



## **Calls to Action: Truth and Reconciliation**

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action #87 states that sport halls of fame are responsible for providing public education that tells the stories of Indigenous sport figures and their history. The Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame houses incredible stories of triumph from our Indigenous inductees. Inductees have overcome immense hardships in their lives but have succeeded despite these challenges. The following stories detail abuse some inductees have experienced. These individuals have made major contributions to their sporting community and the province at large. Saskatchewan's athletes and builder have not only paved the way for up-and-coming generations, but they have also served as a role model of determination, excellence, and hard work.

The Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame is proud to be located in Treaty 4 territory, home to the Cree, Dakota, Lakota, Nakoda, and Saulteaux people since time immemorial and are the traditional homelands of the Métis Nation. The Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame also celebrates the history of sport and the people from the land that is covered by Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10. These lands have been the home of the Cree, Dakota, Dene,





Lakota, Nakoda, and Saulteaux people since time immemorial and are the traditional homelands of the Métis Nation.

### **Paul Acoose**

Acoose was Nakawē (Saulteaux) from the Zagime Anishinabek (previously known as the Sakimay First Nation) in the Qu'Appelle Valley. Acoose came from a long line of distance runners. His grandfather Quewich gained renown for his abilities as a hunter. While others rode horses while hunting buffalo, Quewich would shoot his arrows while pursuing the buffalo on foot. Paul's father Samuel Acoose was also a highly esteemed runner in his own right.

Paul, like his family, was an esteemed runner. He was the first winner of The Standard Marathon Trophy, emblematic of the 10-mile championship in the province of Saskatchewan. He won that first championship by more than eight minutes on July 1, 1908, in Regina, as he dominated the best runners in the province. At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, match races were a popular spectator sport with opportunities to run professionally. After an impressive showing during a sports day in Grenfell, Acoose was offered a chance to





become a professional in 1909. While that made him ineligible to compete at the upcoming 1910 Summer Olympics in London, Acoose accepted the offer.

In his first professional race, Acoose ran 15 miles in a world-record time of one hour, 22 minutes and 22 seconds and beat famed English runner Fred Appleby, a former world record holder and 1908 Olympic marathon runner. Acoose's record-breaking time earned him the title of world champion.

Acoose's rapid rise to success was met with adversity almost immediately. Appleby and Acoose met in a rematch in Winnipeg where gamblers who had bet on Appleby were suspected of throwing thumbtacks on the indoor track. The tacks did not affect Appleby in his thick rubber-soled shoes, but easily penetrated Acoose's moccasins and into his feet. Acoose had a half-lap lead when the tacks were thrown onto the track. He pulled a tack out of his foot and carried on – running two more miles in bare feet – before stepping on more tacks and was unable to finish the race.

Acoose's biggest victory came against famed Onondaga runner Tom Longboat. Acoose had wanted to test himself against Longboat who had risen to fame after winning the Boston Marathon in a record time in 1907 and was considered the greatest marathon runner in the world. They met on March 30, 1910, in Toronto in a duel that Acoose won.





Despite only being 24 years old, Acoose retired from competitive racing and settled in Zagime Anishinabek with his wife Madeline where they farmed and raised nine children. He never drove a car and continued to jog into his 60s. Even in his late 70s would walk up to 10 kilometers to visit family and friends.

### **Colette Bourgonje**

Colette Bourgonje's life-long love of physical activity led to her being one of Canada's most decorated Paralympians. Growing up in Porcupine Plain, Bourgonje competed nationally as a cross-country runner and participated in numerous other sports. A car accident left her paralyzed shortly before her high school graduation but it didn't put her off course. She was undaunted in her plans to study physical education at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) and successfully became the first wheelchair user to earn a physical education degree at the U of S.

Her love of physical activity and competition never dimmed. She stayed active and became a world-class wheelchair track athlete. She made her multi-sport games debut at the 1990 Commonwealth Games in New Zealand, winning a gold medal in the 800-metre wheelchair race which was a demonstration sport. At those Games, the wheelchair athletes





were not permitted to train on the main stadium track out of a fear that prolonged use might damage the track.

Bourgonje became the first Canadian to compete in both the summer and winter Paralympics, making her debut at each five months apart in 1992. While she was excelling on the track, she truly felt at home and gained a sense of freedom the first time she tried a sit ski. She first tried para-nordic skiing in 1991 and made her Winter Paralympic debut in the sport in Albertville, France in 1992. Later that same year she made her Summer Paralympic debut in Barcelona.

