







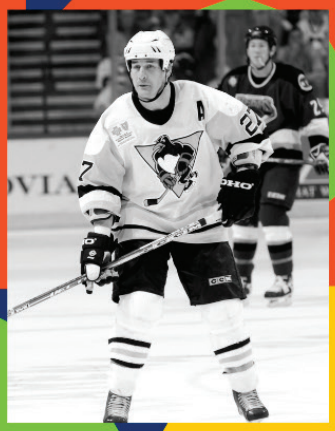





NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL of FAME

2026-2027 ANNUAL PROGRAM

HONOURING EXCELLENCE

PRESENTED BY

NOVA SCOTIA Gaming support 4 sport

NOVA SCOTIA Gaming support 4 sport

game faces



THE NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL OF FAME

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Premier's Message

It's my pleasure to welcome you to the annual Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.

Every year, this occasion reminds us what's possible through dedication, resilience and hard work. It also reminds us what's possible when we show up — for practice and for each other. Sport gets people into the same room, onto the same field and into the stands together. It creates opportunities to connect, to share experiences and to be part of something bigger than ourselves. That's part of what makes sport so valuable, and it's reflected in the stories we're celebrating today.

Congratulations to all the inductees, and the people who've supported them along their journey. Your achievements have earned a place in Nova Scotia's sporting history and inspire us to keep showing up, getting together and cheering each other on.

Thank you to everyone at the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame for putting on this event and ensuring that our province's top athletes get the celebration they deserve.

Yours Truly,

Honourable Tim Houston, M.L.A.
Premier

Our Mission

The Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame's mission is to honour excellence in Nova Scotia sport by sharing stories of our history and heroes that celebrate, educate and inspire.

Our Vision

The Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame's vision is that Nova Scotia sport achievements and history remain sources of value and inspiration to our communities, and sources of education to our youth.

Values

- Excellence and distinction as an organization, a Hall of Fame, and a museum
- Preserving Nova Scotia sport heritage
- Celebrating excellence in Nova Scotia sport
- Accessibility (to information, the museum facility and programming)
- Sustainability (in finances, culture and environment)
- Best practices
- Diversity and fairness (in our selection process, our programming and our day-to-day operations)
- Inspiring and motivating youth
- Serving and engaging the community

Mandate

To permanently record Nova Scotia's sport heritage, and to maintain a collection that is representative of that heritage

To recognize, honour and celebrate individuals, teams and organizations who have achieved excellence in, or contributed significantly to, sport in Nova Scotia

To conduct educational programs related to achievements of historical significance in Nova Scotia sport, and to make them available to all Nova Scotians



The Hall of Fame team:
(Left to Right) Katie Tanner, Museum & Communications Manager; Shane Mailman, Vice-President; Bruce Rainnie, President & CEO; and Karolyn Sevcik, Manager, Administration & Special Events

To make information related to Nova Scotia's sport heritage available and accessible to the general public and other organizations, and to publicize this information to wider audiences including those outside of the province

To serve the community by providing an accessible facility, a variety of programming, and opportunities for engagement and partnerships

CEO MESSAGE



After more than a quarter-century of hosting Hall of Fame induction ceremonies, you might think I would know exactly what to expect. Yet every year, someone tells a story, shares a memory or offers a reflection that stays with me long after the evening ends.

That is what makes this night so special. We arrive knowing something about the accomplishments. We leave with a much better understanding of the people.

Our Class of 2026 gives us plenty to celebrate, and even more to appreciate. Behind the victories and honours are years of commitment, moments of uncertainty, people who offered encouragement, and decisions to keep going when stopping would have been easier. Those parts of the story deserve to be remembered, too. They help a young athlete understand that even the greatest careers begin with someone learning, struggling and finding their way.

To our newest inductees, thank you for allowing us to tell your stories. We hope tonight gives you a chance to appreciate the full measure of what you have contributed, surrounded by the people who helped you along the way.

Soon, we will have a wonderful new setting in which to share those stories. On November 26, our rebuilt Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame opens to the public. Having watched it take shape, I cannot wait for you to experience it. Every exhibit has given us reason to reflect on just how much sporting history this province has produced, and how fortunate we are to be entrusted with it.

I am equally fortunate to work alongside Karolyn Sevcik, Shane Mailman and Katie Tanner. Through the demands of rebuilding the Hall and preparing this celebration, their commitment to getting things right has never wavered. My sincere thanks also go to our Board, our selection panel and committee, and the sponsors, partners and volunteers whose support makes this evening possible.

Thank you for joining us. Enjoy the stories, savour the memories, and let our inductees hear how much they mean to this province.

Bruce Rainnie
President & CEO

CHAIR'S MESSAGE



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame, I am delighted to congratulate this year's outstanding inductees. Your achievements, leadership and dedication have enriched sport in our province, and we are proud to welcome you into the Hall. We take seriously the responsibility of preserving your stories and sharing them with generations to come.

This year, that welcome carries special meaning. On November 26, 2026, our new Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame will open to the public in Scotiabank Centre. After years of planning, hard work and extraordinary community support, we are excited to share a home worthy of the people and accomplishments it celebrates.

With more space, improved accessibility and engaging new exhibits, the rebuilt Hall will give visitors even more opportunities to discover our province's remarkable sporting history. For our inductees and their families, it will be a place to revisit cherished memories. For young visitors, we hope it will be a place to discover what is possible and find the inspiration to pursue their own dreams.

Reaching this milestone has taken a tremendous collective effort. To the donors, sponsors, community partners and friends who helped bring this vision to life, thank you. Your generosity and belief in our work have made a lasting contribution to Nova Scotia.

I also want to thank my fellow volunteer Board members and our dedicated staff: CEO Bruce Rainnie, Karolyn Sevcik, Shane Mailman and Katie Tanner. Their care for this institution, and for the people whose stories we tell, has carried us through an ambitious and demanding chapter.

Tonight, we celebrate our newest inductees. In just a few weeks, we will open our doors to a new generation of visitors. We look forward to welcoming you all and sharing the pride that Nova Scotia's sport heroes inspire.

Sincerely,

Stephanie O'Connor
Chair

Chairs of the Hall of Fame



John 'Gee' Ahern
Halifax
1958 – 1968



Hugh Noble
Halifax
1977 – 1979



Dorothy Walker
Centreville
1980 – 1983



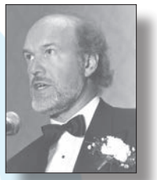
Jim Bayer
Wolfville
1983 – 1985



Bill White
Wolfville
1986 – 1991



Eleanor Norrie
Truro
1991 – 1993



Tom Lynch
Halifax
1993 – 1998



Danny Gallivan
Halifax
1998 – 2001



Fred MacGillivray
Halifax
2001 – 2010



Floyd Gaetz
Halifax
2010 – 2012



Don Mills
Halifax
2012 – 2014



Rob Randall
Halifax
2014 – 2018



Marc Champoux
Antigonish
2019-2023



Jim Mills
Halifax
2023 – 2025



Stephanie O'Connor
Halifax
2025 – Present

NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL OF FAME EST. 1964

Board of Directors

Chair ..... Stephanie O'Connor
Central Region ..... Andrew Healey
Fundy Region ..... Duane Rath
South Shore Region ..... Gil Dares
Valley Region ..... Mark Smith
Highlands Region ..... Angie Kolen
Cape Breton Region ..... Brian Purchase
Director-At-Large ..... Jim Boudreau
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Russell Piggott Jones

Incorporation

1983

NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL of FAME

DENNIS BONVIE

ATHLETE

By Bruce Rainnie



Photo: Getty Images

The number is almost impossible to comprehend.

4,804 penalty minutes.

Not the most in the National Hockey League. Not the most in the American Hockey League. The most ever accumulated by any player in professional hockey history.

That statistic alone would make Dennis Bonvie memorable. Yet it is also somewhat misleading, because the record that made him famous captures only one part of the man the hockey world came to admire.

To fans, Bonvie was a fierce competitor and one of the toughest players ever to lace up skates. To teammates, he was a protector. To coaches, he was dependable. To organizations, he became the kind of player every successful team needs but few possess.

His story began in Frankville, a small community in Antigonish County where dreams of professional hockey often seemed far away. Bonvie was not a highly touted prospect. He was not blessed with elite offensive gifts, nor was he projected to become an NHL star. What he did possess was an uncommon level of determination, courage, and resilience.



Photo: Getty Images

Those qualities carried him from the Antigonish Bulldogs to the Ontario Hockey League, where he played for the Kitchener Rangers and North Bay Centennials. By the time he left junior hockey, Bonvie had already developed the rugged reputation that would define his playing career.

Professional hockey in the 1990s was a different game. Teams valued toughness, intimidation, and physical sacrifice. Every club needed players willing to answer the bell when necessary, and few answered more often than Dennis Bonvie.

His professional career began with the Cape Breton Oilers of the American Hockey League in 1993. Almost immediately, he established himself as one of the league's most feared competitors. Penalty minutes accumulated at astonishing rates, but so did respect. Bonvie was not simply a fighter; he understood the game, embraced his role, and earned the trust of everyone around him.

During the 1996-97 season with the Hamilton Bulldogs, he recorded an astounding 522 penalty minutes, an AHL single-season record that remains one of the most remarkable numbers in hockey history. Yet even while serving as the league's most intimidating enforcer, he contributed in other ways. Over 871 AHL games, Bonvie scored 84 goals and added 191 assists, proving he could contribute far beyond the role for which he became famous.

What separated Bonvie from many players of his era was the respect he earned throughout the



Photo: Getty Images

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

Hometown: Frankville, Antigonish County, N.S.

- **One of professional hockey's most respected enforcers**
- **15-year pro career, including 92 NHL games**
- **3-time Stanley Cup winner**
- **Pro hockey's all-time leader in penalty minutes (4,804)**
- **A member of the American Hockey League Hall of Fame**

game. Opponents fought him, but they respected him. Teammates relied on him. Coaches trusted him. League executives admired the way he carried himself.

Former American Hockey League president David Andrews later observed that, despite accumulating more penalty minutes than any player in professional hockey history, Bonvie never developed a reputation for cheap shots or reckless behaviour. He played hard, fought honestly, and conducted himself with integrity.

That distinction mattered.

In an era when enforcers were among the most scrutinized players in hockey, Bonvie developed a reputation as one of the sport's most respected tough guys. He was the player willing to stand up for anyone wearing the same jersey, and teammates never forgot it.

His NHL opportunities followed. Over parts of six seasons, Bonvie played 92 games with Edmonton, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Boston, Ottawa, and Colorado. While his NHL totals were modest, simply reaching that level represented a remarkable achievement for an undrafted player from rural Nova Scotia.

Many players arrive in professional hockey with greater expectations. Few squeeze more out of their ability.

Bonvie's greatest legacy may actually have been built in the American Hockey League. Everywhere he played, he became a fan favourite. In Wilkes-Barre/Scranton, Providence, Hershey, Hamilton, and Cape Breton, supporters embraced his relentless work ethic and unwavering loyalty to teammates. He represented the kind of player hockey fans instinctively admire: honest, hardworking, and completely committed to the crest on the front of the jersey.

In 2024, the American Hockey League formally recognized that impact by inducting Bonvie into its Hall of Fame. The honour placed him among the most influential figures in league history and acknowledged a career that spanned nearly two decades.

Yet Bonvie's influence extends well beyond the rink.

Throughout his professional career, he remained deeply connected to Nova Scotia. His Bonvie-MacDonald "Rinks to Links" golf tournament has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for minor



Photo: Wilkes Barre Scranton Penguins

hockey and charitable causes throughout Antigonish and beyond. In city after city, he developed a reputation for community involvement and generosity, qualities that earned him as much admiration as his on-ice accomplishments.

When his playing career ended, Bonvie once again defied expectations.

Many enforcers struggle to find a second chapter in hockey. Bonvie flourished. He scouted for the Leafs, Blackhawks and Bruins, steadily rising through the ranks before becoming Boston's Director of Professional Scouting. This past summer, he was named Assistant General Manager. Along the way, he helped build championship-calibre teams and earned three Stanley Cup rings.

The transformation from feared enforcer to respected hockey executive surprised some observers, but those who knew him best were not surprised at all.

They understood that behind the toughness was a sharp hockey mind, strong leadership skills, and an unwavering commitment to the game.

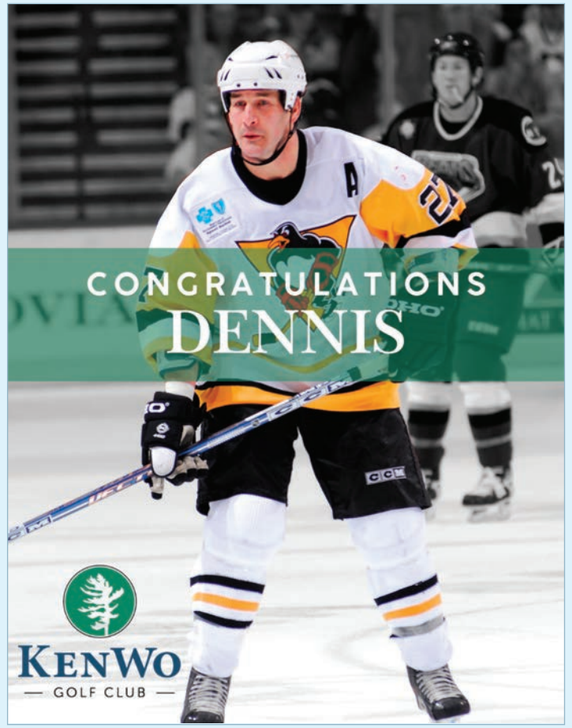
Dennis Bonvie will always be remembered as the toughest player in professional hockey history. The record book guarantees that.

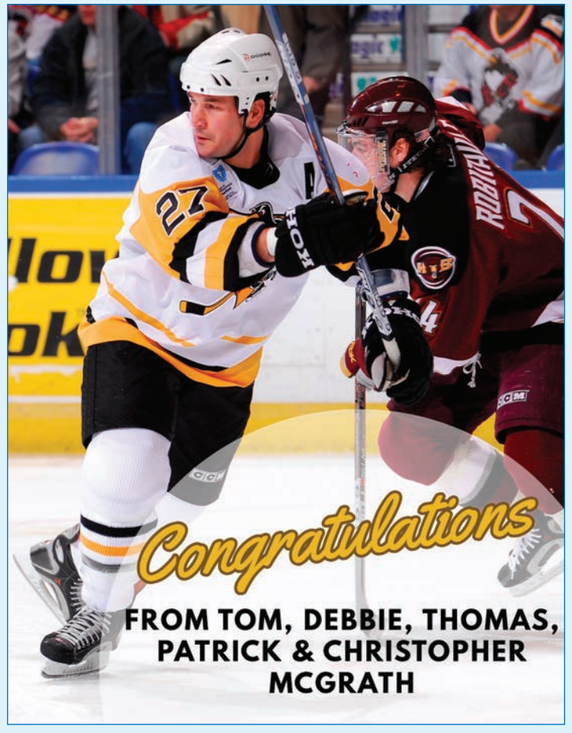
His true legacy, however, is much broader. It lives in the teammates he protected, the communities he supported, the fans who cheered for him, and the respect he earned throughout every level of the sport.

