

Annual *Sports Gala*

Celebrating
72 years!

 Calgary Booster Club

2026 SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR

Don Buchignani





Calgary Booster Club Sport Legacy Fund

For decades the Calgary Booster Club has supported and recognized programs that showcase the best of Calgary's athletes and sports leaders.

This has been accomplished through fundraisers such as the Sportsperson of the Year Dinner, casinos, and bingos.

This has resulted in many worthwhile ventures, such as the Art Smith Amateur Sport Legacy Fund for high performance athletes and the Bob Freeze Sports Grants for athletes 16 and younger.

The Calgary Booster Club Sport Legacy Fund

will provide a stable future for our grants, scholarships and recognition programs to support our very best prospects.

This new fund was created in conjunction with the Parks Foundation Calgary and will provide **tax receipts** for donors and ensures that Calgary's sport legacies will thrive for decades to come.

Be part of Calgary's sporting future.

**For more information on how to donate to
The Calgary Booster Club Sport Legacy Fund,
go to www.calgaryboosterclub.com**

or scan here



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**DEDICATED TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND
ENCOURAGEMENT OF ATHLETIC ENDEAVOUR**

 Calgary Booster Club

In keeping with its
“Dedication to the Development
and Encouragement of Athletic Endeavour”,
the Calgary Booster Club
takes great pride in recognizing this year’s
Founding Members, Past Sportspersons of the Year,
Athletic Leaders, Calgary’s Athletes of the Year,
and the 72nd Sportsperson of the Year.



Dear Members, Supporters, and Friends of the Calgary Booster Club, Each year, I am reminded that the strength of the Calgary Booster Club lies not only in what we do, but in the people who make it possible. Our Board, our volunteers, and our supporters share a common belief — that sport has the power to shape lives, build character, and strengthen our community.

Across Calgary, young athletes are showing up every day with determination and purpose. They are setting goals, pushing limits, and learning resilience through both success and setback. It is a privilege for us to play a role in supporting that journey.

This past year has been one of continued progress. We have built on our momentum, strengthened our connections within the community, and remained focused on supporting amateur athletes in meaningful ways. As the landscape of sport continues to evolve, so too must our efforts to ensure athletes have the opportunity to pursue their goals.

At the heart of everything we do is a simple idea: when we invest in athletes, we invest in people. The lessons learned through sport — discipline, teamwork, perseverance — extend far beyond competition and carry forward into every aspect of life.

Our Annual Sport Gala continues to be a highlight of the year, bringing our community together to celebrate achievement, recognize dedication, and honour those who inspire us. It is a powerful reminder of what can be accomplished when a community believes in its athletes.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our dedicated Board of Directors. Their time, leadership, and commitment behind the scenes are what allow the Calgary Booster Club to continue to grow and make a meaningful impact in our community.

We are also incredibly grateful for the generosity of supporters who help make our work possible. In particular, I would like to recognize Bill and Judy Carr for their remarkable contribution. Their support is helping us continue to remove barriers and provide opportunities for athletes to pursue their goals.

Looking ahead, we are committed to growing our impact, expanding our reach, and continuing to support the next generation. With the continued support of our community, we will ensure that the Calgary Booster Club remains a strong and lasting presence for years to come.

As we look ahead, growing our impact will depend on the continued generosity of our community. The following highlights how your support directly helps remove barriers and create opportunities for Calgary's athletes.

Thank you for being part of this journey and for helping us make a difference in the lives of so many athletes.

Warm regards,

Carol Hermansen

President - Calgary Booster Club

Investing in Potential. Supporting Dreams.

It's at every exhausting weight room session.

You can find it at each early morning practice.

It's happening during yet another lengthy road trip to a competition.

Behind every personal best is a family making sacrifices to help that athlete succeed.

At the Calgary Booster Club, we see firsthand the dedication, discipline, and heart that young competitors bring to their sport.

Travel, equipment, coaching, facility time, and competition fees continue to rise — and for many families, these costs can be overwhelming. Our goal is simple:

To ensure that talent, commitment, and hard work — not financial circumstance — determine opportunity.

Making an Impact

Each year, more than **\$100,000** is awarded in sport-based scholarships, grants, and endowments to amateur athletes in our community.

These contributions are more than financial support — they are belief, encouragement, and opportunity at the moments they matter most.

Athlete Voices

"They've really helped me reach the next level, pay for equipment, and travel the world... I'm grateful I get to do what I love every day because of that support."

— **Isabelle Weidemann**, Olympic Gold Medalist

"That support means so much — especially before most people believe in you. Often the Booster Club is the first to say, 'Keep going.'"

— **Mark Tewksbury**, Olympic Gold Medalist

Why It Matters

As participation in sport continues to grow in Calgary, so does the need for support.

By increasing the funds we raise, we can:

- Expand the **number of athletes** we support
- Increase the **value of scholarships and grants**
- Help remove financial barriers for **emerging talent**

Every dollar raised stays in our community — supporting Calgary athletes.

Ways to Give

Cash Donations

Provide immediate support where it is needed most.

Monthly Giving

Create consistent, reliable impact throughout the year.

Gifts of Securities/Shares

One of the most tax-efficient ways to give. Donating appreciated shares avoids capital gains tax and provides a charitable receipt for the full market value.

We encourage you to speak with your financial advisor to determine the best approach for your circumstances.

All donations are processed through the Calgary Parks Foundation, and donors will receive an official charitable tax receipt.



Don Buchignani certainly knows how to make a big splash.

After growing up in Trail, B.C., Buchignani became a teacher in the Calgary Catholic School District, where he coached volleyball, basketball, hockey and cheerleading.

His passion, however, was at the pool. Buchignani coached several successful swimming and diving teams at St. Francis High School. He also served as the official starter at the annual Calgary high school swim and dive meets for more than 20 years. Under his stewardship, over 1,000 competitors were organized and put through their heats and finals during this one-day meet.

Buchignani's community involvement included roles as the president of the University of Calgary Swim Club, president of the Lindsay Park Sports Society, and as a board member with Swim Canada and Swim Alberta. He also worked diligently as the Swim Canada Team Manager at the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games, the 2007 World Swim Championships and the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

"Looking back on our success as a swimming club at the University of Calgary in the 1980s and 1990s, remembering the coaching and sport science and psychology is obvious, but it was the behind-the-scenes support that didn't get a lot of fanfare that was a large part of our competitive advantage. And leading that charge was Don Buchignani," said swimmer Mark Tewksbury, who won gold in the 100-metre backstroke at the 1992 Summer Olympics.

"Don brought together a rare combination of skills and circumstance that enabled him to become a volunteer at the highest level. He was a swimming dad, a long-time official and volunteer with the local swim program, so he knew the sport very well. He was a high school principal, which not only meant he was used to leading a team and dealing with teenagers, but it also meant he had time off in the summer, when the biggest swimming competitions took place. All of this was important, but it was his calm, reassuring, problem-solving approach to everything that made Don one of Canada's greatest team managers."

He is also no stranger to the Calgary Booster Club, where he volunteered as a director for three decades, including a term as president. Buchignani was an active member of the awards and endowment selection committees and he was recognized with the Calgary Booster Club's President's Award for his contributions to sport.

In 2022, Buchignani was inducted into the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame as a builder in swimming.