That was merely the beginning of a career that saw Bourgonje compete in an incredible 10 Paralympic Games – three Summer and seven Winter. During her storied career, she won 10 Paralympic medals – three silver medals and seven bronze medals, while also being Canada's flag bearer twice during the closing ceremonies.

Over the course of her long competitive career, Bourgonje has seen real progress in how para-sport is supported. She won her first two silver medals at the Winter Paralympic Games in Nagano in 1998 which featured sold-out venues and unprecedented support. The support at home continued to grow as well, particularly in advance of the 2010 Vancouver Paralympic Games.





Bourgonje trained full-time ahead of those Games and her hard work was rewarded as she won Canada's first Paralympic medal on home soil – a silver in the para-nordic sit ski 10-kilometre (km) race before winning a bronze in the 5km.

At the end of the Vancouver Games, she also received the Whang Youn Dai Achievement Award, which is awarded each Games to a male and female athlete who best exemplifies the spirit of the Games “who prioritizes the promotion of the Paralympic Movement above personal recognition.”

Bourgonje has never stopped in her promotion of the paralympic movement. She coaches cross-country skiing to Para athletes and is the Para Skiing Development Coordinator for SASKI Skiing for Disabled. She continues to advocate for healthy living and the value of physical activity for everyone.

### **Tony Cote**

After serving in the Canadian Army for six years and seeing action in the Korean War Tony Cote returned to Canada and took positions in sport in Alberta and Saskatchewan. He eventually became the Chief of the Cote Reserve where he completed the reserve's arena





with artificial ice surface and created the first all Indigenous Junior B hockey team. Cote was instrumental in initiating the first Indigenous Old Timers hockey team and the first Saskatchewan Indigenous Summer Games. Cote would spend his career as a promoter of sport and recreation in Indigenous communities in Saskatchewan.

The Saskatchewan First Nation Games was started in 1974 by Chief Tony Cote and the Council of the Cote First Nation. The goal of the games was to promote more participation among indigenous youth in both mainstream and traditional sports, promote positive healthy lifestyles and boost community involvement. For his impactful community involvement, Tony was awarded the Tom Longboat Medal in 1974 as the province's outstanding sportsman.

Tony Cote was inducted into the SSHF as a builder in 2011. He was first elected as Chief of the Cote First Nation in 1970. In 1974 he was instrumental in the creation of the Saskatchewan First Nations Summer Games. They would grow to include a Winter Games and now both the Summer and Winter Games bear his name.

In an article from 2014 in the Regina Leader-Post, Cote described what motivated him to create the first Saskatchewan First Nations Summer Games:





“There wasn’t too much sports and recreation on any given reserve (when he started the provincial Games). I thought if we initiated some kind of Summer Games we would get the interest of the young people to participate with the other bands across Saskatchewan. The response was very, very good. I think the first year we attracted 500 athletes. The last one we had in Prince Albert (in 2013) I think we had 3,500 athletes. The participation of our young people has really grown tremendously.

“As a result, we always develop some very good athletes.... One of these days we’re going to have a number of our own athletes participate in the Olympics. That was my vision to begin with. It’s slowly coming.”

“Even for those athletes who don’t end up on the world’s stage, taking part in the Tony Cote Games or the North American Indigenous Games can have a lifelong impact.

“It opens (people’s) eyes. The atmosphere is terrific. You can tell they’re proud and they want to compete. As a result, a lot of the former athletes that participated 10, 12 or even 20 years ago, those are our recreation leaders now. Not only recreation leaders but some of them have become leaders of their communities in the capacity of chief and councillors. When I first came home to start sports and recreation (in







Saskatchewan) there was absolutely nothing. All our kids were just getting into trouble. When we started training them (the outlook improved). We've come a long ways." –  
*Tony Cote*

### **Alexander “Alex” Decoteau**

Alex Decoteau was born on the Red Pheasant First Nation in 1887 and was of Cree and Métis descent. His father Peter Decoteau fought beside Plains Cree Chief Pîhtokahanapiwiyin (Poundmaker) at the Battle of Cut Knife during the North-West Rebellion. Peter was an employee of the Indian Department when he was murdered. Alex was four years old at the time and he and his four siblings were sent to the Battleford Industrial School.

When it opened in 1883, the Battlefords Industrial School was the first residential school in Canada. Two more schools opened a year later and the Davin Report – which called for the “aggressive assimilation” of Indigenous children through the use and expansion of these new residential schools – was submitted to the Federal government.