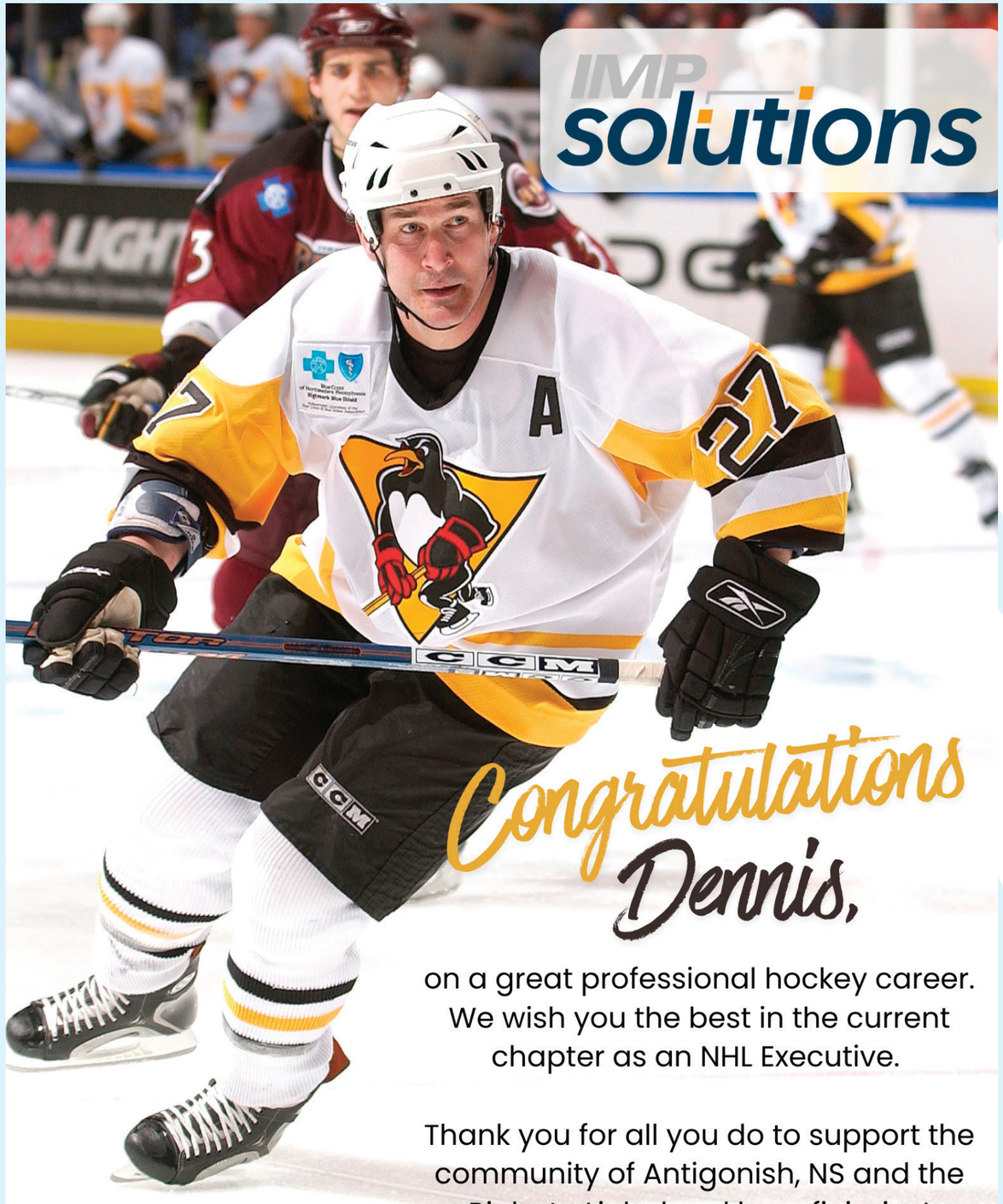
The penalty-minute record may have made him famous, but the person behind it is what made him unforgettable.

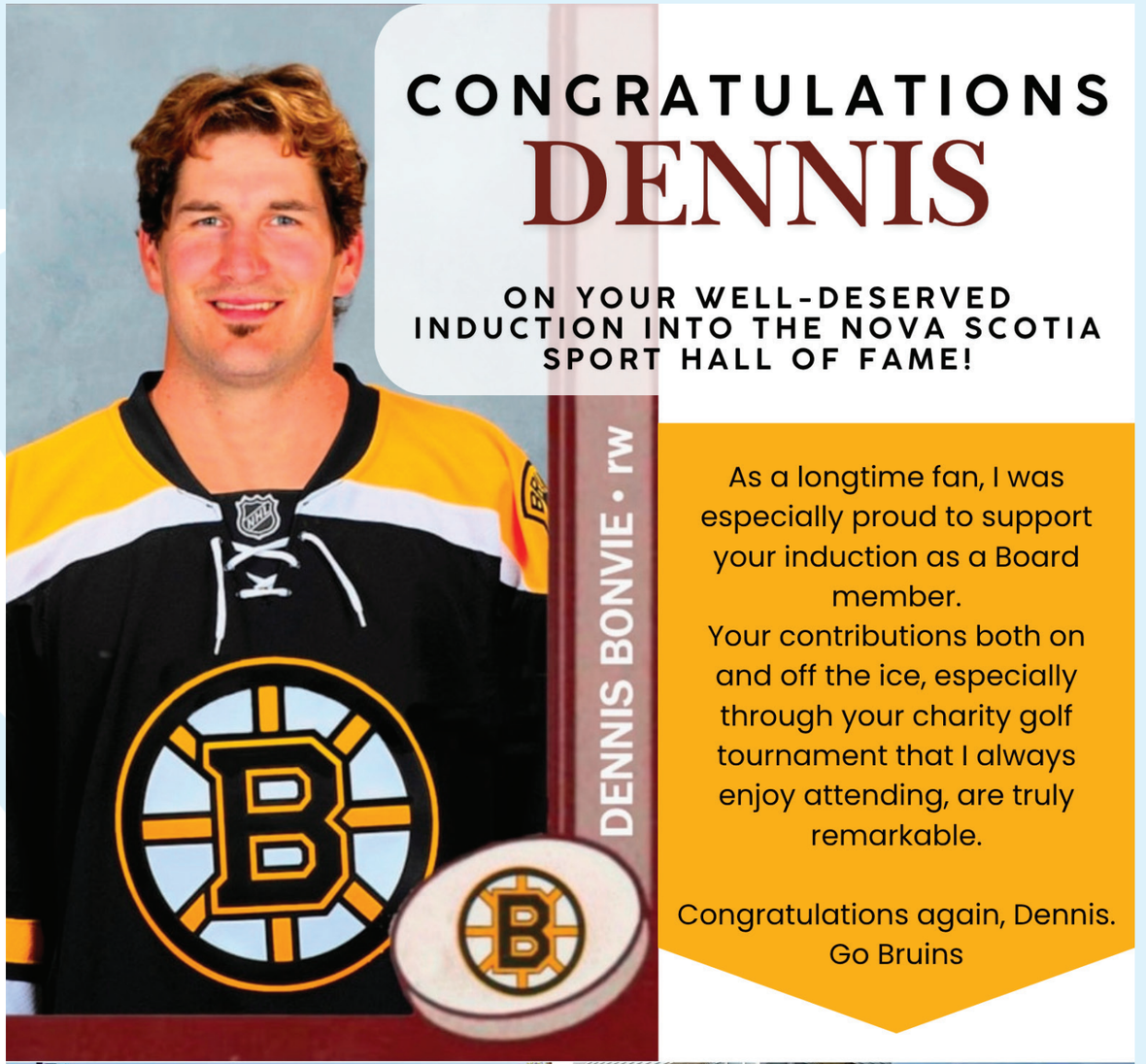


Photos: Wilkes Barre Scranton Penguins



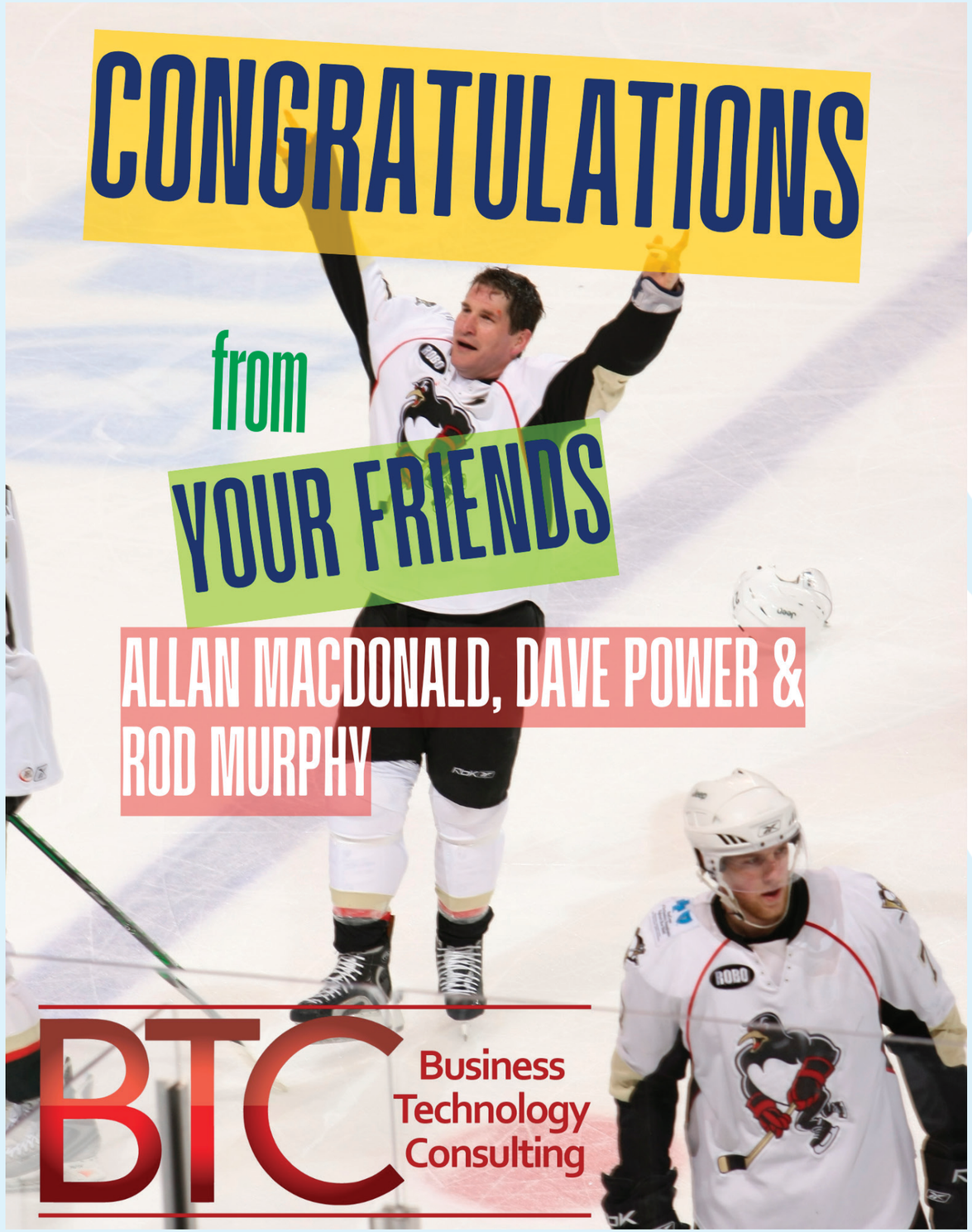



IMP
solutions
Congratulations
Dennis,
on a great professional hockey career.
We wish you the best in the current
chapter as an NHL Executive.
Thank you for all you do to support the
community of Antigonish, NS and the
Rinks to Links local beneficiaries!


CONGRATULATIONS
DENNIS
ON YOUR WELL-DESERVED
INDUCTION INTO THE NOVA SCOTIA
SPORT HALL OF FAME!
DENNIS BONVIE • rw
As a longtime fan, I was
especially proud to support
your induction as a Board
member.
Your contributions both on
and off the ice, especially
through your charity golf
tournament that I always
enjoy attending, are truly
remarkable.
Congratulations again, Dennis.
Go Bruins


ServiceMASTER
Clean


ServiceMASTER
Restore





Congratulations to **Dennis Bonvie** on his induction into the **Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame.**

This prestigious honor recognizes his outstanding hockey career, unwavering dedication to the sport, and lasting impact on the game both on and off the ice.

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BMO Nesbitt Burns

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Mayflower Dental Group

Your smile will say it all



DENNIS BONVIE

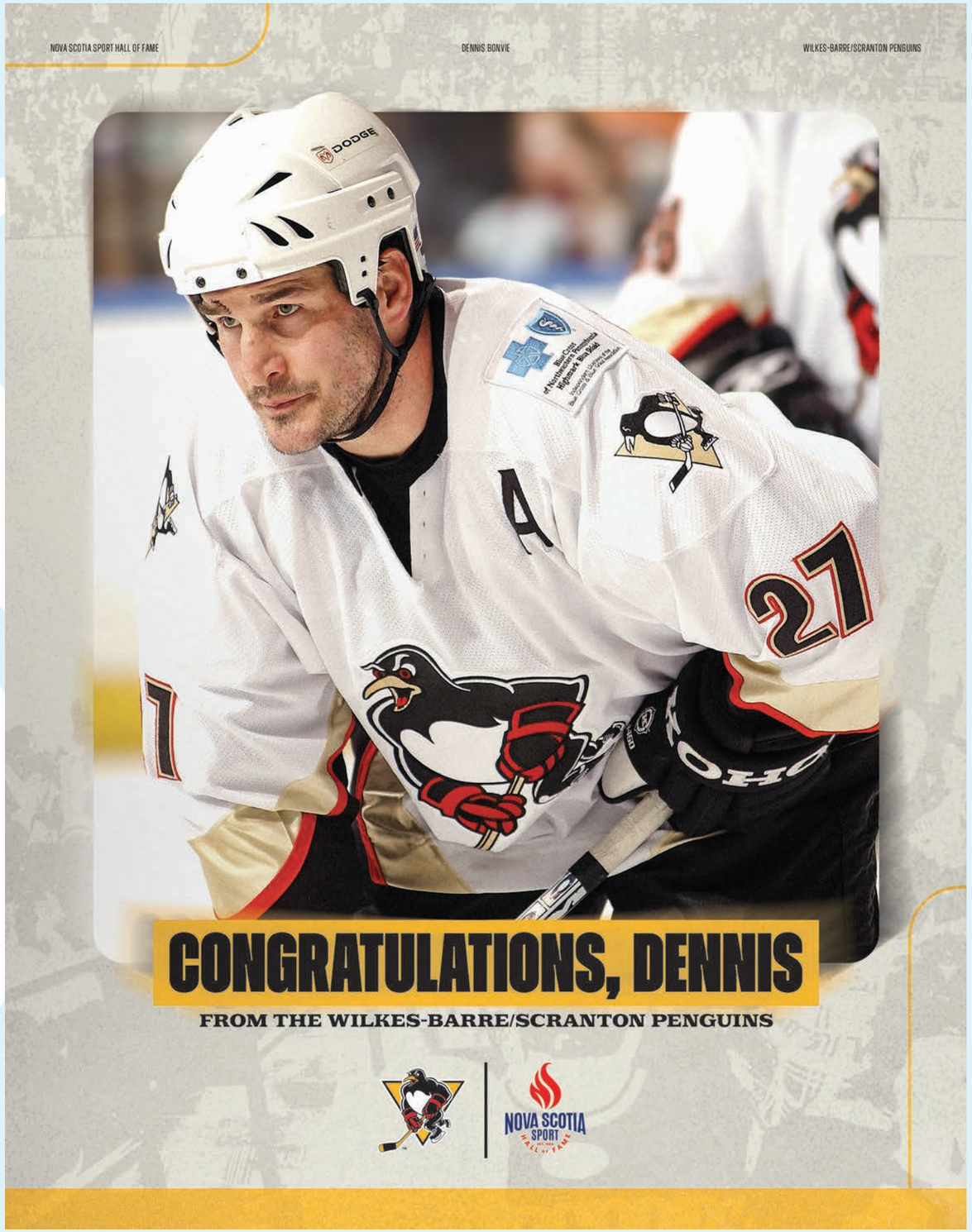
Congratulations, Dennis!

A well-deserved honour, my friend.

I am so pleased to see the recognition you are receiving for a lifetime of work in such a difficult game. It takes a special kind of character to sustain that level of passion and perseverance over so many years.

Congratulations, you've certainly earned it!

Chris MacDonald, and Mayflower Dental Group



CLASS OF 2026

HOCKEY NOVA SCOTIA

ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED TOUGH GUYS THE GAME HAS EVER KNOWN, DENNIS BONVIE IS PROFESSIONAL HOCKEY'S ALL-TIME LEADER IN PENALTY MINUTES, AN AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE HALL OF FAMER, A THREE-TIME STANLEY CUP CHAMP, AND A LONG-TIME COMMUNITY SUPPORTER THROUGH HIS CHARITABLE INITIATIVES.

WE COULDN'T BE PROUDER OF DENNIS, AND WE EXTEND OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO HIM AND THE ENTIRE CLASS OF 2026 ON THIS WELL-DESERVED HONOUR!



DENNIS
BONVIE

@hockeyns • hockeynovascotia.ca • Hockey Nova Scotia

StFX UNIVERSITY

Congratulations, Dennis!

CONFERENCES
& SPECIAL EVENTS
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY

On behalf of StFX Conferences and Special Events, we applaud you on your induction into the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame

stfx.ca/conferences-events

conference@stfx.ca



CONGRATULATIONS,
DENNIS!