Master of Ceremonies

Brendan Parker has been covering the Calgary sports scene for over 20 years, including stops at Shaw TV, Global Calgary, Host of Flames TV and most currently as host for Sportsnet's coverage of Calgary Flames games. Brendan has always had a passion for telling the stories of the great people and places that shape our incredible sports landscape

PAST SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR

CALGARY BOOSTER CLUB

72 Years of Tradition



2025
Christine Laverty



2024
Pat Jarvis



2023
Greg Peterson



2022
Ron Logan



2021
Calgary COVID
Sports Heroes



2020
Calgary Sporting
Community



2019
Don Young



2018
Lawrence King



2017
Jack Gregory



2016
Joe Massey



2015
Christine Hampshire*



2014
Ken Bracko*



2013
Tony Spoletini



2012
Carol Kyle*



2011
Bob Vickers*



2010
Frank Sisson



2009
Wilf Kaiser



2008
Alf Fischer



2007
Doug Mitchell*



2006
Jim Holden*



2005
Russ Parker



2004
Stan Schwartz



2003
Frank King*



2002
Jim Courchesne



2001
John Semkuley*

*deceased

PAST SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR

CALGARY BOOSTER CLUB

72 Years of Tradition



2000
Eldon Godfrey



1999
Bill Warren



1998
Donald Phelps



1997
Tom Humphrey*



1996
Ted Rhodes*



1995
Joe Shea



1994
Margaret Scott*



1993
Murray Copot*



1992
Tony Anselmo*



1991
Bill Salt*



1990
Dorothy Read*



1989
Ted Bancks*



1988
Keith Evans*



1987
Doug Rooke*



1986
Marg Southern &
Ron Southern*



1985
George Blundun*



1984
Jim (Deak) Cassidy*



1983
Keith Kendal



1982
Bob MacNichol*



1981
Stan Jaycock



1980
Ray Kingsmith*



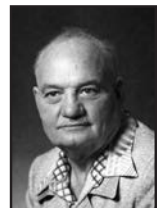
1979
Bill Phillips*



1978
Harry Maubert*



1977
Dr. Lou Goodwin*



1976
Henry Viney*

*deceased

PAST SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR

CALGARY BOOSTER CLUB

72 Years of Tradition



1975
Arthur "Scotty" Kay*



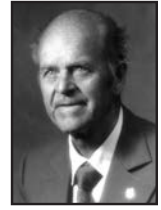
1974
Tom Cheney*



1973
John Mayell*



1972
Jack Setters*



1971
Charlie Scott*



1970
Dr. Ward Steckle*



1969
Doug Kyle*



1968
Les Ferguson*



1967
Ed Corbett*



1966
Bob Freeze*



1965
Stu Peppard*



1964
Jack Bannerman*



1963
Jimmie Condon*



1962
Jerry Trudel*



1961
Harold Brandreth*



1960
Frank Woodman*



1959
Pete Egan*



1958
Art Davis*



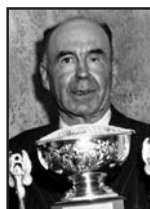
1957
Lloyd Turner*



1956
Father Jim Whelihan*



1955
Rose Kohn*



1954
Eugene "Musty" McGill*

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

The President Award recognizes an outstanding individual for their many contributions to the Calgary Booster Club.

2019 – Al Taylor

2021 – Don Buchignani

2023 – Brian Loach

2024 – Kathy Underhill

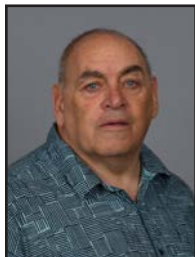
2025 – Tammy Cave

Mark Kosak

*deceased

The Calgary Booster Club recognizes individuals with established track records of dedication to the sporting landscape as Honoured Athletic Leaders. Winners have demonstrated long service — typically more than 15 years — and made contributions in a volunteer or administrative or athletic capacity. These are Calgary's difference-makers, sport promoters and tireless influencers.

This year's selections include:



ROB AMEY

If you've been around high school rugby in Calgary, odds are you've seen Rob Amey in his element. After playing the sport at Bowness High School, he went on to coach rugby at his alma mater for more than 35 years. Amey shows genuine care for his students and has a technical knowledge and strategic understanding of rugby that is unsurpassed. He is all about giving back and serving his community. That has made him a great coach and an even better person.



REID BRODIE

Reid Brodie, who took on the role of head coach of the men's sitting volleyball national team in 2025, has had a lasting impact on volleyball over the years. She has worked as the executive director of the Dino Women's Volleyball Club to elevate performance for hundreds of athletes each year, while focusing on initiatives that develop long-term growth and life skills. Brodie also founded the Empower Her Sport Summit, which is designed to support and mentor female athletes between the ages of 15 and 25 years old. Those around her have drawn inspiration from her tireless advocacy.



KAREN CHENEY

As the wins and losses come and go, Karen Cheney has worked to foster more meaningful collaborations with the student athletes she's mentored. She has put together a remarkable career at Henry Wise Wood High School, where she is in her 20th season coaching basketball and her 10th year as the Athletics Director. Cheney has helped shape the school's athletics program while modeling sportsmanship and perseverance. Her pupils are expected to put the "student" before the "athlete" as student athletes and act as school ambassadors at all times. It's a high bar that has helped create confident and capable young leaders.



ROD DURRANT

The long-time head coach of the University of Calgary Dinos men's volleyball program has been an exceptional leader who has shaped the sport's culture at every level. Rod Durrant guided the team from 2006 to 2024 and earned five national championship appearances in that span. The Dinos won the 2010 U SPORTS national championship and the Canada West title in 2011. Durrant was named the Coach of the Year at conference and national levels on multiple occasions. He has also been a steadfast supporter of Volleyball Canada's Paralympic programs.

**KELLY EDWARDS**

With unwavering commitment, Kelly Edwards has served Special Olympics Alberta for nearly 40 years. Since starting as a swim coach, Edwards has continued to serve in a number of roles at the local, provincial and national levels. She currently serves as the Chef de Mission for Team Alberta 2026. She has been recognized as a positive coach who has always been willing to go the extra mile to benefit the athletes she's worked with.

**MATT GODFREY**

His impact on rugby in Calgary has been nothing short of extraordinary. Matt Godfrey has mixed together dedication, leadership and humour to help improve the sport for those around him. Over the last four decades, he has served as the treasurer of the Canucks Rugby Club, president of the Calgary Rugby Union and president of the Referees Society. Through it all, he has improved conditions for players, referees, administrators and volunteers involved in rugby.

**BRENT GOUGH**

A pillar of Calgary's rugby community, Brent Gough has coached the Henry Wise Wood High School rugby program since 1998. The former Calgary Booster Club president led his teams to 15 city championships along the way and served as the Rugby Chair for the Calgary Senior High School Athletic Association for over a decade. Gough continued to build the sport as the Rugby Commissioner for Alberta Schools' Athletic Association, and as a member of the Calgary Canucks Rugby Club. He is a member of that club's Hall of Fame and he co-founded the Clearwater Cup Tournament, which has grown over the years to include over 70 teams from across Canada.

Several of the teams that Gough has coached have medaled at national events over the years, including gold for the Calgary Mavericks in 2025.

**ANDREW HUTCHINSON**

For over two decades, Andrew Hutchinson has been a dedicated and passionate figure in wrestling across Alberta. As an athlete, he was a five-time Canada West Champion, a five-time CIS medalist and a two-time CIS Champion. Hutchinson won silver at the 1994 Commonwealth Games and competed at the 2000 Pan-American Championships, the 2001 World Freestyle Championships and the 2002 Commonwealth Games. His coaching experience is also extensive and includes 14 provincial championships and 16 city championships for male and female wrestling programs at Sir Winston Churchill High School. Hutchinson has also coached with

the University of Calgary and Team Alberta at the Canada Summer Games. From 2001 to 2018, he was the president of the Calgary Amateur Wrestling Association.



JASON LINDSAY

When it comes to the local sports scene, Jason Lindsay has always been on the right track. He started coaching with Calgary Track West in the 1990s and has put in countless hours helping thousands of athletes since. Lindsay is a student of sprints & hurdles, distance running and everything track and field – information he's eager to pass along to the athletes he works alongside. The founder of the New Balance Athletic Series, Lindsay was named the Athletics Alberta Development Coach of the Year in 2006 and the winner of the George Gerner Long Service Award in 2017.



BLAINE MICIAK

A committed team player with exceptional work ethic, Blaine Miciak got into basketball when he coached his daughter's team. From there, he was a coach of youth and high school boys teams, ultimately guiding them to city titles and a 2006 provincial championship. Miciak joined the University of Calgary Dinos men's hoops team in 2011. He attends all home and away games, as well as most practices, and prepares scouting reports of opposing teams. In addition, Miciak volunteers his time breaking down video and recruiting talented hoopsters for the Dinos.



DON MIDDLETON

Consistent, prepared and reliable. Those are a few words that describe Don Middleton's four decades of work as a volleyball referee. He has achieved the highest referee status in the sport and it shows when he is working provincial and national championships across Alberta and Canada. Middleton has also been a key leader in mentoring new officials in the Calgary area, something he has done for over a quarter of a century.



