# **INTERPRETING** SASKATCHEWAN'S SPORT **HISTORY**

**Evolution of Sport** June 6 to August 17, 2019



Play Hard, Fight Hard: Sport and the Canadian Military

September 6, 2019 to January 18, 2020





**Dedication to Sport: Our New Inductees** 

September 27, 2019 to present



## ON THE ROAD AGAIN Mobile Exhibit Trailer

Sponsors: SaskTel, Hornoi Leasing, and Sterling Truck & Trailer Sales



In 2019 the mobile trailer supported the **Never Give Up** education program (below) and travelled to Moose Jaw (above), Regina and Emerald Park/White City.



The trailer also travelled to Swift Current during the **Western Canada Summer Games** which took place between August 9-18, 2019.



The trailer visited the **Queen City Ex** in Regina from July 31-August 4, 2019.





#### DID YOU KNOW...

- 527 inductees from 52 sports are in the Hall of Fame, representing 146 communities in Saskatchewan
- The permanent collection contains more than 19,000 items valued at just under \$1 Million
- There are currently over 18,800 digitized scans of items within the permanent collection including:
- o 76,000 scanned pages comprising 3,825 individual archives
- o 9,123 individual photographs
- o 5,950 artifacts
- 11 satellite halls & sport museums are affiliated with the SSHF:
- o Humboldt & District Sports Hall of Fame and Museum
- o Moose Jaw & District Sports Hall of Fame
- o North Battleford Sports Museum & Hall of Fame
- o Prince Albert Sports Hall of Fame
- o Regina Sports Hall of Fame
- o Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame
- o Saskatchewan Golf Hall of Fame
- o Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame
- o Ted Knight Saskatchewan Hockey Hall of Fame
- o Turner Curling Museum
- o Yorkton Sports Hall of Fame and Museum
- Hundreds of volunteer hours supported special events, fundraising initiatives and collection management activities in 2019
- 1,189 Likes on facebook.com/SaskSportsHF (an increase of 17.9% over 2018)
- 1,493 Followers on Twitter @SaskSportsHF (an increase of 6.6% over 2018)
- 731 Followers on Instagram @SaskSportsHF (an increase of 31.6% over 2018)
- 350,900 Impressions on Twitter @SaskSportsHF in 2019.





# SASKATCHEWAN ——SPORTS—— HALL OF FAME

# 2019 ANNUAL REPORT



#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been another busy year that was proving to be very successful until the coronavirus threw us and the rest of the world a curveball towards the end of our fiscal year.

This year saw the implementation of the first full year of the three-year strategic plan that was finalized last year. Achievements this year against the strategic goals included the creation of more of a sport museum ambiance within the historic Land Titles building on Victoria Avenue. Two large flag banners now greet foot traffic in front of the building, while large images depicting Saskatchewan sports history cover the windows inside and outside the Hall of Fame. When visitors enter the building the foyer also depicts graphics from throughout the province's sport history.

The Board continues to transition from a working board to a policy board. This has involved a year-long review of the SSHF Bylaws that has been a long and detailed process which is nearing completion but has not yet been finalized. As a member of the Governance Committee, I can attest to the comprehensive work that Chair Lori Ebbesen and the rest of the Committee – Laurel Garven, Samer Awadh and Sheila Kelly – have put in over the year to have the Hall of Fame well-positioned moving into the next decade.

At the end of the fiscal year, the world was turned on its head as the COVID-19 pandemic touched every aspect of Canadian life. The upgrades taking place inside the Hall of Fame stopped and the timelines to re-open became uncertain. With the offices closed, the staff relocated to work remotely from home. As part of our strategic plan, we emphasized growing our digital presence across a variety of platforms. We made it a goal to evolve beyond our physical space. This emphasis on digitizing our collection and enhancing our online presence has allowed us to find new avenues to engage with the public and share our sporting history in new ways during these uncertain times.