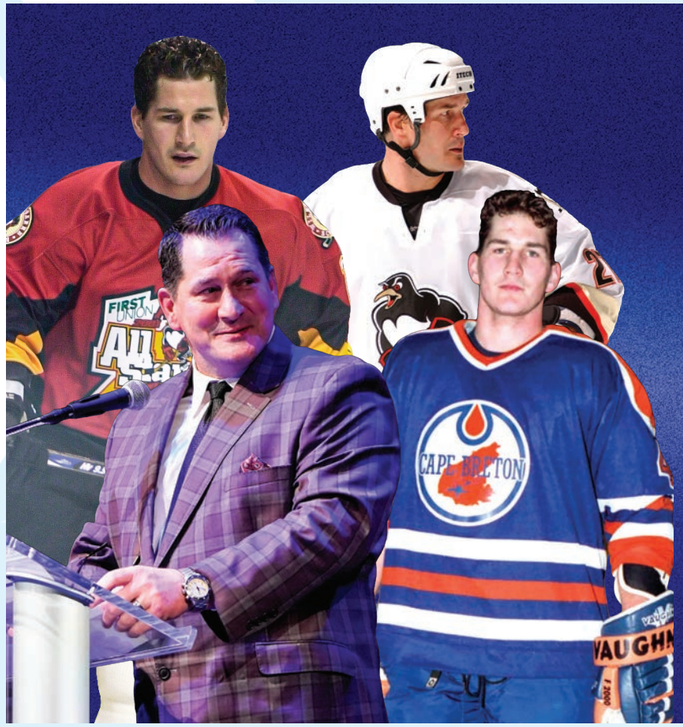
Congratulations to our dear friend **Dennis Bonvie** on your induction into the N.S. Sport Hall of Fame.

We're proud to celebrate this achievement with you!

MUNRO
INSURANCE

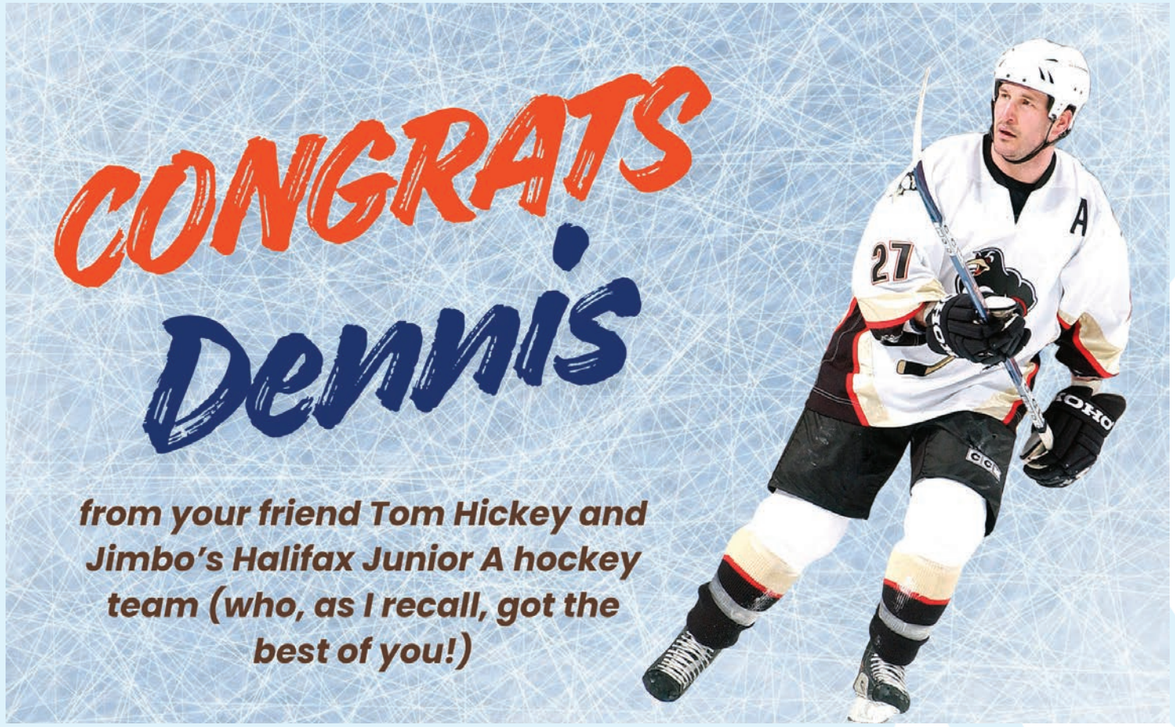
BUILDING COMMUNITY SINCE 1944

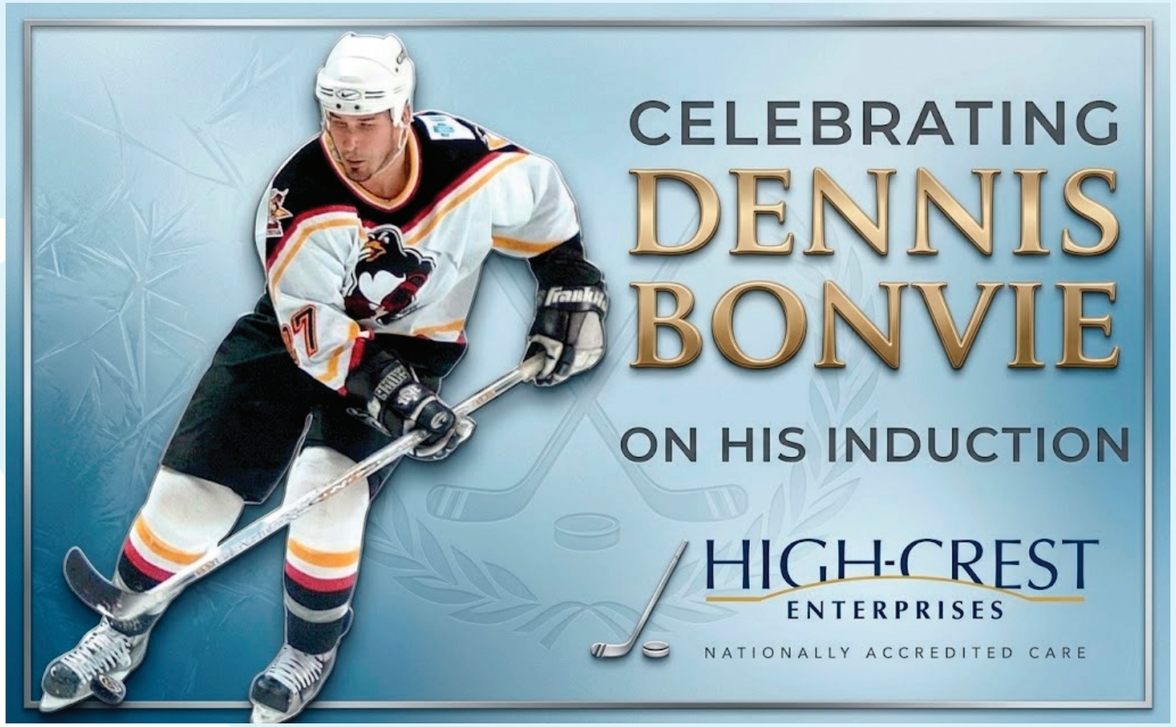
aamunro.com

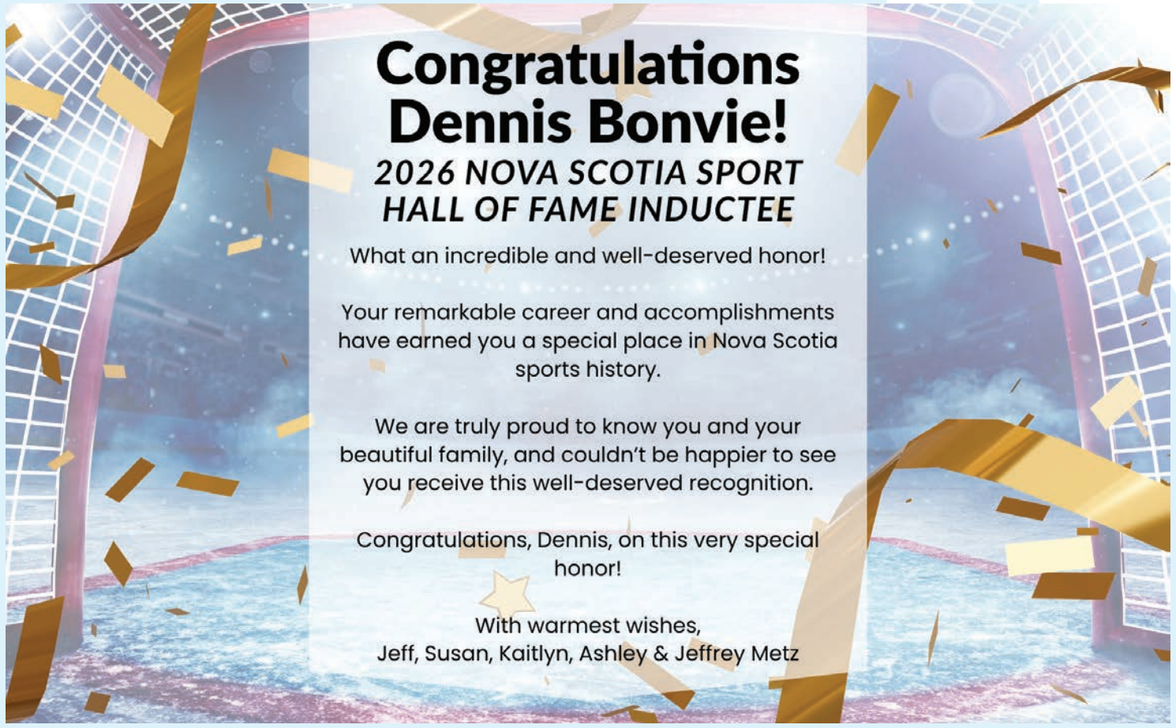


AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE
AHL

The **American Hockey League** congratulates **Dennis Bonvie** on his induction into the **Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame**

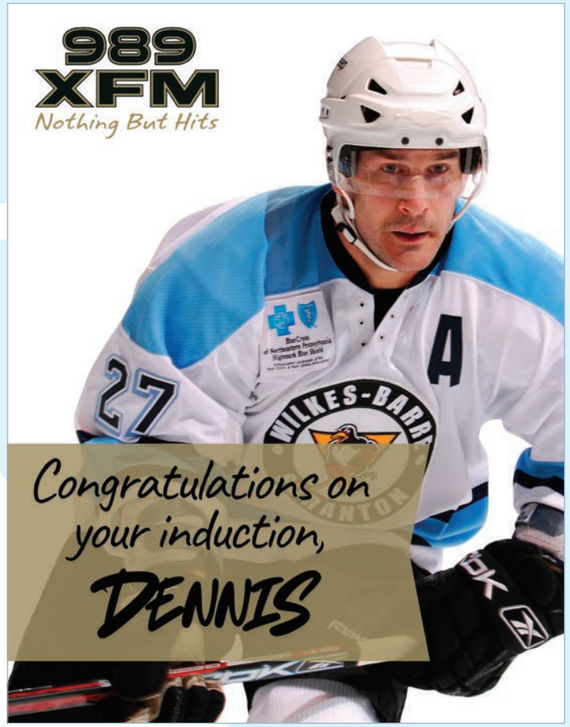

CONGRATS
Dennis
from your friend Tom Hickey and Jimbo's Halifax Junior A hockey team (who, as I recall, got the best of you!)

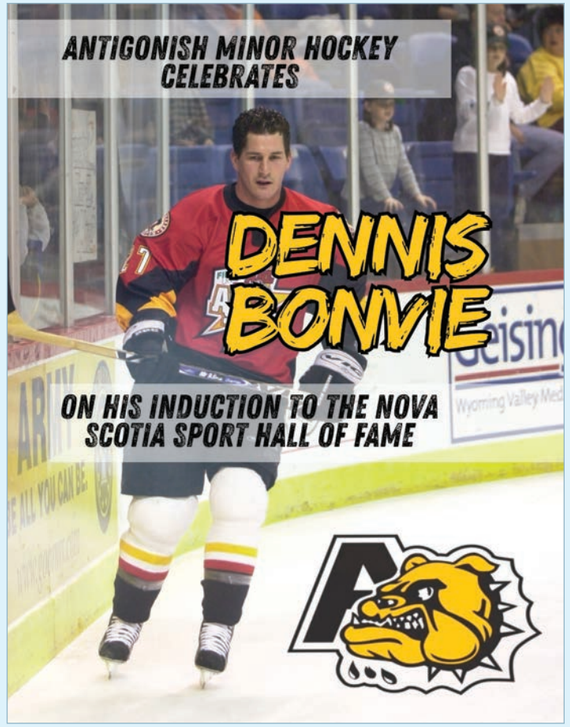

CELEBRATING
DENNIS
BONVIE
ON HIS INDUCTION
HIGH-CREST
ENTERPRISES
NATIONALLY ACCREDITED CARE


Congratulations
Dennis Bonvie!
2026 NOVA SCOTIA SPORT
HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE
What an incredible and well-deserved honor!
Your remarkable career and accomplishments have earned you a special place in Nova Scotia sports history.
We are truly proud to know you and your beautiful family, and couldn't be happier to see you receive this well-deserved recognition.
Congratulations, Dennis, on this very special honor!
With warmest wishes,
Jeff, Susan, Kaitlyn, Ashley & Jeffrey Metz

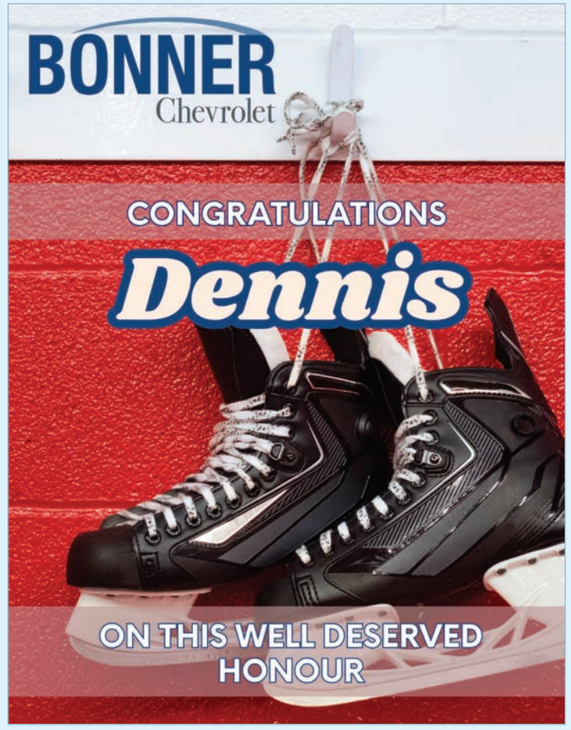

CONGRATULATIONS
Dennis
from your friends at
IAN TATE
PLUMBING & HEATING


NORTH STATION
TD GARDEN
Original Six
BOSTON BRUINS
THE HUB OF HOCKEY
617
BUILT BY BOSTON
POWERED BY TRADITION
LET'S GO
CONGRATS,
DENNIS BONVIE!
2026 NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE


989 XFM
Nothing But Hits
Congratulations on your induction, DENNIS


ANTIGONISH MINOR HOCKEY CELEBRATES
DENNIS BONVIE
ON HIS INDUCTION TO THE NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL OF FAME


Congratulations, Dennis, on your well-deserved induction into the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame!
This is an incredible honour and a true reflection of the dedication, passion, leadership, and commitment you have given to sport in Nova Scotia and many other communities.
We are proud to have you lend your name to the BonMac and help so many in our community of Antigonish.
BONVIE + MACDONALD
RINKS TO LINKS Golf CLASSIC


BONNER
Chevrolet
CONGRATULATIONS
Dennis
ON THIS WELL DESERVED HONOUR

NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL of FAME

JULIE LYNN STANHOPE

By Bruce Rainnie



ATHLETE

Figure skating is a sport built on precision. Every edge matters. Every landing matters. Every movement is judged. Success is measured in fractions, while mistakes are often remembered longer than triumphs.

For nearly two decades, Julie Stanhope embraced those challenges with a smile.

She skated with poise, determination, and joy. She represented Nova Scotia across Canada and around the world. She became one of the most decorated athletes in Special Olympics Nova Scotia history and established herself as a pioneer whose accomplishments helped redefine what was possible for generations of athletes who followed.

Long before the medals arrived, however, there was simply a young skater who loved being on the ice.

Stanhope began competing with Special Olympics in 1987. What followed was an extraordinary eighteen-year career that would take her from local rinks in Nova Scotia to international competitions in the United States, Austria, Japan, and beyond. Along the way, she developed a reputation for tireless preparation and unwavering commitment to her sport.

Those who watched her train recall endless repetitions. If a routine wasn't right, she worked until it was. If a jump failed, she tried again. And again.

The pursuit of excellence became a habit. Eventually, it became a hallmark.