MIKE WILSON

He's been a gridiron great for decades. After working as an assistant coach with the Wellington Storm in New Zealand at the turn of the century, Mike Wilson helped John G. Diefenbaker High School's football team capture a city championship as the offensive line and offensive coordinator with the program. From there, he took a role as an assistant offensive line coach at the University of Calgary before joining Henry Wise Wood High School as an assistant coach. Between 2014 and 2022, Wilson took on various roles with Football Alberta while also serving as the offensive coordinator at Crescent Heights High School. Over the last five years, he has coached city

and provincial championship teams at Ernest Manning High School.

CONGRATULATIONS



DON BUCHIGNANI

Congratulations to
Alberta Sports Hall of Fame alumni
Don Buchignani and all award winners



ALBERTA SPORTS
HALL of FAME

Flames Hockey Scholarships



Foundation

HEALTH & WELLNESS | EDUCATION | AMATEUR & GRASSROOTS SPORTS

The Calgary Flames Foundation offers various hockey-related scholarships and programs to support youth and post-secondary students in the Calgary area. These initiatives include the Flames EvenStrength Program, post-secondary scholarships for athletes at UofC, MRU, and SAIT, and programs focused on diversity and inclusion in sports,

Anna Purschke
Connor Chartier
Shawni Rodeback

Jorja Chevalier
Kaylan Easson
Payton Kostyshyn
Tanner Gold
Kaylee Williams
Colby Bear

Elizabeth Lang
Erin Armstrong
Matthew Quigley
Ryan Gagnon

MRU Cougars Hockey
MRU Cougars Hockey
MRU Cougars Hockey

SAIT Trojans Hockey
SAIT Trojans Hockey
SAIT Trojans Hockey
SAIT Trojans Hockey
SAIT Trojans Hockey
SAIT Trojans Hockey

UofC Dinos Hockey
UofC Dinos Hockey
UofC Dinos Hockey
UofC Dinos Hockey

WinSport is proud to support

Calgary Booster Club

Congratulations on 72 years of the sports gala!





HENRY VINEY FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT

Ivanie Blondin



She's been feeling the need for speed over the years, and speed skater Ivanie Blondin has the medals to prove it.

Born and raised in Ottawa, Blondin moved to Calgary to train at the Olympic Oval and hone her abilities on the ice.

The results speak for themselves. After making her Olympic debut in three long-track events at Sochi in 2014, she came painfully close to the podium at the Winter Olympics in PyeongChang in 2018, finishing fourth in women's team pursuit, fifth in the 5,000-metre race and sixth in the 3,000-metre event.

Blondin struck gold in the team pursuit in Beijing in 2022, while also nabbing a silver medal in the women's mass start.

In preparing for her final Olympic year, the 35-year-old was on a mission. She had 10 podium finishes on the 2025 ISU World Cup circuit, including gold in the mass start and team pursuit at the ISU Four Continents Speed Skating Championships and silver in the mass start event at the ISU World Speed Skating Single Distances Championships.

That 2025 season set the table for another inspiring performance at the 2026 Winter Olympics in Milano Cortina. Blondin finished eighth in the 1,500 women's competition and captured more hardware in the mass start (silver) and team pursuit (gold).

In total, she now has two Olympic gold medals and two silver medals.

"It is an incredible last Olympics ... I couldn't have asked for anything better," Blondin told the Canadian Press, adding her move to southern Alberta helped give her skating career and her life a boost.

"Being close to the mountains, I've always been very much like a country girl – and growing up, I've always been hands and feet in mud, kind of the wild child, so Calgary is very fitting for me. If I can be out in the outdoors and fishing, camping, all that stuff, I'm in my happy place."

PAST WINNERS

Henry Viney Trophy

This award, named in honour of Henry Viney, the long-time Sports Director of CFCN Radio-Television, was established in 1987 by the Calgary Sports Media Club. Viney, over a career that spanned some 50 years, covered every major sporting event around the globe and received many major awards including Canadian Sportscaster of the Year (1967 Foster Hewitt Award) and the Calgary Booster Club Sportsperson of the Year (1976). The "little man with the big cigar" passed away in 1980.

1987 – CAROLYN WALDO, Synchronized Swimming
1988 – CAROLYN WALDO, Synchronized Swimming
1989 – CAROLYN WALDO/MICHELLE CAMERON, Synchronized Swimming
1990 – VERONICA VANDER SCHEE, Basketball
1991 – JODI EVANS, Basketball
1992 – KERRIN LEE GARTNER, Skiing
1993 – KERRIN LEE GARTNER, Skiing
1994 – LISA HARVEY, Cross Country
1995 – SUSAN AUCH, Speed Skating
1996 – SUSAN AUCH, Speed Skating
1997 – CHRISTINE NORDHAGEN, Wrestling
1998 – CATRIONA LE MAY DOAN, Speed Skating
1999 – CATRIONA LE MAY DOAN, Speed Skating
2000 – LEIGHANN DOAN, Basketball
2001 – CATRIONA LE MAY DOAN, Speed Skating
2002 – CATRIONA LE MAY DOAN, Speed Skating
2003 – CATRIONA LE MAY DOAN, Speed Skating
2004 – TARYN SWIATEK, Soccer

2005 – CINDY KLASSEN, Speed Skating
2006 – CINDY KLASSEN, Speed Skating
2007 – CINDY KLASSEN, Speed Skating
2008 – HAYLEY WICKENHEISER, Hockey
2009 – CAROL HUYNH, Wrestling
2010 – MELISSA HOLLINGSWORTH, Skeleton
2011 – CHERYL BERNARD, Curling
2012 – CHRISTINE NESBITT, Speed Skating
2013 – KAILLIE HUMPHRIES, Bobsledding
2014 – KAILLIE HUMPHRIES, Bobsledding
2015 – KAILLIE HUMPHRIES, Bobsledding
2016 – MONIQUE SULLIVAN, Track Cycling
2017 – ERICA WIEBE, Wrestling
2018 – ALANA RAMSAY, Skiing
2019 – ALEX GOUGH, Luge
2022 – STEPHANIE LABBÉ, Soccer
2023 – ISABELLE WIDEMANN, Speed Skating
2024 – ALEXANDRIA LOUITT, Ski Jumping
2025 – KASIA GRUCHALLA-WESIERSKI, Alpine Skier

Casey Kruse



Regarded as an encouraging, energetic and motivating athlete, Casey Kruse has been involved in Special Olympics programs since 2019.

She competed in swimming and earned five gold medals at the 2025 provincial games in Grande Prairie. Kruse added another five medals at the 2025 Canada Summer Games, including two gold in 100-metre freestyle and 50-metre breaststroke; silver in the 50-metre freestyle; and a pair of bronze from the 50-metre backstroke and 100-metre backstroke events.

A positive role model, Kruse has served as a Special Olympics representative at the annual Breakfast with Champions event. She has also attended Motionball and the Law Enforcement Torch Run fundraisers.

Kruse, who has made swim training a priority to ensure she is meeting and exceeding all training requirements, will compete for Team Alberta at the 2026 National Games in Medicine Hat.

PAST WINNERS

Jack Gregory Athlete of the Year Award

Special Olympics Calgary's Athlete of the Year Award was jointly initiated by the Calgary Booster Club and Special Olympics Calgary in 2014. This award is presented annually to a City of Calgary Special Olympics Athlete'.

2014 – JENNIFER RIDDELL, Cross Country Skiing

2015 – SPENCER STEVENS, Power Lifting

2016 – KATHRYN SAUNDERS, Speed Skating

2017 – SARAH MCCARTHY, Cross Country Skiing, Badminton, Swimming and Power Lifting

2018 – ALLIE PRICE, Golf, Soccer

2019 – JUSTIN THOMPSON, Swimming

2022 – Nine representatives — figure skaters Amber Harriman, Emma Bittorf, Meg Ohsada, Kennedy Zaytsoff, JorDen Tyson; alpine skier Ferris Brewer; cross-country skiers Emily Ross, Sarah McCarthy; and speed skater Katie Saunders.

2023 – ANDREAS WALTHER, 9 different sports

2024 – DAVID NICHOLSON, Powerlifting

2025 – MADISON CYR, Alpine Skiing

PARKS FOUNDATION CALGARY

Connecting donors and partners with
innovative park and sport projects

- \$200M** Raised for capital and community-led park and sports initiatives
- 1400+** Stories shared on dedicated benches across Calgary
- 560+** Grant recipients for playground designs, sport facilities and equipment



PARTNER WITH US!