After his time at the Battlefords Industrial School, Decoteau moved to Edmonton where he became the first Indigenous police officer in Canada in 1911. He was also a





world-class distance runner. He became the first Saskatchewan athlete to compete at the Olympic Games when he ran the 5,000-metres in 1912.

He served in the 202nd Infantry Battalion and the 49th Battalion during the First World War and was killed during the Second Battle of Passchendaele in 1917.

### **David Greyeyes**

Growing up, David Greyeyes, attended the Lebret Industrial School from 1922-1933. As he grew up, he developed his soccer skills to become a great influence in Saskatchewan's soccer scene. Greyeyes was a three-time provincial All-Star selection. He played on the team in the 1937 match against Charlton Athletic, in 1938 against Islington Corinthians, and in 1949 against Newcastle United.

During his time serving with the Canadian Army in the Second World War, David was a member of the Canadian Team that won the Overseas Army Championship in 1942. He also played with the team in Inter-Allied games. Receiving the rank of First Lieutenant made Greyeyes the first Indigenous commissioned officer in the Canadian Armed Forces. From September 14-21, 1944, Lieutenant David Greyeyes served in the Battle of Rimini in





Greece as a mortar platoon commander of the Saskatoon Light Infantry. For his service, he earned the Greek War Cross.

Upon returning to Saskatchewan, David formed and coached a soccer team, and was once more selected to the Saskatchewan All-Stars in 1949. For his roles in military service, as an athlete, and a community role model, he was made a Member of the Order of Canada.

### **Jacqueline Lavallee**

Growing up, Jacqueline Lavallee excelled in a variety of sports. In 1992, Jacqueline competed at the Saskatchewan Summer Games in athletics. In 1995, she played for the Saskatchewan women's basketball team at the Western Canada Summer Games. She was also named the Saskatchewan Soccer Association's Youth Female Player of the Year.

From 1996 to 2000 Jacqueline Lavallee was a star athlete for the University of Saskatchewan in basketball and soccer. Lavallee was a Canada West all-star midfielder three times and in 1999 she was an All-Canadian. In basketball she excelled equally. She was a three-time Canada West all-star guard and was an All-Canadian 2001-2002 season. In 2000, Jacqueline was named Huskie Athletics Female Athlete of the Year, and





received the Tom Longboat Award. After her graduation she joined the University Saskatchewan basketball team as an assistant coach for the 2002-2003 season.

With encouragement from Huskies' head coach Lisa Thomaidis, Lavallee left the team during the 2003-2004 season to play basketball professionally in Germany. According to Lavallee, "you couldn't ask for a better lifestyle," she said of her time there, "it's a great thing to be able to play at that level, be paid for it, and experience a whole new culture." While playing in Germany, Lavallee had the chance to play in the Euro-Cup which had her play in countries all over Eastern Europe.

The following year saw Lavallee back in Saskatoon, once again the assistant coach for the University of Saskatchewan women's basketball team. "As a point guard, you're always forced to be thinking. It's all about knowing where the ball needs to go and how to get it there," she said. "I have always been a cerebral player, I love the strategy involved in the game, so moving into coaching was a natural progression."

Lavallee has taken her coaching expertise beyond the U of S. In the summer of 2010, she travelled to France with the Canadian national under-17 "Cadet" women's basketball team as their head coach. This was the first time such a tournament had been held, and Lavallee said acting as head coach on an international level boosted her confidence.





Looking back at her career as a player and coach, Lavallee credits sport as a confidence booster and much more.

“If it weren’t for sport, I could easily have gone down a different path. My coaches have all been strong mentors and role models, and the teams I have played on have been like family. They provide a lot of support and always challenged me to not only strive for excellence as an athlete but to grow as a person throughout the process.”

Lavallee is a teacher at Oskayak High School, a school founded on Aboriginal culture. When asked how she encourages young people to become involved in sport, she responds that is not necessarily her goal; “I want my students to be more active, adopt a healthy lifestyle and have the confidence to use the community facilities that are available to them. I want them to take their health seriously, which doesn’t mean they must play competitive sport. However, I will always encourage those individuals who want to pursue sport and lead them in the right direction.” In 2008, Lavallee was inducted into the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame and won the National Aboriginal Coaching Award.

As a Phys. Ed. teacher, basketball coach and former All-Canadian in both soccer and basketball, Jacqueline Lavallee knows a little about sport. Following her graduation from





the U of S, Lavallee joined the U of S basketball team as assistant coach and began a partnership with head coach Lisa Thomaidis that has continued into the present.