Her first major breakthrough came at the 1988 Canadian National Championships in Edmundston, New Brunswick, where she captured a gold medal in singles competition. A year later, she announced herself on the world stage by winning gold at the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Reno, Nevada. It was the beginning of a remarkable international career that would span four World Games and produce a collection of medals unmatched by any female athlete in Special Olympics Nova Scotia history.

Success followed her from continent to continent.

There was a bronze medal at the 1993 World Games in Salzburg, Austria. There was a silver medal at the 2001 World Games in Anchorage, Alaska. There were national championships in singles competition and national championships in pairs competition. By the time her competitive career ended, Stanhope had won four World Games gold medals, a World Games silver medal, a World Games bronze medal, five Canadian national gold medals, and a national silver medal.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

Hometown: Halifax, NS

- **One of the most decorated athletes in Special Olympics figure skating**
- **4-time Special Olympics World Games gold medallist**
- **Special Olympics World Games silver and bronze medallist**
- **5-time national champion**
- **1989 Sport Nova Scotia Female Athlete of the Year**

Yet statistics alone cannot fully explain her significance.
Stanhope excelled in both singles and pairs skating, a rare accomplishment requiring different skills, different mindsets, and different forms of preparation. She won international gold medals alongside two separate skating partners, first with Sandy Morrison and later with James Blood. Her versatility allowed her to thrive regardless of circumstance, and her consistency made her one of Canada's most dependable international competitors.

One performance, however, came to define her career. In October 2004, while training for the World Winter Games in Nagano, Japan, Stanhope suffered a devastating injury. During a pairs practice session, she broke her ankle. Surgery followed. Pins and screws were inserted to stabilize the fracture. Doctors doubted she would be ready in time for the Games.



For most athletes, the setback would have ended the dream. Julie Stanhope refused to accept that outcome.

Six months later, she was back on the ice. There was pain. There was uncertainty. There was understandable fear about returning to competition. But there was also determination. She worked relentlessly through rehabilitation, regained her confidence, and earned her place on Team Canada.

Then she delivered one of the greatest performances of her career.

At the 2005 World Winter Games in Nagano, Stanhope captured gold in singles competition and another gold in pairs alongside James Blood. What had seemed impossible only months earlier became reality. She had gone from a hospital bed to the top of the podium. Those who witnessed the achievement never forgot it. Neither did she.

The performance perfectly reflected the qualities coaches, teammates, and supporters admired most. She was resilient. She was fearless. She possessed an ability to remain calm when pressure was greatest. Most importantly, she never allowed adversity to define her.

Her coach, Mary Ann Crowley, spent more than fifteen years working alongside Stanhope and described her as a skater whose determination never wavered. Others spoke of her infectious energy, positive attitude, and genuine kindness. She was fiercely competitive when the music started, but gracious and supportive once the competition ended. Those qualities made her more than a champion—they made her an ambassador.

Throughout her career, Stanhope became one of the most recognizable faces of Special Olympics sport in Nova Scotia. Young athletes looked to her as proof that extraordinary achievements were possible. Families saw in her a model of perseverance. Teammates saw someone who elevated everyone around her.

Recognition followed naturally. In 1989, Sport Nova Scotia named her Female Athlete of the Month. She was later honoured as Female Athlete of the Year by Nova Scotia Special Olympics. Those awards reflected athletic excellence, but they also acknowledged the impact she was having far beyond the rink.

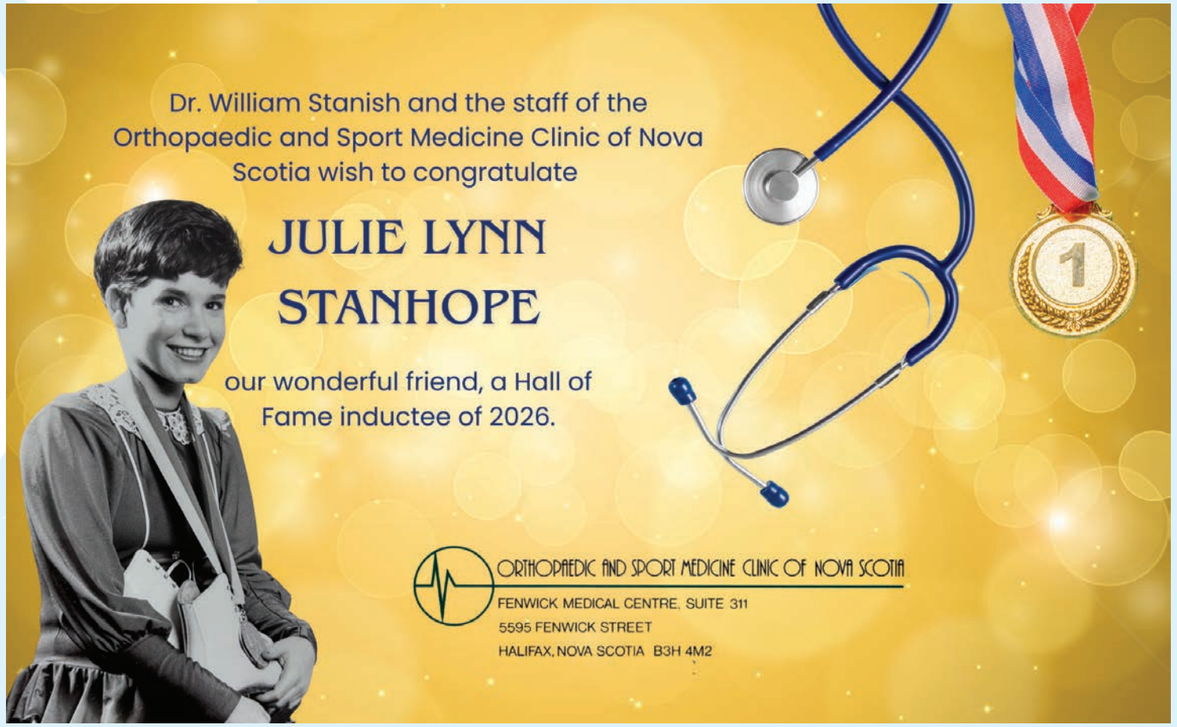


By the time she retired from competition in 2005, Julie Stanhope had accomplished more than anyone could have imagined when she first stepped onto the ice nearly two decades earlier. She had become a world champion—multiple times. She had represented Canada with distinction around the globe. She had helped establish Nova Scotia as a force within Special Olympics figure skating. And she had inspired countless athletes to dream bigger than they ever thought possible.

In a sport where perfection is always just beyond reach, Julie Stanhope came remarkably close. Not because every jump was flawless or every routine was perfect, but because she embodied the qualities sport is meant to teach: courage, perseverance, excellence, and grace under pressure.

Those qualities made her a champion. They also made her a Nova Scotia sporting legend.





CONGRATULATIONS

JULIE



From Jack & Marion Hemming

As proud sponsors of Special Olympics Nova Scotia, BMO Private Wealth extends its sincere congratulations to the 2026 Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame inductees. We are especially proud to recognize Julie Stanhope on this well-deserved honour.

BMO | Private Wealth

Congrats Julie!



OCEAN

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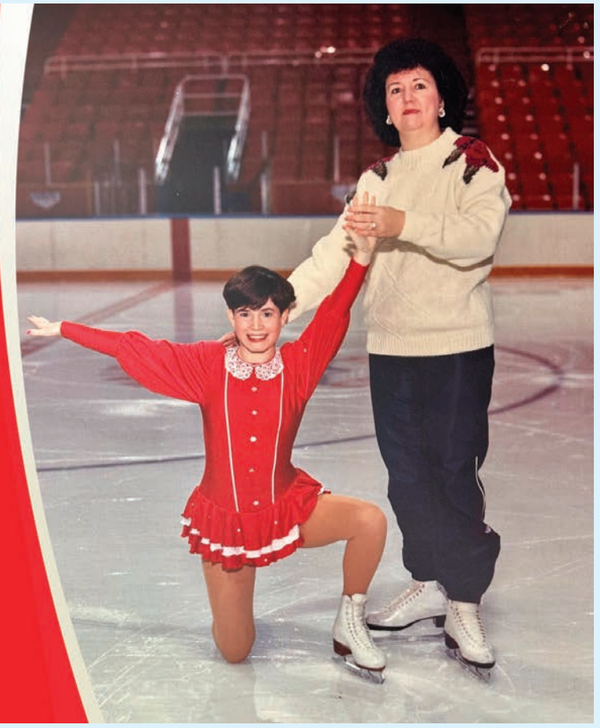
FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT OCEAN CONTRACTORS

The Board of Directors, coaches, volunteers, sponsors, fans, staff and the athletes of Special Olympics Nova Scotia congratulate all inductees!

We are very proud to cheer on Julie Stanhope as the first female Special Olympics athlete to achieve this honour and know that it will serve as inspiration for all athletes across the province.

Special Olympics Nova Scotia

To get involved or for more information call 902-429-2266 or visit us at www.specialolympicsns.ca



NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL of FAME

SCOTT LOGAN BUILDER

By Bruce Rainnie

Some people build athletes. Some people build systems. Scott Logan built both.

For more than five decades, Logan has been one of the most influential figures in Nova Scotia sport, transforming canoe-kayak and the sporting landscape of an entire province.

His career has encompassed coaching, education, administration, broadcasting, event organizing, and public policy. Yet his greatest gift has always been seeing what sport could become—and then making it happen.

When Logan arrived on the canoe-kayak scene in the 1970s, training was often seasonal, coaching largely volunteer-based, and scientific preparation rare. Logan saw opportunity.

In the early 1980s, he became Nova Scotia's first paid professional provincial canoe-kayak coach. He challenged long-standing assumptions, introducing collaborative training between rival clubs and year-round athlete development.

His methods were ahead of their time, but the provincial system was not yet equipped to implement them—sport science, periodization, mental performance training, objective testing, professional coaching standards.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

Hometown: Dartmouth/Waverley, NS

- **Served as CEO of Sport Nova Scotia from 1996 to 2003**
- **Launched transformative initiatives including KidSport, the Nova Scotia Amateur Sport Fund and Sport Makes a Difference**
- **National Development Coach and High Performance Director with Canoe/Kayak Canada**



Logan struck out on his own, founding Canoe-Tech, a professional coaching program that gave him the freedom to put those ideas to work. The results were undeniable.

Athletes flocked to Canoe-Tech. National champions emerged. Future Olympians developed. Many of Canada's national team athletes trained under systems Logan helped create. Steve Giles, Leslie-Anne Young, Caroline Brunet, Andrea Kerr, Peter Giles, Renn Crichlow, and Alyson Hurst were among those coached, mentored or influenced by his work.

Just as importantly, Nova Scotia became a canoe-kayak powerhouse. Athletes who once would have left the province in search of elite coaching now came to Nova Scotia instead. Logan didn't just improve the sport; he changed where excellence lived.

His success soon propelled him onto the national stage.

As National Development Coach for Canoe Kayak Canada, he guided athletes toward international success. He coached at the Pan American Games and World Student Games, served as team leader at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, and coached multiple World Junior Championship teams, helping establish Canada as a respected international force.

Those accomplishments were one chapter of a much larger story.

From 1991 to 1996, Logan built coaching infrastructure across the province. As the Atlantic Canadian representative for the Coaching Association of Canada, he founded the Atlantic Coaches Conference and brought higher levels of certification here. Coaches no longer had to travel to Ontario to advance their training.

And then in 1996, Logan became Chief Executive Officer of Sport Nova Scotia. The timing was critical. Amateur sport faced limited funding and uneven participation. Provincial organizations struggled for visibility and resources. The system emphasized administrative services over athlete support.

Logan responded with vision. During his seven-year tenure, he launched or helped create initiatives that reshaped sport in Nova Scotia.

The Sport Makes a Difference campaign promoted the value of sport. The Nova Scotia Amateur Sport Fund, now known as SportFund, opened avenues for investment and athlete support. KidSport expanded access for children whose families could not afford participation. Sport Quarterly and Sport Fair connected communities, organizations, and participants.

The impact was immediate and lasting. Funding increased. Participation grew. Partnerships expanded. Sport became a more prominent part of public policy discussions and community development strategies.

What began in Nova Scotia soon influenced conversations across Canada.



Colleagues across Canada credit Logan with helping provincial sport organizations find a stronger national voice. His leadership helped shape federal sport policy, strengthen charitable fundraising through the National Sport Trust Fund, and lay groundwork for enduring Canadian sport programs.

His influence extended well beyond the playing field. As Assistant Deputy Minister of Health Promotion, Logan championed sport as essential to healthy communities, advocating for opportunities and policies that encouraged families to participate.

Where others saw recreation, Logan saw social infrastructure. Where others saw games, he saw community development. And he never stopped building.

He helped establish the Nova Scotia Dragon Boat Festival, a major private funding source for amateur sport. He also helped organize World Sprint Canoe Championships in Nova Scotia, strengthening the province's reputation as a centre for paddling excellence.

Throughout it all, Logan remained deeply connected to paddling. As High Performance Director for Canoe Kayak Canada from 2013 to 2016, he oversaw programs that produced World Championship medals and prepared athletes for Olympic competition. His fingerprints remained on elite performance decades after he first stepped into a coach boat, a reminder of how his ideas had taken root in the sport he loved.

He also became one of the sport's most respected communicators. Across four Olympic Games and numerous world championships, Canadians heard his insights as a colour commentator, making the complexities of canoe-kayak racing accessible and engaging. It was a fitting role because few people understood the sport, or sport itself, more completely.

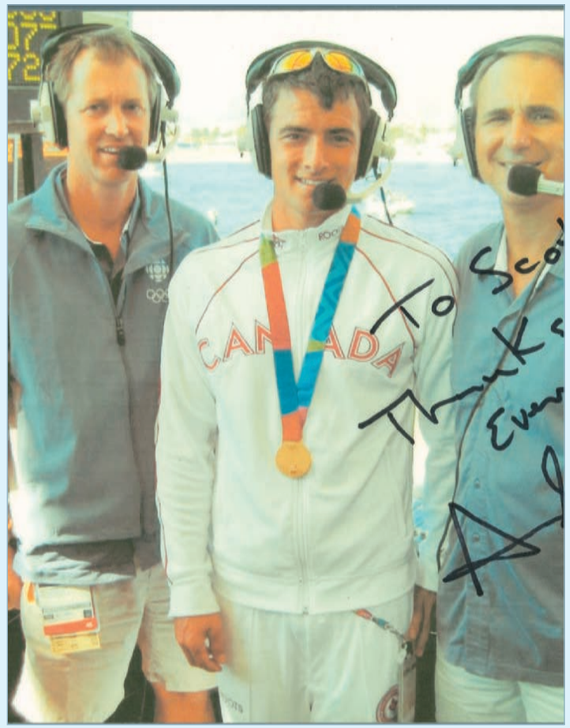
The true measure of Scott Logan's legacy isn't found in medals, championships, or job titles. It can be found in the coaches who adopted professional standards because of his example, the athletes who

achieved more because better systems existed, the children who gained access to sport through programs he helped create, and the organizations that grew stronger because he challenged them to think bigger.

For more than fifty years, Scott Logan has been quietly constructing the foundations upon which others could succeed.

Athletes stood on podiums. Communities celebrated victories. Sports flourished. And somewhere in the background, there was Scott Logan, building the next opportunity, creating the next pathway, and leaving Nova Scotia sport stronger than he found it.

That is the mark of a builder. And few have built more.





For more than five decades, Scott has helped shape Canadian canoe kayak, pioneering new approaches to coaching, developing champions and guiding athletes onto the world stage. His vision helped make Nova Scotia a centre of paddling excellence. His integrity and lasting care for his athletes gave that success its deepest meaning. From future Olympians to children taking their first strokes, generations have gone further because of him.

Thank you, Scott.

PODIUM PROPERTIES INC.

Congratulations to Scott Logan on his induction!



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SCOTT
LOGAN

CONGRATULATIONS

On this well-deserved recognition for your extraordinary contribution to amateur sport.

CHEEMA AQUATIC CLUB

#CHEEMAPROUD

HONOURING

Scott Logan

Congratulations on your induction into the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame.



Your vision and leadership have strengthened sport and built a lasting foundation for generations to come.