EMAIL: info@parksfdn.com WEBSITE: www.parksfdn.com
ADDRESS: 225 13th Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2R 1N8

SCOTT MAMINI MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT

Cale Makar



The trophy case is getting a little crowded.

Calgarian Cale Makar continues to add to his achievements as a defenceman with the Colorado Avalanche and Team Canada.

After winning the Stanley Cup and the Conn Smythe Trophy as the most valuable player in the NHL playoffs in 2022, Makar earned the James Norris Memorial Trophy that year as the league's top defenceman.

The smooth-skating d-man, who played bantam hockey with the Northwest Calgary Athletic Association Bruins, was a force again in 2025. Makar scored 30 goals and amassed 92 points in 80 games on his way to a second Norris Trophy. He was also named a First-Team NHL All-Star and a finalist for

the Ted Lindsay Award, which is given to the most outstanding regular-season player in the eyes of the NHL Players' Association.

When he took to the ice at the 4 Nations Face-Off tournament, Makar assisted on Connor McDavid's golden goal that secured a championship title for Canada.

More recently, the former member of the Brooks Bandits claimed a silver medal at the 2026 Winter Olympics in Italy.

This is Makar's second Male Athlete of the Year Award from the Calgary Booster Club. He first won the Scott-Mamini Memorial Award in 2023. In securing this award he becomes the first NHL player to win it twice since Calgary Flames captain Jarome Iginla had his name engraved on it in 2002 and 2003. Goaltender Mike Vernon also achieved this honour in 1989 and 1998.

"Being named the Calgary Booster Club's Male Athlete of the Year for the second time is an incredible honour. What makes it truly special is knowing how much the Booster Club does for our Calgary sports community," said Makar.

"The Booster Club has always been there to celebrate and support Calgary athletes, helping us grow not just in performance but in character. I'm so grateful to be part of a tradition that continues to inspire athletes and create genuine connection across Calgary."

PAST WINNERS

Scott-Mamini Award

The Scott-Mamini Award, initiated by the Calgary Press-Radio-TV Sports Club in 1958, was presented annually to the city's Athlete of the Year as chosen by the media. That format continued until 1987 when the Scott-Mamini became the Male Athlete of the Year recognition. It is named for Harry Scott, Sports Editor at the Calgary Albertan and Bob Mamini, the Sports Department Head at the Calgary Herald. Both men were highly respected across the country during the 1930's and 1940's.

1958 – AL ROLLINS, Hockey	1980 – KEN READ, Alpine Skiing	2003 – JAROME IGINLA, Hockey
1959 – DON LUZZI, Football	1981 – JAMES SYKES, Football	2004 – JEREMY WOTHERSPOON, Speed Skating
1960 – DOUG KYLE, Track & Field	1982 – KARL TILLEMANN, Basketball	2005 – KYLE SHEWELT, Gymnastics
1961 – KEITH ALEXANDER, Golf	1983 – WILLIE deWIT, Boxing	2006 – LEE GRAVES, Rodeo
1962 – DOUG BARKLEY, Hockey	1984 – REGGIE LEMELIN, Hockey	2007 – MIIKKA KIPRUSOFF, Hockey
1963 – HARVIE WYLIE, Football	1985 – TOM PONTING, Swimming	2008 – STEPHEN AMES, Golf
1964 – JAMIE PAULSON, Badminton	1986 – ED LUKOWICH, Curling	2009 – HENRY BURRIS, Football
1965 – LOVELL COLEMAN, Football	1987 – RICK JOHNSON, Football	2010 – JOHN KUCERA, Alpine Skiing
1966 – RON NORTHOTT, Curling	1988 – JOE NIEUWENDYK, Hockey	2011 – JON MONTGOMERY, Skeleton
1967 – WAYNE HARRIS, Football	1989 – MIKE VERNON, Hockey	2012 – JON CORNISH, Football
1968 – RON NORTHOTT, Curling	1990 – MARK TEWKSBURY, Swimming	2013 – JON CORNISH, Football
1969 – BOB WYLIE, Golf	1991 – BOB WYLIE, Golf	2014 – JON CORNISH, Football
1970 – PETE SAVINKOFF, Fastball	1992 – MARK TEWKSBURY, Swimming	2015 – ANDREW BUCKLEY, Football
1971 – BARBARA SIMPSON, Equestrian	1993 – MARK TEWKSBURY, Swimming	2016 – ANDREW BUCKLEY, Football
1972 – JOHN DAVIDSON, Hockey	1994 – DAVID SAPUNJIS, Football	2017 – KEVIN KOE, Curling
1973 – JOHN HELTON, Football	1995 – RICHARD BOHNE, Basketball	2018 – BRIAN MCKEEVER, Skiing
1974 – BILL BENKO, Wrestling	1996 – DON BLAIR, Football	2019 – JUSTIN KRIPPES, Bobsleigh
1975 – KATHY PRIESTNER, Speed Skating	1997 – CURTIS MYDEN, Swimming	2020 – RILEY FLEMING, Golf
1976 – WILLIE BURDEN, Football	1998 – MIKE VERNON, Hockey	2021 – CALE MAKAR, Hockey
1977 – PAUL GOWSELL, Curling	1999 – JEFF GARCIA, Football	2022 – DUSTIN WOLF, Hockey
1978 – HELEN VANDERBURG, Synchronized Swimming	2000 – JEREMY WOTHERSPOON, Speed Skating	2023 – TOBIAS WARSCHESKI, Soccer
1979 – KEN READ, Alpine Skiing	2001 – DAVE DICKENSON, Football	
	2002 – JAROME IGINLA, Hockey	

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The Calgary Booster Club would like to **extend their gratitude** to the following companies and individuals

whose donations continue to assist Calgary's athletes and volunteers:

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Calgary Booster Club

CALGARY BOOSTER CLUB

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Roy Beavers*	Owner, Club Café
Ron Butlin*	Business Executive, Central Liquidation (Canada) Ltd.
Vere Carmichael*	Medical Supply Salesman
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Pete Egan*	Manager, Palace Theatre
Curly Hunt*	President, Hunt Real Estate
Dr. Les Maxwell*	Dentist
Ernie McCullough, Jr.*	Maclin Motors
Jack Quigley*	Insurance Executive, Quigley Hunt Insurance
Art Smith*	Advertising Executive and former Member of Parliament

*deceased

Joining the Calgary Booster Club

What can happen when like-minded individuals get together to discuss a simple idea – to organize a club of sports enthusiasts to boost both amateur sports and sports in general? In Calgary, the results have been exceptional. The founding members of the Calgary Booster Club met in 1951 at Calgary's old Club Café and created such an organization, and this evening's celebration is just one of our annual events supporting athletics. Our members

- are dedicated to the development and encouragement of athletic endeavour,
- have an interest in sport and athletics,
- wish to work with other positive, supportive people,
- enjoy the benefits of volunteering, and
- seek ways to improve sport programs in the City of Calgary.

If you are such a person, please consider becoming a member of the Calgary Booster Club.

For membership information, please contact us by email at info@calgaryboosterclub.com or go to www.calgaryboosterclub.com.

CALGARY BOOSTER CLUB

Support and Partnership Funding

The Calgary Booster Club is proud of its ongoing commitment to sponsor amateur sport through grants, scholarships, and awards to athletes and sporting bodies who demonstrate excellence, determination and development.