### **Kenneth “Ken” Moore**

The 1930 Regina Pats Hockey Club, who won the Memorial Cup, had several talented up-and-coming hockey players; one of them being Kenneth Moore. Moore was from the Peepeekisis First Nation and was the third of eight kids born in 1910. His two older brothers had been taken to the Brandon Indian Residential School in Manitoba – more than 300 kilometres away. The two older Moore brothers died at the Brandon Indian Residential School with no details or cause provided to the family. Kenneth would have been forced to attend the school when he turned seven. Instead, the Moore family fled the Peepeekisis Cree Nation in the middle of the night. The family settled in Regina, which was still more than 100 km from their home reserve, but the younger Moore children were able to avoid the residential school system.

A gifted multi-sport athlete, he starred as a right winger on the Regina Pats junior hockey team. In 1930, the Pats met the West Toronto Nationals in the national junior final. The Pats





won the first game 3-1 and after trailing 2-0 in Game 2, “Smiling” Ken Moore – as the *Regina Leader-Post* described him – took a pass in the slot and slid it home with 40 seconds left in the third period to give the Pats a 3-2 and their third Memorial Cup in six years. He also attended Campion College and Regina College on a scholarship where he captained the hockey and rugby teams.

He joined the Winnipeg Hockey Club, and they would go on to beat the Hamilton Tigers in two straight games to claim the 1931 Allan Cup, the national amateur hockey championship. As Allan Cup champions, Winnipeg also earned the right to represent Canada at the 1932 Olympic Winter Games in Lake Placid, New York. Canada won five games and tied one to earn their fourth straight Olympic gold medal in hockey. Moore scored one goal in the tournament as Canada won Olympic gold. Moore’s gold-medal win made him the Indigenous athlete to win an Olympic gold medal.

### **James “Jim” Neilson**

Born in Big River, Saskatchewan, James Neilson never attended a Residential School because his father placed him in St. Patricks Catholic Orphanage. His father, Olaf, was a





trapper and after his wife left him he felt this was best for him and his two sisters. His father was visit him once a year, but Neilson felt that the other children, mostly white, were more his family than him. As an adult and knowing what happened at the Residential Schools he felt lucky that his father placed him in the orphanage. This is where he fell in love in with hockey on the orphanage's outdoor rink. Often skating for so long he forgot to eat and one of the Sisters would sneak him sandwiches and reminded him to eat. It was there at an early age he developed his love and knack for hockey.

Moving up in hockey at 17 years old, Neilson began playing Junior "A" hockey in the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League (SJHL) as a defenseman for the Prince Albert Mintos. He was named the Mintos Rookie of the Year in 1960 and was chosen for the league's First All-Star Team in 1961, also becoming Prince Albert's Athlete of the Year. At 19, Jim turned professional and played for the Eastern Professional Hockey League's Kitchener Waterloo-Beavers, winning the Best Rookie Award. It wasn't long before the rookie set his sights on the NHL.

He played 1023 games in the National Hockey League with the California Golden Seals, the Cleveland Barons but is most well-known for his time with the New York Rangers. While playing with the Rangers he was known for never complaining, whether it was an injury of







bad call. A defenceman through and through when he was offered to play left wing he said: *“I’m a defenseman. That’s what I’m paid to do. I don’t go out of my way to score goals. If they come because I’m doing my job, then alright. I get a much better feeling when I break up a scoring play or block a shot.”* Neilson played in three All-Star Games: 1967, 1970 & 1971. His career was cut short by a series of injuries in the early 1970s and after another injury in 1979 while playing with the World Hockey Association Edmonton Oilers and the threat of surgery and rehabilitation he chose to retire. While playing for the California Golden Seals, Jim became captain of the team and was named Most Valuable Player in the 1975/76 season. In 2009 Neilson was ranked 42 on a list of the *100 Greatest New York Rangers*.

### **Claude Petit**

Claude Petit has worn many hats throughout his life: boxer, serviceman, official, coach and role model. Petit was born in Duck Lake, SK in 1935. As an amateur boxer Petit was a four-time winner of the Edmonton Golden Gloves and the Golden Gloves tournaments in Vancouver and Billings Montana.





A veteran of the Canadian Armed Forces and a member of the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry Petit was a five-time Canadian Army heavyweight boxing champion (1958-1963). As well, in 1964 Petit became the only Canadian to win the British Army Heavyweight Boxing Championship. During his time of military service, he fought in the Korean War. During the later part of his military service, he became a paratrooper. His military in-ring accomplishments earned him a place on the Canadian Forces Sports Hall of Fame Honour Roll.