Now, our desire to bring the remarkable stories of Saskatchewan sport directly into people's homes has never been more relevant. Our website is a hub for the stories of our inductees and programming, but it is only one element of our social media presence that is growing in reach and expanding its audience each year. The SSHF's ability to adapt to this changing landscape and engage with the public in new ways will keep us relevant moving forward. Whatever the new normal becomes in a post-pandemic landscape I am confident that our staff are well-equipped to adapt and thrive.

Once again I offer thanks to our major funding partner Saskatchewan Lotteries, as well as key corporate partners Hornoi Leasing, Sterling Truck & Trailer Sales, SaskTel, Signature PrintIt, Global TV and RBC Foundation plus the many sponsors and donors who support individual events and programs. We appreciate the support of all of our partners who allow us to continue telling the incredible stories of Saskatchewan's sporting history. Your continued support has never been more appreciated or necessary than it will be in the coming fiscal year, and beyond, as we meet the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our longest serving Board member, Linda Burnham, will be stepping down from the Board after 11 years. While also being a two-time inductee to the Hall of Fame as a curler, Linda served as president during her time as a Board member and was always quick to take on larger roles. This past year she was one of the *Women in Sport* panelists and also hosted our 2019 Induction Class press conference. These are just two examples of how Linda always gave back to the SSHF. Don Gallo and Nathan Morrison are also both stepping down from the Board after completing two terms. Don and Nathan have both been valuable members of the Board in their six years. I want to thank all three for their contributions over the years helping guide us through a time of change, but also a time of great growth.

This will also be my final year as president. Throughout that time I have been continually amazed and inspired by the remarkable stories of Saskatchewan's sporting community. I continue to believe that the Hall serves a vital role in celebrating those stories and using them to encourage future generations – for both their own benefit and betterment of their communities. It has been my privilege to serve as president. It is my hope that even in these uncertain times the Board has the Hall well-positioned to go forward and meet this challenge head-on just like the generations of Saskatchewan athletes it represents and will continue to represent into the future.

All the best, Rankin Jaworski

#### 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:Rankin JaworskiDirectors:Samer AwadhVice President:Nathan MorrisonKevin DureauTreasurer:Mike BabcockLori EbbesenSecretary:Robb ElchukDonald GalloPast President:Linda BurnhamLaurel GarvenTennille Grimeau

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The fiscal year started out with such promise. We welcomed new staff with Bryann Seib (curator) and Matthew Gourlie (communications coordinator). We completed a number of strategic initiatives with the implementation of flag signage, window imagery, and a revamped foyer appearance. The traveling exhibit trailer returned as a key component of our Never Give Up education program. We featured Play Hard, Fight Hard: Sport and the Canadian Military, the largest traveling exhibit the SSHF has ever hosted, which also served as the catalyst for an overall refurbishment of our exhibit galleries. We celebrated Women's History Month with the launch of a new Women in Sport panel program, and we pursued new outreach opportunities for both education programming and off-site temporary exhibits while we worked to finish the gallery upgrades that featured prominently in our strategic vision. All in all, it was shaping up to be a very successful year for us and one that, as always, is made possible through the core funding provided by Saskatchewan Lotteries and the continued support of program sponsors including SaskTel, Hornoi Leasing, and Sterling Truck & Trailer Sales. In addition, we greatly appreciate the participants in our self-help activities, plus the membership, Teammate and donation contributions made by numerous "friends of the Hall". We are indebted to all of you for our success.