Financial support provided during the past year includes:

• High School Athletic Scholarships	\$39,000
• Post Secondary Scholarship Awards	\$18,000
• Art Smith Amateur Sport Legacy Fund Endowment Grants	\$20,000
• Bob Freeze Sports Grants	\$35,000

Executive 2025-2026

President	Carol Hermansen
Vice-President	Tammy Cave
Vice-President	Matt Kachur
Vice-President	Mark Kosak
Treasurer.....	Kathy Underhill
Secretary	Martyn Bentley

Board of Directors 2025-2026

Ken Babey	Lawrence King
Martyn Bentley	Leon Nellissen
Mike Boyles	Barb Prystai
Rick Frey	Brian Slot
Brent Gough	JR Smith
Mark Hlady	Al Taylor
Myla Hodgins	Kurtis Wasylyshen
Matt Kachur	Don Young

Media

Rob McLeod, Digital Media Manager
Ian Wilson, Content Manager

Honour Roll

1980 – Jim (Deak) Cassidy*	2000 – Art Smith*	– Jack Quigley*
– Marv McDill*	2003 – Stu Adams*	2006 – Bob Niven*
1982 – Mr. Justice	– Roy Beavers*	– Carol Kyle SOY*
Joe Kryczka*	– Ron Butlin*	2008 – LeRoy Pelletier
– Doug Mitchell, Q.C.*	– Vere Carmichael*	2016 – Doug Kowel
1984 – Bill Warren, Q.C.	– Harry Cohen*	– Jack MacDonald
1985 – Bill Nield	– Pete Egan*	– Rob Stinson
– Fred Wuotila*	– Curly Hunt*	
1989 – Frank King*	– Dr. Les Maxwell*	
1999 – Dennis Kadatz*	– Ernie McCullough, Jr.*	

*deceased

Past Presidents

1952-53 – Vere Carmichael*	1975-76 – Jack Wilson*	1998-99 – Brian Randall
1953-54 – Art Smith*	1976-77 – Bill Warren	1999-00 – Reid Morrison
1954-55 – Ernie McCullough*	1977-78 – Fred Wuotila*	2000-01 – Sue Chambers
1955-56 – Wally Rowan*	1978-79 – Bill Nield	2001-02 – Don Buchignani
1956-57 – Al Ward*	1979-80 – Don Podgurny	2002-03 – Don Young
1957-58 – Curly Hunt*	1980-81 – Ted Sullivan*	2003-04 – Leon Nellissen
1958-59 – Bob Freeze*	1981-82 – Trevor Williams	2004-05 – Pat Franks
1959-60 – Ken Moore*	1982-83 – Skip Morgan	2005-06 – Rob Stinson
1960-61 – Bill Dickie*	1983-84 – Wes Dalgleish	2006-07 – Gary Maher
1961-62 – Ron Butlin*	1984-85 – LeRoy Pelletier	2007-08 – Kathy Van Heurn
1962-63 – Ron Butlin*	1985-86 – Sim Laing	2008-09 – Wayne Meadows
1963-64 – Bill Pullar*	1986-87 – Doug Kowel	2009-10 – Al Taylor
1964-65 – Joe Kryczka*	1987-88 – Lorne Scott*	2010-11 – Wayne McDougall
1965-66 – Lou Goodwin*	1988-89 – John Langille	2011-12 – Brent Gough
1966-67 – Stu Adams*	1989-90 – Bill Waddell	2012-13 – Mike Boyles
1967-68 – Gerry Maier	1990-91 – Rod Antoniuk	2013-14 – Don Phelps
1968-69 – Doug Mitchell*	1991-92 – Jack MacDonald	2014-15 – Ron Gerlitz
1969-70 – Jack Prette*	1992-93 – Don Beamer	2015-16 – Al Taylor
1970-71 – Jim (Deak) Cassidy*	1993-94 – Chuck Rose	2016-19 – Jon Jewell
1971-72 – Roy Maxwell*	1994-95 – Dr. Brent Humphrey	2020- Carol Hermansen
1972-73 – Don Park	1995-96 – Lawrence King	
1973-74 – Tony Schneider*	1996-97 – Reg Verley	
1974-75 – Dennis Kadatz*	1997-98 – Bob Croteau	

*deceased

Honourary Life Directors

Rod Antoniuk	Dr. Brent Humphrey	Wayne McDougall	Brian Randall
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Jim (Deak) Cassidy*	Dennis Kadatz*	Doug Mitchell, Q.C.*	Art Smith*
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Clarence Gourlay*	John Mayell*	Jack Prette*	Gordon Wood*
Kathy Van Heurn	Ernie McCullough*	Jack Quigley*	Fred Wuotila*
Harry Hobbs			

Bob Freeze Sport Grants

Bob was the President of the Booster Club between 1959 and 1960. He was named the Sportsman of the Year in 1965. His lifelong passion and enduring legacy was his commitment to promote and develop grass roots sports. He passed away in 2011. In recognition of his support of youth athletes, the Calgary Booster Club will provide awards of up to \$1000 to young athletes up to the age of 16 years old. In addition, the Calgary Booster Club will choose one organization each year and will provide financial support up to \$5,000.

2026 Bob Freeze Sport Grant Individual Recipients

NAME

Daniil Armstrong
Lionel Azuni
Anureet Bajwa
Harveen Bajwa
Kenzie Boloten
Liz Bryanskaya
William Cameron
Kai Choe
Antai Cui
Olivia Cui
Victor Doiciulescu
Ranumi Eashwarage
Deanna Fanzhu
Claire Ferraro
Ryenn Forsberg
Sophie Holowaychuk
Serena Jiang
Laon Kim
Elizabeth King
Charlotte Kitt
Azalea Li
Joshua Li
Tryne Mamen
Ramin Movaffagh
Felicia Robert
Maelle Robert
Grace Rowe
Sophia Shpak
Avery Steinke
Bennett Thiessen
Hatim Unwala
Heidi Wallin
Nicholas Wang
Anna Washbrook
Elleigh Wise

SPORT

Figure Skating
Boxing
Taekwondo
Taekwondo
Waterpolo
Swimming
Swimming
Sprint Canoe
Martial Art Wushu
Modern Pentathlon/Fencing
Fencing
Swimming
Volleyball
Rowing
BMX
Swimming
Fencing
Swimming
Biathlon
Figure Skating
Fencing
Waterpolo
Rowing
Karate
Speed skating
Triathlon
Swimming
Swimming
Triathlon
Swimming
Modern Pentathlon
Rowing
Speed Skating
Rowing
Swimming

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CALGARY BOOSTER CLUB SPORT LEGACY FUND**

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ARE AWARDED TO
AMATEUR ATHLETES**

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Art Smith Endowment Grant Recipients

The Art Smith Amateur Sport Legacy Fund is a partnership between the Calgary Booster Club and the Parks Foundation Calgary. Together these two groups have created and will continue to build an endowment fund to provide much needed assistance for amateur athletes. Because The Art Smith Amateur Sport Legacy is an endowment fund, your gift can be used now and will still be at work for many years to come. To check out the many ways you can gain taxable benefits, please visit www.parksfdn.com, or call (587) 350-9583, or send an email to info@calgarybooster.com.

The following athletes were selected after considering performance ranking and financial need. The Calgary Booster Club is proud to recognize the commitment and achievement of the following athletes and hopes that this grant will help further their training and competitive opportunities.

Caelan Baine – Biathlon

As Caelan nears graduation from Central Memorial High School this coming June, he has already established himself as one of Canada's top prospects in the sport of biathlon.

Once school is out, he intends to use the momentum of recent successes to fuel a transition into full-time training as he pursues the highest heights of his sport. Born and raised in Calgary, Caelan has trained with Foothills Nordic Club throughout his youth and has progressed along their development pathway establishing himself early as one of biathlon's top young athletes.

Caelan's recent competitive achievements mark his steady rise on the national stage. In March of 2025, he secured first place in four Canadian championship events in Quebec (sprint, pursuit, mass start, and single mixed relay). That same month he competed in Bozeman, Montana with similarly spectacular results. In Whistler, B.C., this past January, his performance earned him a spot to represent Canada at the World Youth Championships in Arber, Germany in March. Just a few weeks ago, Canada earned a 15th place finish in the men's relay—an important milestone in Caelan's growing aptitude at the international level.

His coaches consistently point to dedication as his defining trait and recognize his uncanny work ethic. Coach Mark Toth highlights his competitive achievements as "the product of sustained, purposeful training, and a willingness to continually refine his ability."

Carly Bonham – Water Skiing

Carly represents Canada in water skiing and is currently internationally ranked 14th in trick and 21st in slalom. Her current national rankings are fourth in slalom, second in trick, fifth in jump and fourth overall.

During the 2025 U21 World Championships in Calgary, Carly placed 20th in slalom and second in the team event. Carly won four gold medals at the 2025 provincial championships and at the Western Canadian championships she came in second in trick, fourth in slalom and third overall.

In 2024, at the Pan Am Championships in Bogota, Colombia, her Canadian U21 team won bronze.

Art Smith Endowment Grant Recipients

Carly balances her demanding training and competition schedule with her academic pursuits. She is currently training with the University of Louisiana Monroe. She is a source of inspiration to a generation of young athletes as she coaches adaptive and grassroots athletes sharing her passion. She also spends time judging events as well.