After retiring from boxing Petit coached boxing and opened youth boxing clubs in Saskatoon, Regina, Prince Albert, Ile-a-La Crosse, Green Lake and Meadow Lake. His Level V coaching status took Petit around the world to competitions in Denmark and France. As a Level IV official Petit worked at the first North American Indigenous Games held in Saskatchewan which were held in Prince Albert.

Petit would continue his community work after his years of boxing. In 1981, Petit helped to found the National Aboriginal Veterans Association where he served as president of the association in 2019. 1993 became a major year for Petit as he officiated boxing at the first North American Indigenous Games held in Prince Albert; was named Saskatoon Citizen of the Year; and organized the Canadian Native Hockey Tournament. For his work in boxing,





military and as a community role model, Petit received the Saskatchewan Order of Merit (2002) and the Order of Canada (1998).

### **Frederick “Fred” Sasakamoose**

Fred Sasakamoose was born on Christmas Day, 1933 in the Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation. When he was six years old, he and his brother Frank were taken from their parents by Indian agents from the Canadian government and driven with 30 other children to the St. Michael’s Indian Residential School in Duck Lake more than 100 kilometres away.

Saskamoose found a love of hockey at the residential school and one of the priests, Father Georges Roussel, helped hone his skill. He also suffered horrible abuse and recounted being raped as a young boy during a Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s community hearing in Prince Albert.

There is no one better to share Fred’s story than Fred himself. Before he passed away on November 20, 2020, he completed his biography *Call Me Indian: From the Trauma of Residential School to Becoming the NHL’s First Treaty Indigenous Player*. It is an important book and in writing it Fred said:





“And I hope by sharing my story now, non-Indigenous readers might have a better understanding of the hurdles we have to overcome to succeed. I hope by telling my people about the vision of my grandfather Alexan, they will see how their own belief in the future can strengthen those around them.

I hope by telling them about the friendship of men like Ray, like Dave, like Jerry, about the selflessness and generosity of people like George, they will see that there is goodness in the outside world too.

And finally, I hope my story reminds my people that while it might not be a world made for us, it’s a world we can make better by being proud of who we are and where we come from.”

— Fred Sasakamoose, excerpt from *Call Me Indian*

Fred also recounted how important family was to him growing up. His grandfather, his Moosum, Alexan, carved Fred’s first hockey stick out of a long willow branch. The young Saskamoose would skate on a frozen lake while his Moosum – who was deaf and did not speak – would ice fish and keep an eye on him.

Fred Sasakamoose wrote in *Call Me Indian*:





“This was my world. A nēhiyaw world. A nēhiyaw life.

What I knew was that home was full of song, dance, and tradition. It was full of wonder and mystery. It was full of family, love, and community. And then one day, in 1941, when I was just seven, all of that was taken away.”

“To be honest, I don’t remember a lot about the beginning of that last day of my childhood. I don’t know what Frank and I were doing, only that we were outside. My father was home, chopping wood out back. I remember that, at least. And it was fall. Perhaps we were helping dig potatoes out of the ground before the first hard frosts touched them. I don’t know. The twins must have been in the cabin. Maybe three-year-old Peter was with them. It felt like a normal day, the kind you have over and over until they all blend together, stretching to the edges of memory. Everything is a bit cloudy until the moment a huge canvas-covered grain truck appears in front of our little cabin. Three men get out of the cab. One I recognize — the reserve’s Indian agent. Another is wearing a uniform. An RCMP officer. And the third is a pale white man with a hard face. He is wearing a long black robe that billows slightly behind him as he walks. He’s talking to my mother, and my father is coming around to the front of the cabin, but I





can't make out what anyone is saying. All I can hear is the sharp, jagged sound of crying. Crying children. It's coming from under the canvas of the truck. And then someone is lifting the canvas flaps at the back of the vehicle. And one of the men is grabbing Frank and lifting him into the truck. My moosum is pulling me in behind his back, is standing in front of me with his arms spread. I'm peeking around him, and I see one of the men coming towards us. My grandpa tries to push him away, but he's swept aside and falls to the ground. My strong, protective moosum, the man who is mighty enough to lift the front end of a workhorse clear off the ground, is shoved aside as if he is nothing. And then I'm being hoisted into the crush of crying, trembling children. I can see my moosum struggling to get up. He is making desperate sounds, sounds I have never heard before. My mother is hanging on to my father, her shoulders heaving. My big, strong father looks helpless.