Partnerships & events from the past year include:

- Social Media partnership with Global Regina & Saskatoon to promote Saskatchewan's sport history through 52 Did You Know? Facebook posts, 12 Memorabilia Vignettes and 12 Inductee Profiles.
- Heritage Saskatchewan and the provincial Heritage Fairs allowing for the annual presentation of a Sport Heritage Award at the regional level in Saskatoon, Regina, Moose Jaw and Swift Current.
- Traveling exhibit trailer featured at the Regina Queen City Exhibition (July/August) and Western Canada Summer Games (August 2019) attracting an overall audience of 2,200 individuals.
- RBC Foundation which supported a number of events through volunteer and financial backing including the grand opening for the nationally-touring exhibit, *Play Hard, Fight Hard: Sport and the Canadian Military*.
- We continue to make an effort to involve inductees as much as possible in our programming. Some of our feature events this year included:
- ♦ Provincial Heritage Fair regional winners activation (May 2019)
- Never Give Up (May 2019) reaching almost 2,000 students in Regina, Moose Jaw and Emerald Park/White City
- President's Receptions hosted in Regina (September 2019) and Saskatoon (February 2020)
- ♦ Women in Sport panel discussion (October 2019)

In-house exhibits were scheduled around *Play Hard, Fight Hard: Sport and the Canadian Military* originally curated by Canada's Sports Hall of Fame and the Canadian Military Museums. This nationally focused exhibit was augmented with significant Saskatchewan content as we worked to include information and artifacts pertaining to the 123 SSHF inductees who have served in a branch of the armed forces. *Diamond Girls' Diamond Anniversary: 75 Years of the AAGPBL, Dedication to Sport: The 2019 Inductees* and *Evolution of Sport* exhibits rounded out the schedule. Outreach exhibits included a Scotties Tournament of Hearts retrospective at the Regina International Airport; a National Hockey League-inspired hockey exhibit at the Cornwall Centre in Regina; Regina Pats Hockey Club exhibits in the Brandt Centre, a Women in Sport vignette exhibit at the Regina Public Library, and a continuation of the *Saskatchewan Indigenous Athletes* exhibit at the College of Kinesiology, University of Saskatchewan.

The Class of 2019 featured six athletes and two builders. Welcomed into the Hall of Fame were athletes Chris Biegler (basketball), Wendel Clark (hockey), Jacki Nichol (softball), Kelly Parker (soccer), Marg [Curry] Sihvon (basketball), and Colleen Sostorics (hockey), and builders Bill Kinash (cycling) and Clarence Campbell (hockey). The sport career of each inductee is showcased in the exhibit, *Dedication to Sport: The 2020 Inductees* which is scheduled to remain on public view until September 2020.

As we approached the end of our fiscal year new words started creeping into our vocabulary: coronavirus, pandemic and COVID-19. Since March 16, like so many others worldwide, all activities of the SSHF have moved to remote platforms. "Normal" is no longer a word in our vocabulary as we develop strategies for the short- and long-term that will allow us to continue to preserve, interpret and celebrate Saskatchewan's wonderful sport history. What we do know is that our success, more than ever before, is directly tied to the continued generosity and support of our inductees, volunteers, sponsors, donors and partners. Thank you for your support throughout 2019. We look forward to navigating the challenges of 2020 together with you.

Sheila Kelly

### PARTNERSHIPS & PROGRAMMING

# Creating Active Champions Education Program

July-August, 2019 Partners: Kinesiology and Health Studies, University of Regina, Internship Program and Canada Summer Jobs Program



#### Women In Sport Panel

October 24, 2019 Partners: Civic Museum of Regina, Cornwall Centre, Regina Downtown BID, FireCube Video Services and Pro AV



### Regina Hockey Week Display October 10 to October 31, 2019

Partner: Cornwall Centre



#### Scotties Tournament of Hearts Display

January 13 to March 4, 2020 Partners: Regina International Airport & 2020 Scotties Tournament of Hearts



# 52<sup>nd</sup> INDUCTION DINNER September 28, 2019





SSHF president Rankin Jaworski, left, and inductee Wendel Clark.



Inductees Wendel Clark, left, Kelly Parker and emcee Taylor Shire during the hot stove panel.



Emcee Taylor Shire, left, and inductee Jacki Nichol share a laugh during the hot stove panel.



Colleen Sostorics, right, shows her gold medals to a young fan during the *Hall of Fame Homecoming*.