With gratitude and pride,

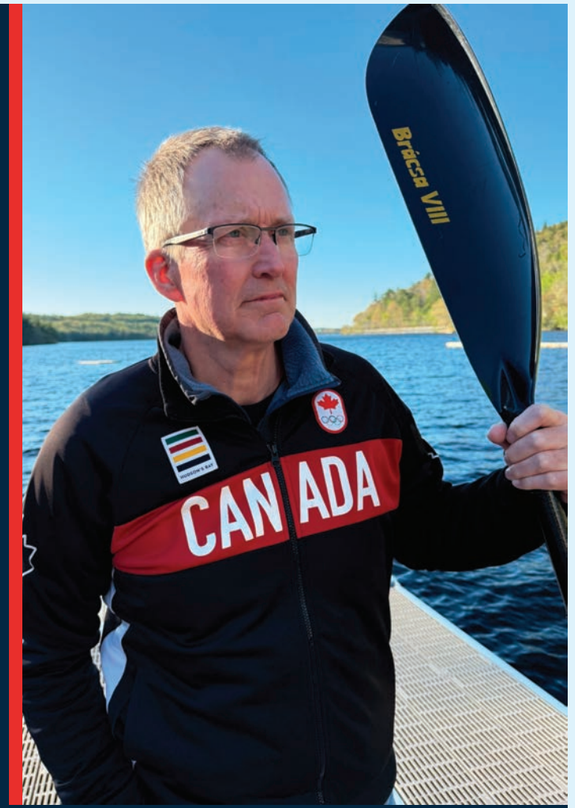
Atlantic Division
Canoe Kayak Canada

2026 NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL OF FAME

FROM THE LAKE TO THE HALL

Congratulations, SCOTT LOGAN

INDUCTEE - BUILDER



**ATHLETE. COACH. TEAM LEADER.
VOLUNTEER ORGANIZER. BUILDER.**

For more than five decades, Scott Logan has helped shape canoe/kayak in Nova Scotia and Canada - developing athletes, building programs, creating opportunities and strengthening sport far beyond the finish line.

We couldn't be prouder to see you take your place in the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame.

With congratulations and thanks,

YOUR FRIENDS IN CANOE/KAYAK



Congrats Scott!

Sport Nova Scotia is pleased to congratulate former CEO Scott Logan on his induction into the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame. During his time at Sport Nova Scotia, his leadership was instrumental in advancing amateur sport in our province and he has continued to make an impact throughout his career.

sport nova scotia

The Maritimes #1 Sports Channel



Bruce Rainnie & 2023 inductee Sara-Lynne Knockwood on set - Legends of the Hall

Congratulations to this year's Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame Inductees!

Eastlink Community TV is a proud partner of the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame and is the home of local sports in Nova Scotia, including: SSNS High School Sports, QMJHL Friday Night Hockey, The Gallagher Nova Scotia Open presented by Eastlink, the Maritime Junior Hockey League, and much more.

Enjoy new episodes of Legends of the Hall with Bruce Rainnie Fridays at 10pm on Eastlink Community TV.

eastlink community TV
Let's make the link.

The Office of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage recognizes the contributions of the honoured members of

The Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame

NOVA SCOTIA
NOUVELLE-ÉCOSSE

Dave Ritcey
Minister

• Deceased

ORIGINAL INDUCTEES

ATHLETE

Alfred "Ackie" Allbon •
Hector "Hec" Andrews •
Sam R. Balcom •
Marty Barry •
Wally Barteaux •
Fabie Bates •
D. Stanley Bauld •
Joey Beaton •
Richard Beazley •
Fred "Stonewall" Bishop •
Vaughan Black •
Neddy Borne •
Arthur J. Brady •
Henry "Ducky" Brooks •
Frank Brown •
George Brown •
Freddie Cameron •
"Hockey Jack" Campbell •
Mike Carney •
Frank Carroll •
Carroll Charleton •
D.R. "Dempsey" Chisholm •
Roy Chisholm •
Frank Condon •
Jack Condon •
Johnny Conroy •
Thurston Cook •
Joe Crockett •
George Cutten •
Art Dalton •
Robie Davison •
Clarence DeMont •
George Dixon •
W.R. "Tee" Doyle •
Burns Dunbar •
Bill Dunphy •
Vern Eville •
Layton Ferguson •
Robert "Burglar" Ferguson •
Vincent Ferguson •
Leon Fluck •
Charlie Foley •
Tom Foley •
Bob Forward •
Jack Stan Fraser •
Jimmy Fraser •
Bob Goodhew •
Louis "Louie" Graham •
Chester Gregory •
John "Hap" Hanlon •
Reg Hart •
Roy Haverstock •
Nedder Healey •
William A. Henry •
Charles "Tiny" Hermann •
Grant Holmes •
Vernon "Newt" Hopper •
John "Timmie" Hunter •
Roy Hunter •
Nedder Hurley •
Gordon B. Isnor •
Roy Isnor •
Stanton Jackson •
Waldon Kennedy •
Alf Kirby •
Gordon "Doggie" Kuhn •
Robert Laidlaw •
Ves Laing •
Mellish Lane •
Sam Langford •
George Latham •
Jack Learment •
Sammy Lesser •
Fergie Little •
Tommy Little •
Lester Lowther •
Mark & Mike Lynch •
Victor MacAulay •
Ritchie MacCoy •
"Big" Alex MacDonald •
Ian MacDonald •
Jack D. MacDonald •
R.J. MacDonald •
Roddie MacDonald •
Toby MacDonald •
John MacIntyre •
"Mickey" MacIntyre •
Hughie MacKinnon •
Clarence "Coot" MacLean •
Kirk MacLellan •
Silas MacLellan •
Wilbert Martel •
Jimmy Martin •
Stephen "Duke" McIsaac •
Bill McKay •
Jack McKenna •
Sandy McMullin •
Aileen Meagher •
Bert "Basket" Messervey •
Johnny Miles •
Leigh Miller •
Billy Mooney •
Frank Morrison •
Ernie Mosher •
Tom Mullane •
Jack Munroe •
Mike Murphy •
A.V. "Chummie" Murray •
Frank Nicks •
Con Olson •
Gerald "Jigger" O'Neil •
John W. O'Neill •
Jim "Hank" O'Rourke •
Billy Parsons •
Charles Patterson Sr. •
Charles Patterson 2nd •
Charlie Paul •
Gertrude Phinney •
Billy Pickering •
Burns Wesley Pierce •
Wyman Porter •
Billy Rawley •
Vaughan Reagh •
Walter Rice •
Billy Richardson •
Harvey Richardson •
"Nugget" Richmond •
Percy Ring •
Mickey Roach •
Alf Rogers •
William C. Ross •
Fritz Schaefer •
Cliff Shand •
Howard Shaw •
Lou Shaw •
Lou Siderski •
Billy Smith •
Ted Stackhouse •
Frank Stephen •
Bill "Red" Stuart •
Dave Thomson •
George Tracy •
Jimmy Trott •
Jack Twaddle •
Angus Walters •
Terrence "Tiger" Warrington •
Russell T. Ward •
George Weatherbee •
Neddie Weaver •
Steven Whelan •
Neil Wilkie •
James "Minute" Wilkie •
Benny Woodworth •

TEAM

Jubilee Four Oared Crew of 1930
Ross Foley Four Oared Crew
St. Mary's Four Oared Crew of 1909
Smith-Nickerson Four Oared Crew

1980

ATHLETE

David Amadio •
Paul Andrea
Don Bauld •
Len Boss •
Joe "Beef" Cameron •
Dr. W.A. "Buddy" Condy •
John Devison
Foster "Moxie" Dickson •
P. "Skit" Ferguson •
Fred Fox •
Lawson Fowler •
Tyrone Gardiner •
Doug Grant
Art Hafey
John "Junior" Hanna •
Jimmy Hawboldt •
Robert Hayes •
J. "Bert" Hirschfeld •
Dorothy Holmes •
Vida Large •
Parker MacDonald
Steve "Kid" MacDonald •
Allister MacNeil •
Avard Mann •
S. "Chook" Maxwell •
Joseph "Joey" Mullins •
Roy Oliver •
Bevil "Bev" Piers •
Blair Richardson •
Richie Spears
Sherman White •
R. "Tic" Williams •
Frances L. Woodbury •

BUILDER

Bob Beaton •
A. Garnet Brown •
Ted Cumming
John Cechetto
Hanson Dowell •
Danny Gallivan •
Eddie Gillis •
Jack Gray •
Don Henderson •
Clarence Johnson •
Fred Kelly •
Art Lightfoot •
Frank McGibbon •
Leo "Pop" McKenna •
John MacCarthy •
Charles MacVicar •
Hugh Noble •
Victor deB. Oland •
John Piers •
Dannie Seaman •
H.L. "Bud" Thorbourne •
Harry Trainor •
Abbie Warden •
George Warden •

TEAM

Acadia University "Axemen" Basketball 1971
Caledonia Rugby 1937
Halifax "Atlantics" Hockey 1952-53-54
Halifax Queen Elizabeth "Lions" Basketball 1950
Halifax "Wolverines" Hockey 1934-35
Kentville "Glooscap" Curling 1951 •
Kentville Wildcats Hockey 1926-27
New Glasgow High School Track and Field 1937
New Waterford Central High School Basketball 1961
New Waterford "Strands" Basketball 1946-47-48
St. Agnes Juvenile Basketball - New Waterford 1932
Stellarton "Albions" Baseball 1951-52-53
Sydney Millionaires Hockey 1941
Truro "Bearcats" Senior Baseball 1946
Truro Bearcats "Seven Survivors" Hockey 1930-31
Truro "Slugs" Girls Softball 1945-46-50

1981

ATHLETE

Edith Bauld •
John Alexander "Johnny" Clark •
Delmore William "Buddy" Daye •
James Goode "Jimmy" Gray •
John Edward McCurdy •
Jesse Elroy Mitchell •

BUILDER

Nathan Scoville "Nate" Bain •
Harold William "Harry" Butler •
Captain John Theodore Cruikshank •
James Archibald "J.A." Ferguson •
Judge Julian Elliot Hudson •
Donald John Loney •
John "Jack" Thomas •
Freda Noble Wales •

TEAM

Acadia University Men's Basketball 1930
Halifax Curling Club Men's 1927
Liverpool Jets Senior Women's Softball 1965-67
Liverpool Larrupers Senior Baseball 1939-41
Yarmouth Gateways Senior Baseball 1929-35

1982

ATHLETE

Norman "Normie" Ferguson
George Ross Harper
Christopher "Chris" Hook
Maisie Howard •
Richard "Kid" Howard •
Rita Lohnes
Lowell MacDonald
Gary Walter McMahon
John "Kenzie" MacNeill •
Gerald "Tarp" Walsh •

BUILDER

John E. "Gee" Ahern •
Gerald St. Clair "Jerry" Bauld •

TEAM

Acadia Senior Men's Varsity Basketball 1964-65
Acadia Senior Women's Varsity Swim 1977-78
Bridgetown Men's Lawn Bowling 1973-75
International Dory Racing - Lloyd Heisler & Russell Langille 1952-55
Springhill "Fencebusters" Baseball 1927-28

MEDIA

W.J. "Ace" Foley •

1983

ATHLETE

Clyde Gray
George "Rock-A-Bye" Ross •

BUILDER

Frank Baldwin •

TEAM

World Championship Sailing– Glen Dexter, Andreas Josenhans, Alexander "Sandy" MacMillan 1977, 1980

MEDIA

Alex Nickerson •

1984

ATHLETE

Marjorie Turner-Bailey
Lyle Carter
Gerald Mielke •
Wayne Smith •

BUILDER

John "Brother" MacDonald •
Jimmy McDonald •

MEDIA AWARD

Earl R.J. Morton •

1985

ATHLETE

Susan Mason (MacLeod)
Thomas Melvin "Ike" Murray •
Beverley "Bev" Wade •

BUILDER

Frederick Robert "Fred" Lynch •
Les Topshee •

MEDIA

Dr. Cecil MacLean •

1986

ATHLETE

Sylvester "Daddy" Bubar •
Nancy Ellen Garapick •
Gerald "Gerry" Leslie Glinz •
Marty Martinello •

BUILDER

Steve MacDonald •
Gordon S. Mont

TEAM

Saint Mary's University Football 1973

1987

ATHLETE

John "Jack" Fritz •
Phil Scott
Francis "Rocky" MacDougall •

BUILDER

Janet Merry •
Owen N. Sawler •

TEAM

Shearwater Flyers Football 1957

1988

ATHLETE

Douglas "Dugger" McNeil •
David Piers •
Earl Arthur Ryan •
Garfield MacDonald •

BUILDER

George "Porgy" Kehoe •
Annie Longard •
Gladys Longard •

TEAM

Brookfield Elks Softball 1980

1989

ATHLETE

Hugh Alexander Campbell
Herbert MacLeod •
Sydney Hale Roy •
Reginald J. Muise •

BUILDER

John Brophy •
Nigel Kemp
Donald Wheeler •

TEAM

Stellarton Monarchs Senior Softball 1937-38

1990

ATHLETE

Reginald "Reg" Beazley •
Peter Hope
Sam Wareham •
Jerry Byers •

BUILDER

Robert "Bob" Kaplan •
Herman Kaplan •
Alfred "Alf" LeJeune •

TEAM

Windsor Maple Leafs Senior Hockey 1963-64

1991

ATHLETE

Walter Dann
Hilliard Graves
Angus "Sonny" MacDonald •
John Myketyn •
Billy O'Donnell

BUILDER

John Fortunato •
Keith MacKenzie •
Rod Shoveller •

1992

ATHLETE

Fred Cuvelier •
Ismet "Hum" Joseph •
Wayne Maxner •

BUILDER

Darius "Pat" Patterson •
Bob Sayer

TEAM

Saint Francis Xavier Hockey 1950-51

1993

ATHLETE

Leo Amadio •
Andrew Cole
Elizabeth Connor •
Robert McCall •
Robert Mills
Miriam Penney •
Doug Sulliman

BUILDER

James Creighton •
Bill Kingston •

1994

ATHLETE

Paul Boutilier •
Ann Dodge
Peter Doig •
Karin Maessen

BUILDER

Robert "Bob" Douglas •
Frank Garner •

TEAM

Saint Francis Xavier Football 1966

1995

ATHLETE

Josephine Laba •
Paul MacLean
Marie Moore
Ralph Simmons •

BUILDER

Gussie MacLellan •
Ken Mantin •

TEAM

Nova Scotia Women's Field Hockey 1975

1996

ATHLETE

David Crabbe
Edna Lockhart Duncanson •
Duncan MacIntyre •
Marie McNeil Bowness
Karen Fraser Moore

BUILDER

Taylor Gordon •
Fred MacGillivray, Sr. •
Joyce Myers •

1997

ATHLETE

Jamie Bone
Rick Bowness
Edwin Crowell •
John "Jook" Munroe •
Bob Piers

BUILDER

George Athanasiou
Dr. William Stanish
Dorothy Walker •

TEAM

Nova Scotia Voyageurs Hockey 1971-72

1998

ATHLETE

William "Bill" Carter •
Wilson Parsons
William "Bill" Riley •
Ken Shea •

BUILDER

Elizabeth Chard •
Lois MacGregor
Bob Wong •

TEAM

Saint Mary's University Basketball 1972-73

1999

ATHLETE

Dave Downey
Duncan Gillis •
Mike Henderson
Mike McPhee

BUILDER

Bob Boucher •
Pat Connolly •
John MacGlashen •

TEAM

Halifax Arcade Ladies Softball 1946-49

2000

ATHLETE

Donald "Chick" Charlton •
William Hannon •
Kevin Morrison
Lawrence "Butch" O'Hearn

BUILDER

Kell Antoft •
Brian Langley
Al Yarr

TEAM

Sydney Millionaires Hockey 1948-49

2001

ATHLETE

Cecilia Branch
Donald MacVicar
Kathy MacCormack Spurr

BUILDER

Laurie Power •
Ginny Smith

TEAM

Thorburn Mohawks Maritime Junior Softball 1963-65
1981 Canada Games Junior Boys Softball

2002

ATHLETE

Fabian Joseph
Cliff Roach •
Mark Smith

BUILDER

Terry Henderson
Alexander "Sandy" Young •

TEAM

Dalhousie University Volleyball 1982
Saint Mary's Jr. Hockey 1948

2003

ATHLETE

Ricky Anderson
Jim Beckman
Malcolm Davis
Graham MacIntyre
Clyde Roy •
Barry Shakespeare •

BUILDER

Jerome Bruhm
Leo Fahey •

TEAM

Saint Francis Xavier Football 1963

MEDIA

Hugh Townsend

2004

ATHLETE

Art Dorrington •
Hugh Little •
Gerry MacMillan
Kathy Powers
Tyrone Williams

BUILDER

Bernie Chisholm
Hugh Matheson
Gail Rice
William James Roue •

TEAM

Glace Bay Colonels 1987

MEDIA

Donnie MacIsaac •

2005

ATHLETE

Neil Amadio •
John Cassidy
Jackie Hayden •
David "Ducky" Webber

BUILDER

John Paris Jr.
Susan Smith
Murray Sleep •

TEAM

Antigonish Robertson's Midget Softball 1984
Nova Scotia Canada Games Men's Basketball 1987

