIAL SPONSORS



Title sponsor of Hockey Alberta's provincial championships



Official Sports Store of Hockey Alberta



Presenting sponsor of the Hockey Alberta Foundation Golf Classic



Provincial sponsor for the Dodge Caravan Kids Program



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Title Sponsor of the ATB Team Alberta Program

PROVINCIAL SUPPLIERS



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