The last thing I see before the engine starts and the flaps are dropped in front of me is my moosum, lying on the ground, shaking and crying. And then we are gone."

— Fred Sasakamoose, excerpt from *Call Me Indian*





Fred Sasakamoose and his brother Frank were among a group of 30 other children who were taken to the St. Michael's Indian Residential School in Duck Lake more than 100 kilometres away. The abuse and indoctrination were immediate upon arriving.

Saskamoose wrote:

“And then we were being hustled into the building. Frank and I were separated. We were marched into a room where nuns set about cutting off our beautiful braids with huge pairs of scissors and shaving off the rest of our hair with clippers. Then we were forced to take our clothes off and shuffle into a windowless brick-walled room. There, coal oil, the stuff we used in our lamps at home, was poured over our bare heads. The foul-smelling liquid dripped into my ears, stung my eyes, burned down my back. Hot steam began to billow out from a pipe near the ceiling of the small room. Water, soap, scrub brushes. After all those hours in the filthy truck, I guess some of the kids needed a good bath. But this wasn't a bath. It felt like those nuns and priests were trying to scrub the colour right off our skin. As if they didn't care that my mother made sure we were washed every day, our hair clean and brushed, carefully braided, neatly tied at the ends.





Sasakamoose's further descriptions of life at the residential school are a difficult, but important read."

— Fred Sasakamoose, excerpt from *Call Me Indian*

Despite what he suffered through as a child, Sasakamoose excelled as a hockey player and reached the National Hockey League as a 19-year-old in 1953 with the Chicago Black Hawks. In doing so, Sasakamoose became the first Indigenous person with Treaty status to play in the NHL. Sasakamoose would spend 35 years as a Band Councillor of the Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation, six as Chief. He worked to give back to his community and build and develop minor hockey and other sports there. He reclaimed his language, becoming fluent in Cree later in life and worked to promote and develop sport programs for youth including the Fred Sasakamoose "Chief Thunderstick" Championship. In 2018 he was made a member of the Order of Canada.







## Bryan Trottier

Growing up in Val Marie, Saskatchewan Bryan Trottier was active in hockey. Trottier, coming from Cree, Metis, and Irish decent faced racism growing up. However, his family encouraged him to be proud of his heritage. As he developed his hockey skills locally, Trottier made it to the junior hockey league with the Swift Current and Lethbridge Broncos. In 1974/75 season he was voted the Most Valuable Player (MVP) in the Western Canada Hockey League.

In the 1975/76 season, at age 19, he joined the New York Islanders of the National Hockey League (NHL) and won the Calder Trophy. In 1979, he won the Hart and the Art Ross Trophies. In 1989, Bryan won the King Clancy Memorial Trophy. During his time with the team between 1981 and 1984, the Islanders won 4 Stanley Cups, with Bryan winning the Conn Smythe Trophy in 1980 as the NHL's MVP to his team in the playoffs.

Trottier played in 2 Canada Cup series and won another 2 Stanley Cups with the Pittsburgh Penguins in 1991 and 1992. Bryan ended his 18-year NHL playing career in 1994 and is the only Saskatchewan-born player to win 6 Stanley Cups. He was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1997, and the Canada Sports Hall of Fame in 2016.





Hockey was not Trottier's only hobby; growing up, he and his family were heavily involved in playing music. As the bassist in the family band, the Trottier used music to connect to their family and their heritage. As a proud Metis., Trottier tours the country hosting clinics and talks encouraging Canadian youth.

### **Wavell Starr**

Star was born in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. In his youth, he, his brother and father attended an entertainment wrestling event. From that moment onward, Starr dreamed of being in the ring. As he grew, he became connected with the wrestling, growing working as a crewmate.

Starr's athletic interests shifted when he attended the University of Regina. Wavell played as a linebacker with the Regina Rams for five seasons. During that time, he and team won three the Canadian Junior Football League championships in 1993, 1994, and 1995. For their accomplishments, the teams were inducted into the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame in 2006 and 2008.





After his football career, Starr once again picked up his initial passion for pro-wrestling. Starr didn't change his name or personality for a new wrestling persona, but instead he drew upon his Indigenous roots. He wrestled for more than a decade and appeared in World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) programs. Although he was a fan-favourite, Starr experience racism in the wrestling world. During his time as a wrestler, he was a student at the First Nations University of Canada in arts with a major in Indigenous Studies. Starr has used wrestling and education to dig into Indigenous roots.