MEDIA

Al Hollingsworth •

2006

ATHLETE

Terry Baker
Chris Clarke
John Giovannetti •
David Pinkney Sr. •
Ken Reardon

BUILDER

David Andrews
Muriel Fage •
Courtney Malcolm

TEAM

Judy Lugar and Morag McLean Sailing
Fisherman's Market Midget Boys Fast Pitch Softball 1981

2007

ATHLETE

Frank Dorrington •
Stan Hennigar Jr.
Fred Lake •
Penny LaRocque
Charles Smith •
Wendell Young

BUILDER

Steve Konchalski
Don Koharski
Dick MacLean •

2008

ATHLETE

Don Brien
Peter Corkum •
Al MacInnis
Carroll Morgan •

BUILDER

Wayne Finck •
David Fraser
Arnold Patterson •

TEAM

Amherst Ramblers Hockey 1960-61

2009

ATHLETE

Bruce Beaton
Mickey Fox
Brian Heaney
Jody Hennigar
Gordie Smith

BUILDER

Roy Clements •
Gus Fahey

TEAM

Acadia University Men's Basketball 1976-77

2010

ATHLETE

Janice Cossar
Mike Forgeron
Robyn Meagher
Gary Sabean
Cindy Tye
Ross Webb

BUILDER

Carl "Bucky" Buchanan •
Kevin Heisler
Rick Rivers

2011

ATHLETE

Will Njoku
Steve Pound •
Cam Russell
Michael Scarola

BUILDER

Hubert Earle
Carolyn Savoy •

TEAM

Team Colleen Jones 1999-2004

2012

ATHLETE

Julie Barton
Steve Giles
Vince Horsman
Glen Murray

BUILDER

John (Jack) Graham
Howard Jackson •

TEAM

2001 King of Donair Men's Soccer Club

2013

ATHLETE

Lawrence Hafey
John Hatch

BUILDER

Stephen Fairbairn
Tak Kikuchi

TEAM

1981 Acadia University Axemen Football
1985 Kentville Wildcats Baseball

2014

ATHLETE

Kevin Dugas
Scott Fraser •
Theresa MacCuish
Richard G. Munro
Ken Poole

BUILDER

Dr. Cathy Campbell
Anthony Hall

TEAM

1998 Truro TSN Bearcats Hockey Club

2015

ATHLETE

Raymond "Sugar Ray" Downey
Chris Flynn
Andrew Haley
David Kikuchi

BUILDER

Jim Bottomley
Lowell Cormier

TEAM

1995 Dalhousie University Men's Soccer Team

2016

ATHLETE

Tracy Cameron
Leon Carter
Karen Furneaux
Simon P. Gillis •

Ante Jazic

BUILDER

David Fry •
Fred MacGillivray

2017

ATHLETE

Sarah Baker •
Amy Cotton
Todd King
Lucy Smith

Colin White

BUILDER

Brad Barton
Mike Kelly •

TEAM

1977 Cheema Canoe Team

2018

ATHLETE

Mary Beth Bowie
Kristan Burley
Anna Pendergast Stammberger
Somebeachsomewhere •

BUILDER

Thomas Doucette •
Margaret "Peggy" Gallant

TEAM

1978 SMU Men's Basketball Team

2019

ATHLETE

Jackie Barrett
Justine Colley-Leger
Suzanne Muir
Jody Shelley
Morgan Williams

BUILDER

Henry Boutilier •
Roger Caulfield

2021

ATHLETE

Richard Dalton
Todd Hallett
Robert Putnam
Ted Upshaw

BUILDER

Cathy Mason
Brian Todd

TEAM

Team Dacey 2004 Brier Curling Champion

2022

ATHLETE

Sarah Conrad
Jon Sim
Paul Tingley

BUILDER

Tom Coolen
Laszlo "Csom" Latorovszki

TEAM

1994 Dalhousie Women's Soccer Team

2023

ATHLETE

Joe DiPenta
Suzanne Gerrior
Sara-Lynne Knockwood
Bill Robinson

BUILDER

Joel Jacobson •
John Kehoe

TEAM

1993 Acadia Axemen Hockey Team

2024

ATHLETE

Jamie Bone
Kirk Johnson
Dwayne Provo
Leslie-Anne Young

BUILDER

Dr. Christina Atkinson
Danny Flynn

TEAM

1990 Acadia Axewomen Soccer Team

2025

ATHLETE

Ralph Hollett •
Colleen Jones •

BUILDER

Bev Greenlaw
Mike MacKay

TEAM

1979 St. Mary's Huskies Men's Basketball
1982 Red Fox Senior A Women's Basketball

2026

ATHLETE

Dennis Bonvie
Rodney Hersey
Julie Lynn Stanhope

BUILDER

Scott Logan
Jacqueline Nicholl •

TEAM

2001 Saint Mary's University Men's Football Team
2003 Halifax Athens Women's Soccer Team

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SCAN ME

HALL OF FAME SELECTION PROCESS

Helping to Select Nova Scotia Sport Heroes to the Hall

The selection process for the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame has proven to be very successful, creating transparency and expanded participation, while ensuring the best athletes, teams, and builders continue to gain the recognition they deserve. A 24-person review panel from across the province, all sport-knowledgeable people, review the nominations—usually between 80 and 100 submissions annually.

Using a weighted point system, each of the 24 ranks his or her top ten in the athlete/team category and top five in the builder category.

Two short lists—top point getters in athlete/team and builder categories, in alphabetical order—are then presented to a final 12-member selection committee, consisting of regional representatives with sport background expertise.

That committee meets in person to review the final list of nominees, with open and detailed discussion taking place on each nominee.

A transparent first-ballot vote narrows the list, with the top four vote getters in the athlete-team category receiving automatic election. Those others receiving at least 50 per cent of the first-ballot vote are then placed on a second ballot, and require at least 75 per cent of the vote to attain election. A maximum of five new members in the category can be elected each year.

The process is similar for builders, with two to be elected each year.

Chair of the Hall of Fame selection process is Hall of Famer Mark Smith, elected as an athlete in 2002.

Since implementing the new process in 2009, we have seen its success in the years following.

Nominations are accepted from the public with a deadline of January 31st each year. The selection process moves through committees from March through May.

SELECTION COMMITTEE PERSONNEL

2026 Selection Review Panel

Michelle Aucoin
Ray Bradshaw
Janice Cossar
Ken Douglas
Bette El-Hawary
Brian Finniss
Sarah Gloade
Joel Goodman
Frank Grant
Leahanne Irving
Nevin Jackson
Alex Joseph
Nigel Kemp
Paul Long
Iain MacDonald
Melissa MacKinnon
Dave MacLean
Janessa MacPherson
David Ogbuah
John Randles
Gail Rice
John Ryan
Ted Upshaw
Jeff Whitman

2026 Selection Committee

Chairman Mark Smith
Marc Champoux
Janice Cougle
Bill Dunphy
Jamie Ferguson
Matt Haliburton
Paul Hollingsworth
Jill Jeffrey
Stephanie Johnson
Sara-Lynne Knockwood
Gordie Sutherland
Cecil Wright

(Re) Opening

HOURS FOR 2026

Public grand reopening:
Thursday, November 26, 1-4pm

From November 27 to the end of the year:

Monday - Friday:
10am-4pm

Wednesday: open late to 8pm

Saturday: 11am-3pm

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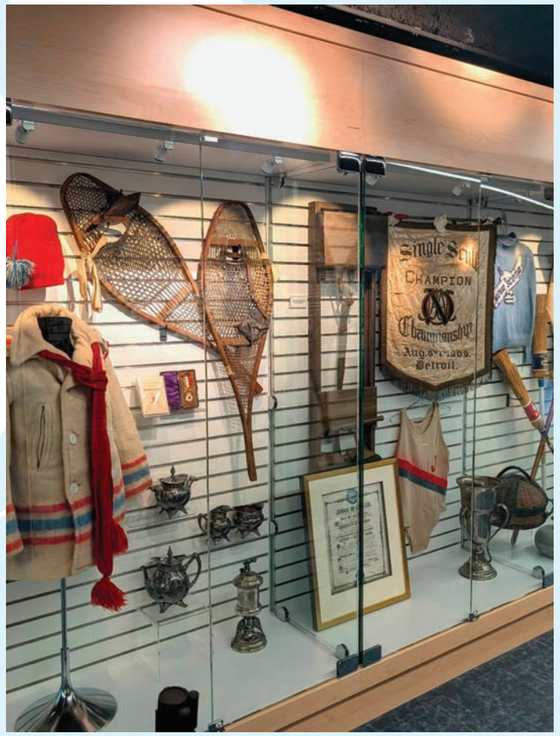






Sport Hero Super Powers

Super Powers are special qualities that help people do amazing things in sport and in life. Every sport hero has super powers—not magical powers, but qualities that help them overcome challenges, work with others, and achieve their goals. Our Hall of Famers develop qualities like confidence, kindness, resilience, and positivity. Just like athletes, you can build these super powers through practice, learning, and believing in yourself.

What are your super powers?

As you explore this exhibit, you'll discover the stories of Nova Scotia's sport heroes and the super powers that helped them succeed. Take a look... because the next sport hero you see could be you.

This new exhibit is found in our Celebrating Excellence section and is directly tied to our Future Hall of Famers Education Program.

1895: The Colored Hockey League of the Maritimes Begins Play

In 1895, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, the game became something more than sport.

Black Baptist leaders formed teams—the Eurekas, the Jubilees, the Stanleys, the Sea-Sides—creating what would become the Colored Hockey League of the Maritimes. It was built on community, pride, and purpose.

The game was fast, physical, and different.

At its peak, the league spread across Nova Scotia and into Prince Edward Island, drawing large, multiracial crowds and the attention of the press. It wasn't just played—it was followed.

And it innovated.

The butterfly style in goal. The early use of the slapshot. Elements of the modern game were shaped here first.

But there were barriers. Racism limited access to arenas and resources, and in time, outside pressures and war took their toll. But for a stretch, the league thrived.

It wasn't just hockey. It was a statement—one that helped shape the game, and those who would carry it forward.

Find this hockey history milestone on our interactive digital timeline, and on display in our Home of Hockey section.



FIND IT ON EXHIBIT



Puck Pursuit

Puck Pursuit showcases Sidney Crosby's incredible accomplishments by surrounding the famous Crosby family dryer with pucks representing every regular season NHL goal Crosby has scored.

With 657 pucks and counting already required, we are excited to offer the opportunity for fans to celebrate Crosby and his impact on hockey history by purchasing pucks for this awe-inspiring display.

Names will be recognized by goal numbers on exhibit text panels.

Find the exhibit in the Home of Hockey section, and learn more about purchasing a puck by scanning the QR code.

Purchase Here

Legacy Locker

What is the Legacy Locker?

- The Legacy Locker is the primary home of the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame (NSSHF)'s collection of more than 8,000 artifacts, and the first-ever dedicated onsite artifact storage room at the NSSHF facility.
- The specially designed space is equipped to provide the best possible conservation, secure stewardship, and active collecting of Nova Scotia's sport heritage, while also functioning as its own unique exhibit.
- A full wall of visible storage allows visitors to see into the heart of the museum, where the priceless objects that tell the stories of challenges and triumphs are carefully preserved.
- It is also an educational tool for curriculum-based learning as part of our free Future Hall of Famers education program.



2003 HALIFAX ATHENS WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM

By Bruce Rainnie

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

- **The first Nova Scotia senior women's soccer team to win a national championship**
- **Defeated nine-time NSSL champion Scotia Olympics in NSSL final**
- **Gold medallists at Canadian Senior Soccer Championships, defeating Quebec in dramatic final game**
- **Team Members: Melanie Boyd, Belinda Campbell, Melanie Clarke, Amber Coldwell, Elizabeth Cook, Laura Diamond, Michelle (Chouinard) Ferguson, Andrea Foreman (Thompson), Sandra Fraser, Marieke Gardner, Andrea "Andi" Gillepsie, Chrissie Henderson, Claire Martin (Horne), Leanne Huck, Nadia Ibrahim, Sarah Kozey Keadle, Zoë (Dyer) Mitchell, Katie Radchuk, Marie Rasmussen, coaches Graham H. Chandler and Bob Rumscheidt, manager Angelo Cianfaglione, trainer Mara Chaplin, and president Evangelos Panopalis**

By the time Halifax Athens arrived in Quebec City for the 2003 Canadian championships, the team had already travelled a demanding road. To qualify, Athens survived a double-overtime provincial final against the Scotia Olympics, the dominant force in Nova Scotia women's club soccer. What followed was harder: five games in five days, four decided in overtime or penalty kicks, with almost no time to recover between tests.

Athens became the first Nova Scotia women's team to win the Canadian senior club championship and the first Atlantic Canadian team to capture the Jubilee Trophy. Yet the truest measure of the team was not simply the trophy; it was how the players won it.

Athens was a remarkable blend of generations, with players ranging in age from 17 to 35. A core of experienced women provided composure, toughness and perspective. Around them was an exceptional group of younger players whose speed, skill and endurance became indispensable during the tournament's unforgiving schedule.

Leanne Huck was just beginning her first AUS season at Dalhousie in the fall of 2003. The national club championship landed in the middle of that freshman season, and the Athens experience became a springboard for the decorated career that followed. Katie Radchuck and goalkeeper Liz Cook were only 17 and beginning their final year of high school. Radchuck had gained valuable experience that August with Canada's under-23 team at the Pan American Games and would later play at the University of Connecticut. During nationals, she even missed a match to write her SATs.



TEAM



In Quebec City, these youthful team members were still near the beginning of their journeys. Their talent offered a glimpse of the next generation of Nova Scotia women's soccer, and it fit perfectly with the maturity of veterans such as Andrea Gillespie, Claire Martin, Laura Diamond, and Amber Coldwell.

Coach Bob Rumscheidt saw the differences in age and experience as a source of strength. What united the group, he recalled, was that they loved to play, wanted to win and wanted to laugh while doing it. The older players knew how to settle the younger ones, like Cook, who was fearless in goal. Rumscheidt credited the veteran defenders with guiding her through difficult moments and making sure she understood that the team trusted her.

That trust mattered because nothing came easily.

Athens opened the national tournament with a penalty-kick loss to Quebec. With no margin for error, they answered by defeating Prince Edward Island in another shootout. Their third game against Manitoba went to double overtime before Athens advanced on a golden goal. The physical strain was immense, but the young legs of Huck, Radchuck, and Cook, combined with the resolve of the veteran players, kept the team moving forward.

The contribution extended through the roster. Marie Rasmussen and Sandra Fraser were called up from lower divisions after Sarah Kozey, Mel Shea, and Zoe Dyer were lost to university commitments. Every player was needed. Perseverance and sacrifice were daily requirements.

In the semifinal, Athens produced its only regulation-time victory of the week, defeating perennial power Ontario 2-0. Nova Scotia teams had come painfully close at previous national championships, but Rumscheidt never viewed Athens as a team that should simply be pleased to participate. His message was clear: if they

qualified, they could compete with Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and Alberta. They were going to Quebec City believing they could return with gold.

The final brought a rematch with the host Quebec team. On the morning of the game, Rumscheidt noticed something different. The players were quiet during their early walk and completely silent on the bus to the field, but it was not the silence of fear. It was focus. “We are in a good place,” he remembered thinking. “We’re not scared of the moment.”

Athens led until Quebec scored late to force overtime, the kind of blow that can break a tired team. This one refused to break. The match went through double overtime and into penalty kicks. As the players gathered, Rumscheidt told them they were going to win and that Cook would make a save. She did. Athens converted every attempt.

Those who played against Athens remember a team that combined technical skill with physical strength. Facing them meant preparing for a battle. Other outstanding Nova Scotia teams had come agonizingly close on the national stage, but Athens became the first to finish the job.

The championship became foundational for the younger players and helped propel the successes that followed in their careers. For the veterans, it was the reward for years spent building women’s soccer in the province and believing Nova Scotia belonged among Canada’s best. For everyone who followed, it was proof.

Five games in five days. Four extended beyond regulation. A roster spanning nearly two decades in age. Athens took the longest and most demanding route available, then emerged as national champion.