Carly's grit and resilience are evident in her continuous performance improvements, but her impact extends beyond her individual achievements.

She has consistently delivered excellent performances, showcasing her unwavering commitment to her sport and her country.

Connor Chow – Modern Pentathlon

Connor is a rising Canadian modern pentathlete whose journey reflects both athletic excellence and deep community commitment. A 20-year-old, born and raised Calgarian, Connor trains with the Ares Pentathlon and Fencing Club, balancing high-performance sport with academic studies in physical literacy at Mount Royal University.

Since earning his first National Team selection in 2022, Connor has steadily built an impressive competitive résumé. He claimed gold at the 2025 Canadian National Championships in Okotoks and previously won the U19 national title in 2023. Internationally, he earned a bronze medal at the 2024 Queen Leonor International Cup in Caldas da Rainha, Portugal, and delivered standout performances at the 2023 NORCECA Championships in Guatemala City, including gold in the U19 mixed relay.

In 2025, he made his senior international debut at the Pan American Championships in Argentina, placing in the top 20 while also competing in the Junior World Championships in Hungary the same year. Looking ahead, Connor is targeting major international events in Peru, Lithuania, and China later this summer as he works toward Pan-American Games and Olympic qualification.

Connor's coach, Joshua Riker-Fox, describes him as "a highly motivated and well-rounded pentathlete...demonstrating leadership through his work ethic and positive attitude."

Gabriela Cross – Wrestling

Gabriela is a distinguished student-athlete at the University of Calgary, pursuing a nursing degree while representing the Dinos varsity wrestling team for the past five years.

This year, she was chosen as one of the U Sports Academic All Canadian selections, finishing in the top eight nationwide. It's an esteemed award that recognizes excellence in both athletic performance and academic achievement. In her final year, she demonstrated exceptional commitment to her studies by attaining a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

In her final year, Gabi achieved both Canada West and U Sports titles, was recognized as the Outstanding U Sports female wrestler, and received the Dinos Athletics Female Athlete of the Year award. Throughout her varsity wrestling career, she represented the Dinos at the Canada West championships and secured four gold medals. At the U Sports championships, Gabi earned titles in both 2025 and 2024, following a silver medal finish in 2023. Additionally, she represented the Dinos at the Canadian junior championships in 2022 and 2023, winning gold medals on both occasions. At the national level in the U23

Art Smith Endowment Grant Recipients

category, Gabi attained a gold medal in 2024 after earning a bronze medal at the Senior Canadian championships in 2022.

Internationally, Gabi has demonstrated her commitment to rigorous training and achieving high performance by finishing in fifth place at the 2023 Junior World Championships and representing Canada at the 2022 Junior World Championships. She captured a silver medal for Canada at the U23 Pan American championships in 2025 and placed second at the Spanish Grand Prix, placing her among the elite young wrestlers from Canada.

With her ongoing dedication, Gabi is poised to deliver even stronger performances as she continues striving toward an Olympic appearance for Team Canada.

Parker Deshayes - Swimming

Parker is an outstanding young swimmer whose performance, character, and leadership have positioned him as one of Canada's most promising athletes in the pool. An 18-year-old competitor with the Cascade Swim Club in Calgary, Parker has dedicated 15 years to the sport, steadily progressing through the ranks to emerge as a national-level contender.

This past season marked a breakthrough in Parker's career. At the Canadian trials in Victoria, he earned two bronze medals in the 50m and 100m backstroke, narrowly missing selection for the World Championships.

He went on to represent Canada at the World Junior Championships in Romania, achieving impressive top 16 finishes, including eighth in the 100m backstroke. Beyond competition, Parker is known for his professionalism, coachability, and strong work ethic. He excels academically and leads by example, regularly mentoring younger swimmers and contributing to the swimming community through clinics and events.

Angelina Ellis-Toddington – Wrestling

Angelina has been an invaluable member of the University of Calgary Dinos wrestling team for many years, consistently demonstrating a level of dedication and competitiveness that sets her apart.

She competed for the Dinos in the Canada West championships five times, capturing two gold, two silver, and one bronze medal. At the U Sports championships, she claimed the 68-kg title in 2025 and took bronze in the 65-kg category in 2024. Angelina also represented the Dinos Wrestling Club at the Canadian junior championships in 2022 and 2023, winning gold and silver respectively. In the U23 nationals, she secured gold in 2025 and silver in both 2024 and 2023.

In addition to her athletic achievements, Angelina has been honoured on multiple occasions as an All-Canadian student-athlete during her five years as a varsity competitor. She consistently maintained a commendable 3.3 grade point average throughout her tenure.

Angelina has competed internationally for Canada in her age category several times during the early stages of her career. Most recently, she secured a silver medal at the 2025 U23 Pan American championships and achieved 13th place at the U23 world championships.

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Her competitiveness and drive continue to propel her forward as she competes in her final year as a varsity athlete, having just secured her second CanWest championship title and playing a pivotal role in helping our team achieve its third consecutive women's team title.

She will be heading to nationals, where she will be defending her title as U Sports champion.

Amaia Ervin-Arambarri - Cycling

While pursuing law studies at the University of Calgary, Amaia represents Canada in cycling.

She is an exceptional athlete across multiple disciplines, including triathlon, cross country, track and field, and now cycling. Her competitive spirit and strong team mindset have helped contribute to her success. She demonstrates peer support, leadership, and academic excellence while performing at an elite level.

In 2025, Amaia's first year of cycling, she had a podium finish in seven out of eight national level races. A highlight was gold at the Canada Summer Games. Internationally in 2025, Amaia had a top ten placing at the Tour de Bloom, finished eighth at the Gastown Grand Prix, and ended up with a 28th result at the Tour do Gatineau in helping Canada secure a top finish.

In 2023 and 2024 Amaia received gold in triathlon and was selected to Team Canada. She won provincial gold in 2023 and a silver in 2024. From 2023 through 2025 Amaia also competed successfully in U Sports in the areas of cross country and track and field.

She is a difference maker and embodies the qualities that will enable her to see international podium finishes leading to a continental or pro contract in the discipline of cycling.

Katherine Featherstone – Water Polo

Katherine is a varsity athlete with the Arizona State University women's water polo team, a top Division I program. She plays a key role in her team's success, earning the trust of her coaches and teammates in the most critical moments.

On the international stage, Katherine has proudly represented Canada at the Junior World Championships and Junior Pan American Championships, and more recently she served as captain of Canada's Junior National Team. Her leadership and performance have now earned her a place in Canada's Senior National Team athlete pool, positioning her among a select group of athletes working toward the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

Katherine's journey is defined by her relentless commitment to improvement.

Whether in the pool or in film sessions, she actively seeks feedback, asks insightful questions, and pushes herself—and those around her to higher standards. Her work ethic, intensity, and maturity set her apart, reflecting a mindset grounded in continuous growth and accountability.

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Beyond her accomplishments, Katherine leads with humility, resilience, integrity, and represents her team with pride, elevating those around her through her example.

Ashtynn Forsberg – Luge

Ashtynn is an exceptional athlete who has distinguished herself as one of the most promising young talents in her competitive sport of luge. As a member of Canada's Junior Development Team, she has demonstrated remarkable development and competitive excellence. Her impressive record boasts multiple championship titles, including three Canadian championships, and her current status as the Luge Champion in the Youth A Women's category. Her international success includes gold at the Youth-A America Pacific Championship in Lake Placid in the United States earlier this year. These achievements reflect significant progress over the past two seasons in technical ability, physical strength, confidence, and a competitive maturity beyond the typical 17-year-old.

Her technical skills are characterized by precise technique, excellent sled control, and comprehensive competitive insight. Ashtynn consistently performs effectively under pressure while maintaining a professional approach to training. Her ability to implement coaching feedback and her genuine desire for continuous improvement demonstrate her commitment to excellence. Beyond her competitive success, she serves as an outstanding role model within the Canadian luge program. Younger athletes regard her as a standard of professionalism and dedication.

She effectively balances training, travel, and personal responsibilities with remarkable maturity and integrity, consistently leading by example. Ashtynn embodies the qualities that define elite athletes: determination, discipline, resilience, and a team-oriented mindset, positioning her for continued advancement toward international competition.