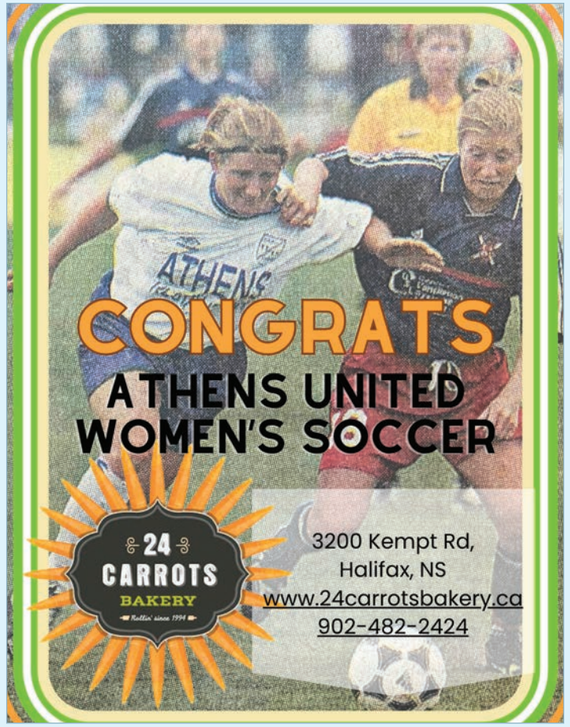
By then, they had shown every side of a champion. They could win with skill and speed, but when the tournament became a test of resolve, they answered with sacrifice, composure and trust. Again and again, someone found one more run, one more save, or one more measure of courage when it mattered most.

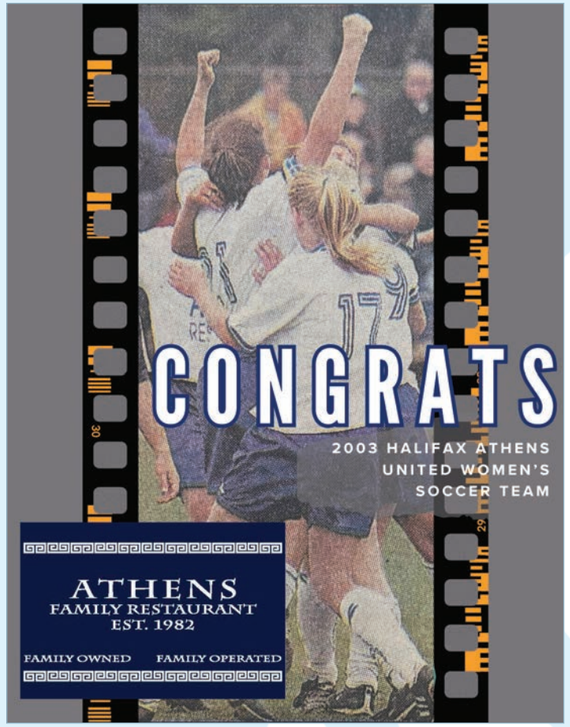
The 2003 Halifax Athens women returned home with the Jubilee Trophy and left Nova Scotia soccer with something even more enduring: the certainty that its best could stand with anyone in Canada.













IN A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2026

Dalhousie University is proud to celebrate alumnae Amber Caldwell, Mara Chaplin, Belinda Campbell, Melanie Clarke, Laura Diamond, Andrea Foreman, Andrea Gillespie, Chrissie Henderson, Leanne Huck, Claire Martin and Jacqueline Nicholl, whose accomplishments exemplify excellence, leadership, dedication, and commitment.

Thank you all for your inspiration.

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Leanne Huck, Physiotherapist
Member of the 2003 Halifax Athens Women's Soccer Team

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NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL of FAME

RODNEY HERSEY

By Bruce Rainnie



ATHLETE

Most skiers spend their lives learning to read a mountain. They study the terrain. They anticipate changes in snow conditions. They search for the fastest line through a course while reacting to obstacles at speeds that leave little room for error.

Rodney Hersey did all of that without being able to see.

And he became one of the best blind alpine skiers in the world.

His achievements are remarkable by any standard: six silver medals at Paralympic and World Championship competition, a world record in track and field, international gold medals, national championships in multiple sports, and membership on Canadian teams in alpine skiing, athletics, and goalball.

Yet numbers alone fail to capture the magnitude of what Rodney Hersey accomplished. His story is one of determination, adaptability, and a lifelong refusal to allow blindness to define the limits of his potential.

Born in Plaster Rock, New Brunswick, Hersey lost his vision to retinitis pigmentosa. Rather than withdrawing from sport, he immersed himself in it. After moving to Halifax in 1969 to attend the Sir Frederick Fraser School for the Blind, he developed a training regimen that would have impressed any elite athlete.

He lifted weights alongside sighted athletes in local gyms. He trained with members of the Halifax Trojans swim club. He ran with Dalhousie University's cross-country athletes. Every opportunity became a chance to improve. Every challenge became another reason to work harder.

The results came quickly.



Photo: Jane Verge

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

Hometown: Halifax, NS

- **2-time World Championship gold medallist in track & field**
- **World record holder in track & field**
- **3-time Paralympic silver medallist in alpine skiing**
- **3-time World silver medallist in alpine skiing**
- **A trailblazer for visually impaired athletes**

Before he ever became known as a skier, Hersey established himself as one of Canada's premier para-athletes in track and field. At the 1977 Canadian Games for the Physically Disabled in Edmonton, he won gold in the pentathlon, silver in discus, and bronze in the 400 metres. A year later, he elevated his performance even further, capturing three gold medals and a silver at the 1978 Canadian Games in St. John's, while setting Canadian records in the pentathlon, discus, and 400 metres. He was named Outstanding Male Athlete of the Games.

Then came a performance that placed him among the world's elite. On August 4, 1979, at Beazley Field in Dartmouth, Hersey set a world record in the men's 1,500 metres for totally blind athletes, running 4:40.7. Later that same year, he travelled to England and won gold medals in both the 400 and 1,500 metres at the Stoke Mandeville Games, the international competition that served as the forerunner to today's Paralympic movement.

Most athletes would have been satisfied with becoming a world-class runner. Rodney Hersey was just getting started.

He also excelled in goalball, the unique Paralympic sport designed specifically for blind athletes. As a member of Canada's national team, he competed internationally and emerged as the country's leading scorer at the 1980 World Disabled Championships in Holland. Coaches and teammates remembered not only his athletic ability, but also his willingness to compete wherever he was needed, often juggling multiple sports and events within the same competition schedule.

Then he found alpine skiing.

For many people, the very idea sounds impossible. Downhill skiing requires balance, speed, timing, and split-second decision-making. Racing at elite levels requires even more. Blind skiers rely on guides skiing ahead of them, communicating constantly through verbal commands as they descend courses at high speed. The margin for





error is virtually nonexistent. Hersey embraced the challenge.

Within a remarkably short period, he progressed from learning the sport to competing internationally with Canada's national disabled ski team. Guided initially by Cathy Kerr and later by Jane Verge, he developed into one of the world's top blind alpine racers. Coaches described his natural feel for terrain, his exceptional body awareness, and his willingness to trust completely in the guidance he received, while attacking courses that many sighted skiers would find intimidating.

His breakthrough came at the 1982 World Ski Championships for the Disabled in Switzerland, where he captured a silver medal in downhill competition. Two years later, he represented Canada at the 1984 Paralympic Winter Games in Innsbruck, Austria, winning silver medals in both giant slalom and alpine combined, while narrowly missing another podium finish with a fourth-place result in downhill.

By then, Hersey had established himself among the world's elite, but he wasn't finished.

At the 1986 World Championships in Sweden, he added three more silver medals in downhill, giant slalom, and combined competition, bringing his international skiing medal total to six. He also earned multiple medals at United States national championships and other major international events during a period when Canadian para-sport athletes often competed with limited resources and far less public recognition than they receive today.

What makes Hersey's accomplishments especially remarkable is their breadth.

Very few athletes reach national-team status in multiple sports. Fewer still establish themselves among the world's best in both summer and winter competition. Hersey excelled in track and field, goalball, and alpine skiing, demonstrating an extraordinary versatility that set him apart even among elite athletes.

His impact extended beyond competition. Hersey became a mentor, advocate, and leader within the para-sport community. He served as president of the Canadian Association for Disabled Skiing, and later as vice-president of the Canadian Blind Sports Association. He devoted countless hours to encouraging younger athletes and helping expand opportunities for people with disabilities.

Those who know him best often speak less about his medals than his example.

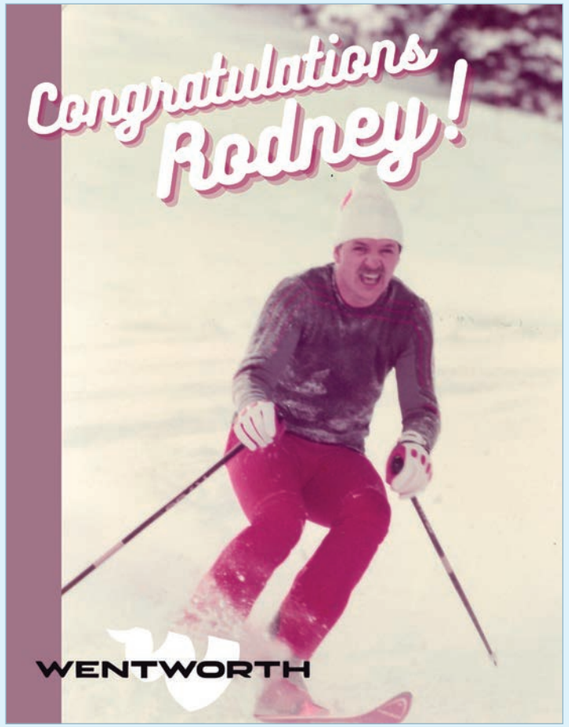
They remember his independence. His curiosity. His willingness to tackle challenges others considered impossible. One coach recalled watching Hersey confidently descend expert terrain in Squaw Valley while astonished spectators looked on, unable to believe that the skier carving through the mountain was blind.

That image captures Rodney Hersey perfectly. While others focused on obstacles, he focused on possibilities. While others saw limitations, he saw opportunities.

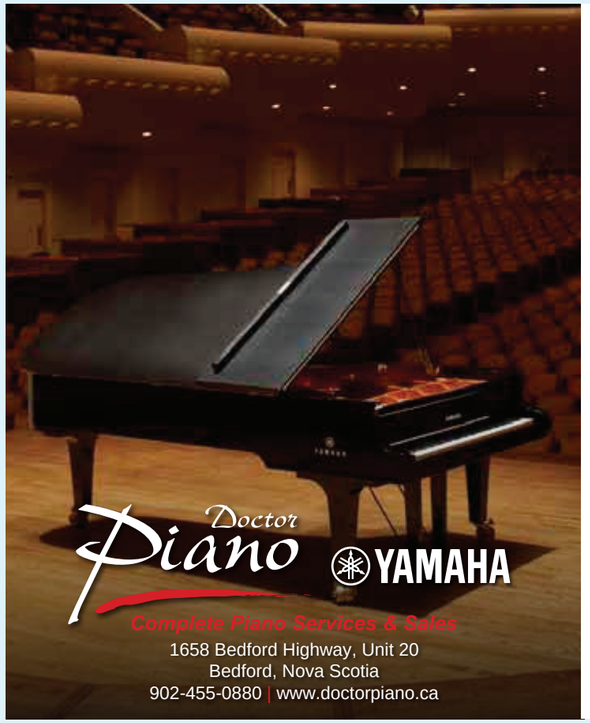
And while many athletes leave behind records and medals, Rodney Hersey leaves something even more meaningful: proof that courage, determination, and belief can carry a person far beyond the horizon they are expected to reach.



Photo: Jane Verge







CONGRATULATIONS
RODNEY HERSEY

DOCTOR PIANO IS TRULY HONOURED TO CONGRATULATE RODNEY HERSEY, AND ALL THIS YEAR'S NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES, FOR YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

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NOVA SCOTIA
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NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL of FAME

JACQUELINE NICHOLL

By Bruce Rainnie



For more than half a century, Jackie Nicholl stood at the heart of gymnastics in Nova Scotia.

She was a coach, a judge, a teacher, a mentor, an organizer, a volunteer, and a trailblazer.

But those titles only begin to explain her influence.

Long before gymnastics clubs became common across the province, Jackie Nicholl was building the sport from the ground up. She wasn't simply helping athletes master routines on the balance beam or uneven bars. She was creating opportunities, establishing standards, and shaping a culture that would impact generations of Nova Scotians.

Her fingerprints are everywhere.

Born in Halifax in 1945, Nicholl dedicated more than 55 years of her life to gymnastics. What began as a passion soon became a mission. In 1969, while teaching physical education, she founded her own gymnastics club. Originally known as Halifax City Gymnastics Club, it eventually became Halifax Saltos, one of the province's most respected programs.

For 31 years, she coached and operated the club, introducing thousands of young athletes to a sport she loved deeply.

BUILDER



Former gymnasts remember her as demanding, disciplined, and unwavering in her expectations. Praise was earned, never given lightly. Yet beneath that tough exterior was a coach who cared profoundly about her athletes.

She sewed uniforms, designed costumes, built Christmas productions, and organized displays and demonstrations. She found ways to improve equipment and facilities. She created experiences that made athletes feel part of something bigger than themselves.

For many children, the gym became a second home. And Jackie became family.

Her impact stretched far beyond coaching.

Nicholl was one of the most accomplished gymnastics judges Canada has ever produced. She began officiating in 1967 and remained active until illness forced her retirement in 2022. During that remarkable 55-year officiating career, she judged virtually every level of the sport.

She earned National-level status for nearly five decades and held the prestigious Brevet designation—the highest level of international judging—for more than 35 years. For a lengthy period, she was the only Brevet women's artistic gymnastics judge in Atlantic Canada.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

Hometown: Halifax, NS

- **Gymnastics coach, educator, and official for over 55 years**
- **Founded the Halifax City Gymnastics Club in 1969 and operated it for more than three decades**
- **Served as a national-level judge from 1967 to 2022**
- **Recipient of the Gymnastics Nova Scotia Lifetime Achievement Award**

The assignment list reads like a passport of elite gymnastics: Beijing, Barcelona, Victoria, Buffalo, Brazil, Puerto Rico, Ukraine.

She judged at the China Cup, Commonwealth Games, Junior Pan American competitions, Olympic qualifying events, World Student Games, and numerous international championships. She worked almost every Canadian Championship from the mid-1970s through 2022, and officiated at ten Canada Games, beginning with the very first edition in 1967.



Yet those who knew her best insist that her greatest gift wasn't evaluating routines; it was teaching.

Nicholl became one of Canada's most respected educators of judges and coaches. Her technical knowledge was legendary, but equally important was her willingness to share it. She mentored countless officials, taught judging courses, reviewed routines with coaches, and helped elevate standards across the country.

She believed excellence was something to be passed on.

That philosophy helped shape one of Nova Scotia's greatest sporting success stories.

Among the many athletes whose lives she touched was Olympic gymnast Ellie Black. Black has credited Nicholl's guidance, encouragement, and belief as instrumental during her developmental years. When Black earned a place on Canada's Olympic team in 2012, it became one of the proudest moments of Nicholl's career.

Nicholl had spent decades helping athletes chase dreams, and now one of them had reached the Olympic Games.

The achievement symbolized everything Jackie valued about sport—not medals or recognition, but growth, opportunity, and possibility.

Her influence also extended into administration and event leadership. She served on numerous Gymnastics Nova Scotia committees, held board positions, chaired technical programs, and played key volunteer roles in national championships, Elite Canada competitions, and the 2011 Canada Games in Halifax.

Whenever the sport needed something done, Jackie was there—not because she wanted credit, but because she believed it mattered.

Recognition eventually followed anyway.



Gymnastics Canada awarded her Life Membership. Gymnastics Nova Scotia presented her with its Lifetime Achievement Award. She received multiple Official of the Year honours, and the Debbie Rudderham Fair Play Award. In 2022, she was inducted as one of the inaugural members of the Gymnastics Nova Scotia Hall of Fame.

That same year, the organization established the Jackie Nicholl Official of the Year Award, ensuring future generations would learn her name.

Yet statistics and awards tell only part of the story. The true measure of Jackie Nicholl can be found in the athletes she inspired, the judges she mentored, and the coaches she encouraged.

She lives on in every gymnast who learned resilience after a difficult fall, in every official who gained confidence through her instruction, and in every young athlete who discovered what was possible because someone believed in them.

When Jackie Nicholl passed away in May 2024 after a courageous battle with cancer, the gymnastics community lost one of its foundational figures. But foundations do not disappear; they endure.

More than half a century after she first stepped into a gymnasium, Jackie Nicholl's legacy remains woven into the fabric of Nova Scotia sport. The clubs, competitions, coaches, officials, and athletes that thrive today stand on ground she helped build.

Jackie Nicholl spent a lifetime helping others discover what they could achieve. Her influence lives on through the people she guided, and through every opportunity they now create for those who follow.

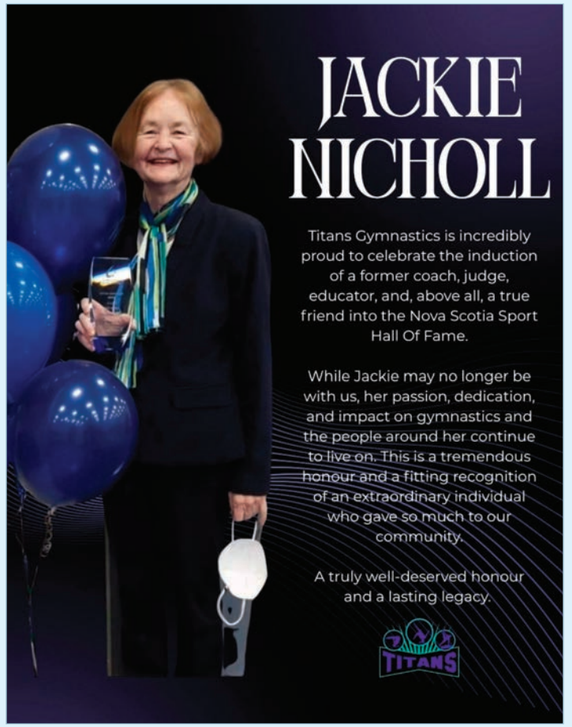
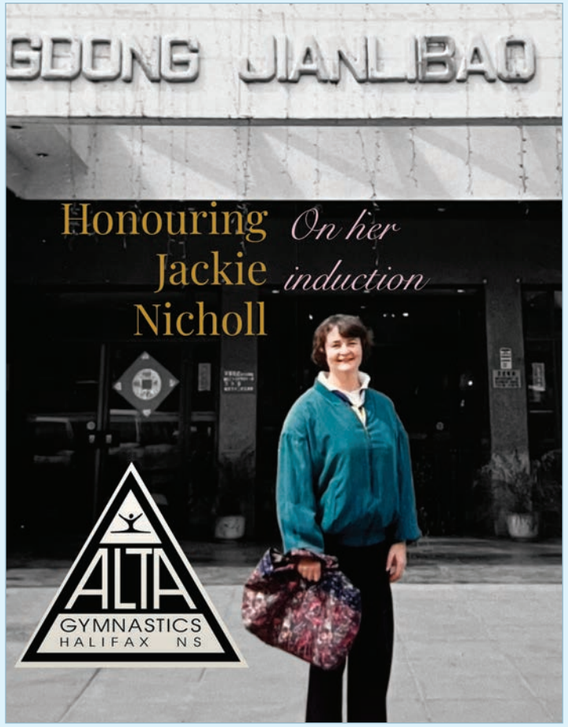


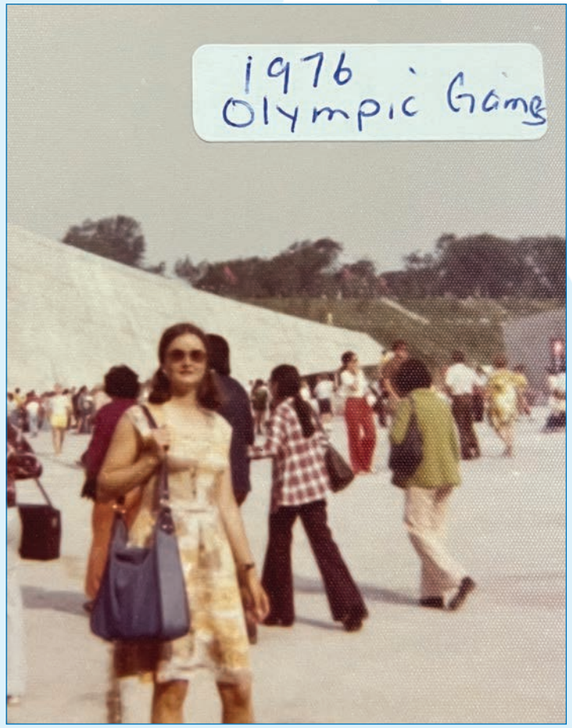






Photo: George Ghiz







NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL of FAME

2001 SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY MEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM

By Bruce Rainnie

By the fall of 2001, the mission had become crystal clear. Winning wasn't enough. The Saint Mary's Huskies wanted dominance. They wanted redemption. Most of all, they wanted a championship worthy of the man who had built the program into a national power.

Everything they did that season pointed toward a single destination—the Vanier Cup.

What followed remains one of the greatest campaigns in Canadian university football history. An undefeated season. A national championship. A collection of records that still command attention more than two decades later. And a team so complete that opponents often found themselves beaten long before the final whistle sounded.

The numbers tell part of the story. The Huskies finished 11-0. They averaged an astonishing 55 points per game. Their defence allowed just six points per contest. Over the regular season, they scored a CIS-record 480 points while surrendering only 35. Not a single opponent managed a rushing touchdown against them all year.

Those statistics sound exaggerated. They weren't.

Week after week, Saint Mary's dominated opponents with a combination of speed, skill, experience, and relentless execution. The offence could strike from anywhere on the field. The defence suffocated running games and forced quarterbacks into impossible situations. Special teams consistently tilted field position in the Huskies' favour.

There were stars everywhere. Running back Luis Perez led the nation with 1,257 rushing yards and earned Atlantic University Sport MVP honours. Quarterback Ryan Jones directed the offence with remarkable efficiency, becoming the CIS leader in passing efficiency. Receiver Patrick Thibeault was the conference's Russ Jackson Award nominee, as the



TEAM

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

- **2001 Vanier Cup Champions**
- **42-16 Vanier win over Manitoba**
- **Perfect 11-0 season**
- **Averaged 55 points per game while allowing just six**
- **Team members included 19 AUS all-stars and 9 All-Canadians**

- **Team Members:**

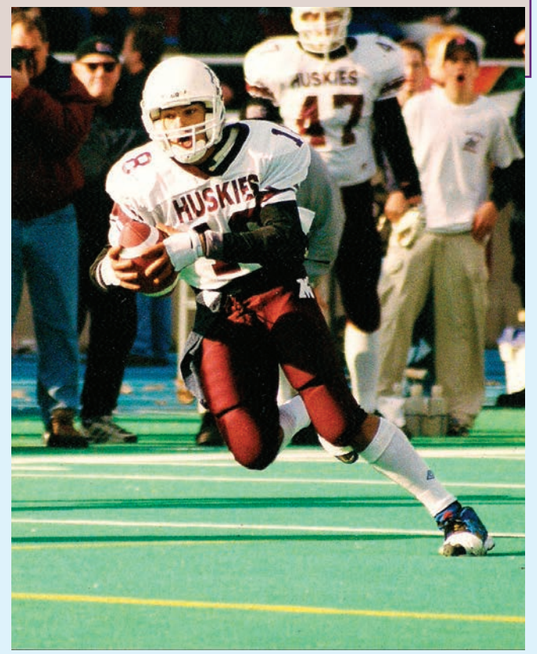
Sean Ahronson, Mohammed Al-Shaghay, Nick Ancona, Paul Archer, Denis Arruda, Joe Arsenault, Joe Barbati, Domenico Bartolacci, Chris Breckenridge, Trefton Bollers, Joseph Bonaventura, Doug Borden, Stephen Brothers, David Chapman, Jonathan Chaters, Rocco Cicciarella, Sebastian Clovis, Byron Conroy, Jay Currie, Mathieu Demers, Matt Elliott, Ian Ferguson, Paul Fleming, Matt Fox, Joe Fulton, Eric-Olivier Hakim, Julien Hakim, Gabe Harvey, Pierre Paul Huet, Troy Hutt, Dean Jones, Ryan Jones, Ryan Kaehn, Alex Kyriacopulos, Josh Labucki, Alex Lubin, Stephane Lubin, Atnas Maeko, Steven Marques, Nathan McHugh, Michael McPherson, David Metlej, Jeff Moodie, Kyl Morrison, Steve Morley, Leslie Mullings, Norman Nahas, Chuck Najm, Curtis Nash, Bruce Nelson, Marcus Noel, Erik Nowak, Colin Oldreive, Alex Panagopoulos, Steve Panella, Ryan Pedley, Luis Perez, Matthew Peters, Philippe Roberge, Bill Robinson, John Rozier, John Salmas, Ryan Scanlan, Kris Sembalerus, Cartier Shields, Christian Simmerling, Justin Skinner, Dave Stala, Daniel Steeves, Jean-Michel Sylvain, Elie Tannous, Jason Terris, Patrick Thibeault, Olaf Tomiuk, Travis Tyler, Derek Watson, Jordan West, Colin White, head coach Blake Nill, assistant coaches Scott Annand, Gordon Beattie, Colin Bush, Pierre Lefebvre, Ted MacLean, John McGowan, Dan Palov, Steve Sarty, Larry Stewart, Steve Sumarah, and Andrew Williams, managers John Landry and Paul Mason, hydration specialists Mike Bridges and Sammy Wood, athletic therapist Lisa MacDonald

player best combining academics and athletics. Up front, Jean-Michel Sylvain was recognized as the conference's top lineman, while head coach Blake Nill was named AUS Coach of the Year.

Yet what made the Huskies special wasn't individual talent. It was collective purpose.

This was a veteran football team that had experienced both triumph and disappointment. Many players still carried memories of the program's heartbreaking loss in the 1999 Vanier Cup. They understood how difficult it was to reach a national championship game, and they had no intention of wasting another opportunity.

Observers around the program sensed the difference immediately. There was a maturity about this team. A professionalism. A quiet confidence that bordered on inevitability. They approached every practice, every meeting, and every game with the same singular focus.



The result was one of the most dominant seasons the Atlantic conference had ever witnessed.

By year's end, Saint Mary's had produced 19 AUS All-Stars and nine All-Canadians. Their average margin of victory was staggering. Opponents weren't merely losing; they were being overwhelmed.

Still, the Huskies knew that greatness would ultimately be measured on the national stage. The first major test came in the Atlantic Bowl against Laval.

The matchup carried emotional weight. Laval had defeated Saint Mary's in the 1999 national final and represented one of the country's premier football programs. If the Huskies wanted to prove they were the nation's best team, this was the perfect opportunity.

They didn't just win. They made a statement.

Saint Mary's stormed out of the locker room and dismantled Laval 48-8, a result so convincing that Rouge et Or head coach Glenn Constantin later described the 2001 Huskies as one of the best teams in CIS history.

One game remained: The Vanier Cup.

Played at Toronto's SkyDome, the national championship pitted Saint Mary's against the Manitoba Bisons. Despite the Huskies' perfect record, many observers viewed Manitoba as the favourite. The Bisons had size, talent, and momentum.

The Huskies responded with perhaps their finest performance of the season. From the opening kickoff,



Photo: George Ghiz

Saint Mary's controlled the game. The offence moved the ball with precision. The defence shut down Manitoba's attack. By the time the final whistle sounded, the Huskies had secured a convincing 42-16 victory and captured the second Vanier Cup championship in program history.

The game is remembered for many reasons, but one play still stands above the rest. Wide receiver Dave Stala produced a spectacular catch that remains legendary among Canadian university football fans. For those who witnessed it, the play perfectly encapsulated the Huskies' season: athletic, fearless, and unforgettable.

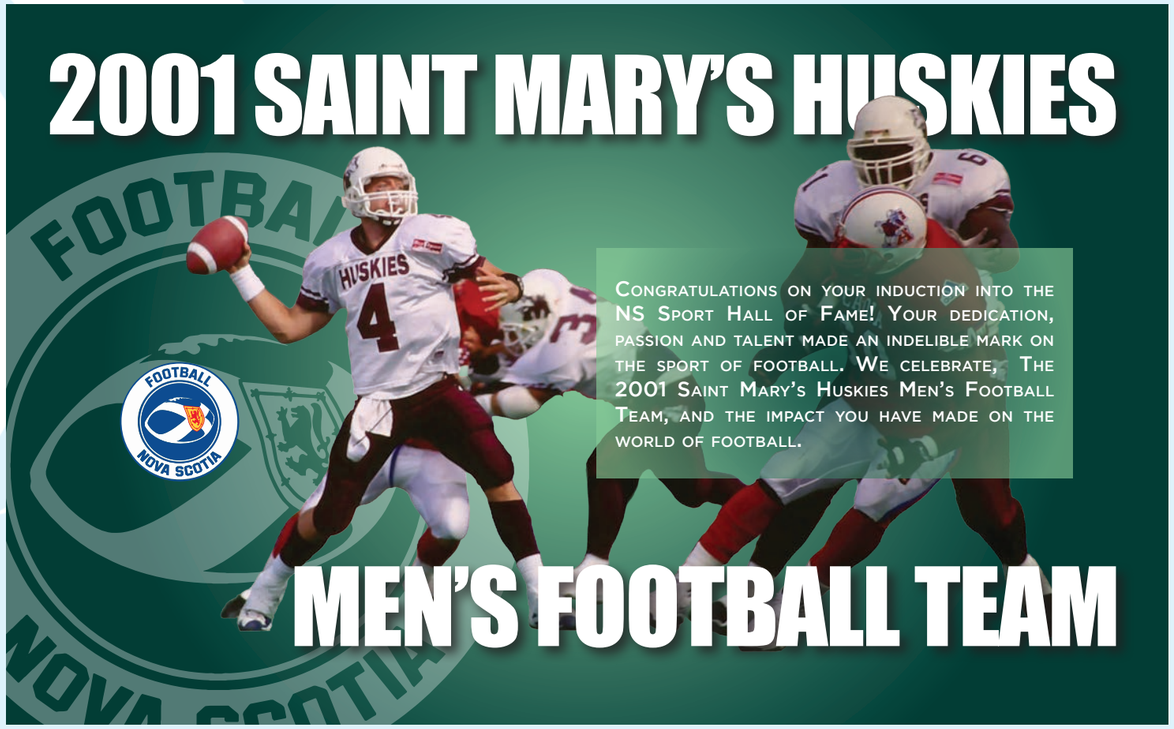
Yet the championship was about more than a single play. It was about a team—a team built around players such as Perez, Jones, Stala, Currie, Sylvain, Steve Morley, Curtis Nash, Denis Arruda, Paul Fleming, Doug Borden, Joe Bonaventura, and dozens of others who embraced their roles and trusted one another completely. It was about assistant coaches, support staff, trainers, managers, and volunteers who helped create a championship culture. Most importantly, it was about a program that reflected the vision of legendary former head coach Larry Uteck, whose influence could be felt throughout every aspect of the Huskies' success.

Years later, debates continue about the greatest teams in Canadian university football history. The 2001 Saint Mary's Huskies are always part of that conversation. How could they not be? They were undefeated. They set national records. They dominated both sides of the football. They produced All-Canadians at nearly every position. And when the season's biggest games arrived, they were at their very best.

Many championship teams are remembered fondly. Few become legends.

The 2001 Saint Mary's Huskies crossed that line somewhere between the first kickoff of September and the final celebration at SkyDome in December.

Twenty-five years later, they remain the standard against which every football team in Saint Mary's history is measured—not simply because they won, but because they made perfection look possible.



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ALUMNI

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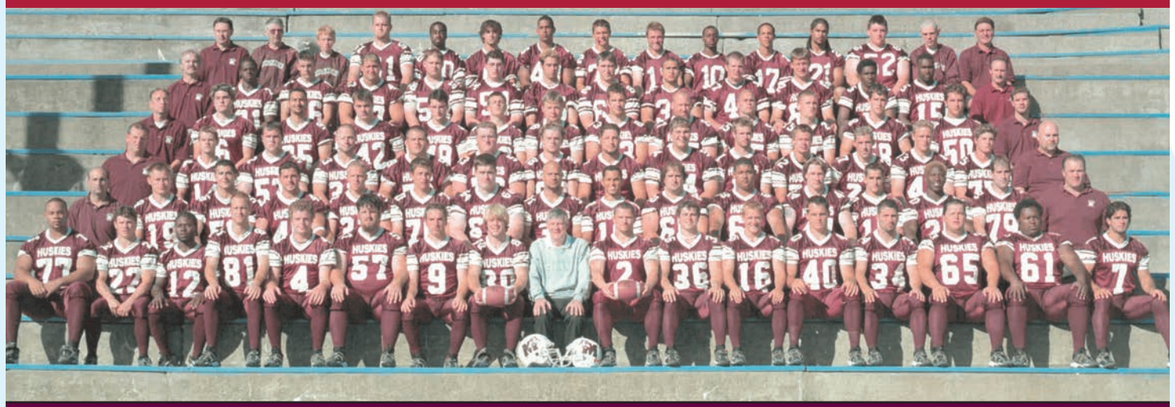

2001 SAINT MARY'S HUSKIES MEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM

AUS

would like to congratulate all of this year's inductees.

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2025 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: BEN MENDLESON



Last year, induction ceremony production editor Ben Mendleson (middle) was presented with the Joel Jacobson Volunteer of the Year Award. Mendleson was presented with the honour by Bob Shaw (left) and Chair Stephanie O'Connor (right).


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