Zach Lavin – Para Hockey

Zach Lavin started playing Para ice hockey with the Calgary Scorpions in 2016 after being introduced to the sport by Chris Cederstrand, a former member of Canada's National Sledge Team. Zach had both legs amputated below the knee after getting lost on a hiking trip in the Rocky Mountains for three days and suffering frostbite in February 2016. In March 2016, he underwent surgery to have both feet amputated about 30 centimetres below his knees.

As an active multi-sport athlete, Zach chose to view his accident not as a setback, but as an opportunity for personal growth and new challenges. Despite having no prior experience in hockey, he acknowledges the significant support of Para hockey players Chris Cederstrand and Steve Arsenault, who were instrumental in accelerating his development in the sport.

Zach first made Canada's National Para Hockey Team in 2017-18. By 2019 he made his international debut for Canada at the World Championships, winning a silver medal. He again represented Canada in 2021 and 2023 at the World Championships, where the team won silver medals both times.

When Zach Lavin first made Canada's National Para Hockey Team in 2017-18, he set a new goal for himself - to don the maple leaf in Beijing at the 2022 Paralympic Games, which he accomplished, winning a silver medal.

Art Smith Endowment Grant Recipients

Zach earned consecutive silver medals while competing at the Milano Cortina Paralympic Games in 2026.

Following the Paralympics Zach and his fiancée, Madison, have plans to get married.

Jacob Li – Modern Pentathlon

Even though Jacob Li has natural talent, his countless hours of hard-working practice have pushed him to excel in the sport of modern pentathlon. His goal is to qualify and represent Canada at the Pan Ams in Peru and the world championships in Lithuania this year, ultimately following that up with an appearance at the 2028 Olympics.

Jacob ranked second at the U19 Pentathlon World Championships and 17th at the Junior Pan Ams. He was also 12th in the men's division in 2025. He currently holds the 2025 Denise Fekete Memorial Fund Award, which is given to the highest scoring junior/senior male athlete for the junior national team. Jacob came fourth in epee in the Western Invitational and earned gold at the U19 Canadian National Championships. In 2024, Jacob placed eighth at the Pan Ams individual category, as well as eighth in relay.

Besides his athletic focus, Jacob is pursuing his studies in biotechnology at Imperial College in London. He is a musician and a tutor, and he spends countless hours volunteering. Jacob is an ambitious young athlete with high potential for success in modern pentathlon. He is a great team leader and strives to push himself through dedication and determination to the next level of performance. As a role model to younger athletes, Jacob is truly an advocate for the sport of modern pentathlon.

Nicole Maurer – Ski Jump

Nicole is a leading Canadian ski jumper whose career reflects exceptional growth, resilience, and commitment to excellence.

Over the past several seasons, she has progressed from early qualification challenges on the World Cup circuit to consistently earning points each year, steadily closing in on the world's top 15 competitors.

A highlight of her career includes competing at the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Games, where she achieved top 20 finishes in all events, demonstrating her ability to perform on the sport's biggest stage. With limited facilities in Canada, she does much of her training in Slovenia and now spends most of her time in Central Europe training and competing. She independently manages the financial and logistical demands of elite sport, including accommodation, travel, nutrition, and training expenses, while also working multiple jobs during her limited time at home.

Beyond her athletic achievements, Nicole is dedicated to her academic pursuits. She is currently completing a dual major in astrophysics and computer science at the University of Calgary, balancing the rigours of high-performance sport with a demanding course load. Her ambitions and success in multiple fields make her a role model for aspiring athletes and students alike.

Known for her positive attitude and team-first mindset, Nicole contributes to a strong culture of support and camaraderie within the national team.

Art Smith Endowment Grant Recipients

Donya Movaffagh - Karate

Donya is a high-performance athlete in karate, and exemplifies the traits of commitment, discipline, and patience to hone her skills. Donya earned her designation of Shodan (black belt) in 2023, being one of the youngest athletes to be awarded this from her dojo.

Donya's recent accomplishments include multiple gold medals at provincial championships, multiple medals at Canadian national championships, and a silver medal at the 2025 Junior Pan American games. Her coaches say she is a clear leader with a high standard of excellence for herself. She is a well rounded, kind-hearted individual with a passion to consistently improve.

Natalie Olson – Para-Karate

Natalie is recognized as a pioneer in Canadian sport. She became Karate Canada's first para-karate athlete and remains its most highly decorated competitor in this field. Training at the South Calgary Karate Club, Natalie has dedicated nearly three decades to mastering her discipline. Her competitive record positions her among the most accomplished para-karate athletes in Canadian history.

In 2025, she earned her fifth world championship podium finish with a bronze at the WKF Para-Karate event in Cairo. Natalie is a five-time Pan American champion, eight-time Canadian national champion, and she won gold at the 2023 Virtus Global Games. She is currently ranked No. 2 globally. Natalie continues to perform at the highest international level, demonstrating both longevity and sustained excellence in a sport where such consistency is rare.

She is not simply an accomplished athlete; she is a living symbol of what resilience and opportunity can achieve. Natalie's impact extends far beyond the medals. She has shaped the standards of high-performance para-karate and continues to inspire by competing and promoting excellence and inclusion in sport. She is a legend within Canadian para-karate and more importantly, one who continues to compete, inspire, and redefine the limits of her sport.

McKenna Pineda-McLean – Water Polo

McKenna competes for Canada in the sport of water polo and in the fall will represent Fresno State, a NCAA Division 1 team. She is currently on the Junior Canadian Team, a squad that ranked 11th at the U16 World Championships and won a silver in the U17 Pan Am championships.

Nationally, over this past year, McKenna won a gold at the senior national level, a silver at the U18 nationals and a gold at the U18 Western Championship. She was named captain to the youth Canadian National Team. In 2024, McKenna's team took home a silver at the U17 nationals and a gold at the senior national championship.

McKenna shares her leadership skills with younger generations and peers alike. She shows outstanding athleticism, work ethic and demonstrates sportsmanship, perseverance and service. Competing at a variety of levels, McKenna demonstrates great maturity and excels not only in water polo but in life. Her goals are to achieve gold at the U18 and senior national levels. McKenna is a Calgary athlete who is extremely proud to represent her city and country

Art Smith Endowment Grant Recipients

Karissa Riley – Rowing

Karissa is a Canadian athlete whose rapid progression on the international stage reflects both exceptional performance and unwavering dedication in the sport of rowing. Born and raised in Calgary, she trains with the Calgary Rowing Club while pursuing a Master of Science in kinesiology at the University of Calgary, where her research focuses on gender equity and the experiences of high-performance female athletes.

Over the past two seasons, Karissa has achieved significant competitive milestones. At the 2024 World Rowing Championships, she placed 13th in a field featuring Olympic-level competitors. Building on that experience, she delivered a breakthrough performance in 2025, finishing seventh overall in Shanghai, China. As noted by NextGen coach Alexandra Marchuk: “The progression from 13th to 7th in one season is not incremental, it reflects a significant leap in physical performance, race execution, and competitive maturity.”

Karissa will be targeting the 2026 World Rowing Championships this year, and looking further ahead, pursuing a spot on the Olympic open-weight competition. With the removal of lightweight categories Karissa faces an uphill battle but, in the words of Conditioning Coach Jeff Osadec: “She is the definition of an underdog who refuses to let systemic changes or physical norms dictate her ceiling.”

Miki Rowbottom - Wrestling

Miki has been an integral part of the University of Calgary Dinos wrestling team for many years while obtaining an engineering degree. During her varsity tenure and thereafter, she has maintained a strong leadership role within the team as well as in the wider community.

Miki has competed for the Dinos at Canada West and U Sports championships multiple times. She represented Canada at the 2021 U23 World Championships and achieved second place at the 2022 Pan American Championships. In 2023, she placed third in her weight class at the Canadian Olympic team trials, and she finished second at both Olympic and non-Olympic weights in the Senior World Team trials earlier that year. She secured a bronze medal at the Spanish Grand Prix, a significant international tournament, that same year.

Throughout the 2024/2025 season, Miki maintained her strong performance by winning a gold medal at the Senior National Trials, earning a selection to the national team in the 62-kg category. Additionally, she earned a bronze medal at the Senior Pan American Championships competing at 65 kg.

This 2025/2026, season, Miki won silver at the Senior Pan Am Championships in Monterrey, Mexico, was national champion at 65 kg and represented Canada at the World Wrestling Championships in Zagreb, Croatia, finishing 17th overall. She is currently ranked 20th in the world at 65 kg and has her sights set on the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

In addition to her athletic accomplishments, Miki actively supports the growth of others by mentoring varsity athletes and volunteering as a coach for wrestlers at both the high school and university levels, as well as for mature athletes.

Kiira Saarenoja – Sprint Canoe

Kiira Saarenoja is an exceptional athlete whose achievements, character, and leadership make her a standout representative of amateur sport in Alberta. As a dedicated member of the Calgary Canoe Club, Kiira reached a historic milestone at the 2025 Canada Summer Games, earning a silver medal in the C1 500-metre event.

In doing so, she became the first Albertan woman to ever medal in this discipline—an accomplishment that not only highlights her talent, but also her perseverance and commitment to excellence in a demanding high-performance environment.

Kiira's success is driven by her strong work ethic, focus, and passion for continuous improvement. She approaches training with discipline and determination, consistently striving to elevate her performance and compete at the national level. Beyond her athletic achievements, Kiira is deeply committed to giving back. She actively coaches and mentors younger athletes, helping to develop their skills, confidence, and love for paddling.

Through her leadership, humility, and integrity, she serves as a positive role model and an inspiring ambassador for the sport.

Thomas William Stephen – Cross Country Skiing

Thomas competes for Canada both nationally and internationally and is currently ranked 147th in the world and first in Canada. At the Toblach 2026 Junior World Cup 20-kilometre pursuit, Thomas ranked 20th and in the men's, interval start 10 km, he ranked 45th.

In Canada, Thomas was first at the Olympic Trials in the 10-km classic skate, and third in the 10-km skate. He also finished in third in the sprint qualification. He was a member of the 2026 Olympic cross-country team and has been a representative on the Canadian National Team since 2021. Thomas represented Canada at the World Junior Championships in 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2024, and 2025.

His goal is to go from being in the top ten in junior performances to being in the top ten on the senior world stage. As one of Canada's top performers in cross-country skiing, and with his work ethic, dedication, and resiliency and his constant push for excellence, Thomas will achieve his goals. He lives and trains with focus, maturity, and purpose and is a wonderful ambassador for the sport of cross-country skiing.

Brooke White – Rock Climbing

Brooke White is an exceptionally talented, self-aware, resolute, and diligent athlete in the sport of rock climbing. Her coaches describe her as one of the most well-rounded athletes they have ever worked with and through her dedication, she continues to enhance her climbing skills, sharpening her mental focus, and contributing to an energetic community through volunteering.

Through her hard work Brooke has become a talented athlete in Canada and on the international stage. In 2025, Brooke captured Gold at the Canadian Youth Nationals in bouldering and represented Canada at the Youth World Championships in Finland. She then qualified for the Adult National Team. She competed at an Adult World Cup in Slovenia. As well, she was invited to the Adult World Championships in Korea and the Pan American Championships in Colombia.

Brooke carries herself with a growth mindset in everything she does, which is supporting her success in this sport and the future looks bright.

"The Sportsperson Memorial Award is a \$5,000 award presented to our top deserving athlete and stands as a tribute to the many Sportspersons of the Year whose lifelong dedication helped shape sport in Calgary. It also represents the direction we are moving in—striving to make our athlete awards more meaningful and impactful."



Amy Fraser – Freestyle Skiing – Halfpipe

Amy Fraser is an Olympian, World Cup champion, and eight-year veteran of the Canadian National Halfpipe Team.

Amy made her Olympic debut at Beijing in 2022, just six years after she began training in ski halfpipe. While attending university, Amy saw some of the things her friends on the national ski team were doing and thought that their lives looked "pretty fun." She started going skiing at Canada Olympic Park by herself and learned how to hit rails and jumps in the freestyle park. She quickly got hooked

on "flying through the air" and executing a perfect trick. After a coach saw what she was capable of, she was asked to join a team.

She later advanced to compete on the Nor-Am Cup circuit. Following her selection to Canada's national team, she participated in her inaugural FIS World Cup events during the 2019-20 season, all within the halfpipe discipline. Her debut at the FIS World Championships occurred in 2021, where she secured a ninth-place finish.

Amy reached her first World Cup podium in December of 2022, beginning a remarkable season. She ended up second overall in the halfpipe World Cup rankings, claimed a personal best fifth place at the FIS World Championships, and made her debut at the Winter X Games.

During the 2023-24 season, she achieved three podium finishes in World Cup competitions, including her inaugural World Cup victory, resulting in a second-place finish in the overall standings. Additionally, she earned the first of two consecutive bronze medals at the X Games.

In 2025, Amy recovered from both a concussion and a broken shoulder and went on to qualify for the 2026 Olympic Games. At the Milano Cortina Olympics, she delivered an outstanding performance, finishing just shy of the podium in fourth place. Her comeback reflects her exceptional discipline and mental toughness.

Amy is a leading figure in advancing women's halfpipe performance and presently stands as the sole female athlete executing switch cork nines in competitive events.

Amy stands out for her exceptional work ethic and dedication to her sport. She consistently delivers remarkable performances and demonstrates true dominance in halfpipe competitions. Her innovative training methods and passion for skiing inspire those around her. Amy frequently organizes free introductory halfpipe clinics exclusively for women. She is a proud representative of her community, always pushing herself to reach the highest levels possible.

It is with great pleasure that Amy Fraser is awarded the Art Smith Memorial Award for 2026.



SCHOLAR ATHLETES

AMÉLIE COLLIN

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | SCHULICH SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

ERIK GODWIN

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL | KINESIOLOGY

KY MACAULAY

MEN'S CURLING | FACULTY OF ARTS

KRISTEN FOX

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD | WERKLUND SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

**CONGRATS TO ALL OF THE
2026 CALGARY BOOSTER CLUB AWARD WINNERS!**

GODINOS.COM

University / College Athlete Awards

University of Calgary Dinos Athletes



AMÉLIE COLLIN | Women's Basketball

Amélie Collin led the way for the Dinos women's basketball team during the 2025–26 season. The fifth year student made history with 98 steals on the season, setting a new Canada West single-season record and finishing her career as the conference's all-time leader with 322 steals. Her standout defensive play earned her Canada West Defensive Player of the Year honours and U SPORTS Defensive Player of the Year recognition, while also being named a Canada West Second Team All-Star. Collin was named a U SPORTS Academic All-Canadian for the fourth time last season while studying in the Schulich School of Engineering, where she earned a 3.925 GPA.



ERIK GODWIN | Men's Volleyball

Erik Godwin was a key contributor for the Dinos men's volleyball team during the 2025–26 season. The fifth year outside hitter from Lethbridge, Alta., provided consistent offence and leadership, highlighted by a dominant postseason series where he recorded 45 kills while hitting .331 to lead Calgary past their rivals in the opening round. The program's all-time leader in service aces, Godwin continued to impact matches from the service line while adding strong defensive play. A standout student in the Werklund School of Education where he earned a 3.914 GPA, he was also recognized as a U SPORTS Academic All-Canadian for the fourth time.



KY MACAULAY | Men's Curling

Ky Macaulay played a key role in leading the Dinos men's curling team to a historic season in 2025–26. A third-year student in the Faculty of Arts, Macaulay delivered consistent shot-making throughout the year as Calgary captured the Canada West championship before going on to claim the U SPORTS national title. His composure in high-pressure moments helped guide the Dinos through a tightly contested championship run, cementing the team's place among the top programs in the country.



KRISTEN FOX | Women's Track & Field

Kristen Fox was a standout competitor for the Dinos women's track & field team during the 2025–26 season. The fifth year sprinter from Calgary, Alta., consistently contributed in both individual events and relays, helping Calgary score key points at Canada West competitions while posting strong sprint times throughout the year. She capped off her season with a silver medal performance in the 4x200m relay and a bronze in the 4x400m relay at the Canada West Championships, showcasing her leadership and experience on the track. Named a U SPORTS Academic

All-Canadian, Fox is also a standout in the Werklund School of Education with a 4.00 GPA.





CONGRATULATIONS to all of the 2026 Calgary Booster Club Award Winners

Thank you to the Calgary Booster Club for their continued support of Ambrose University Lions athletics.

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TODAY!**
[stmu.ca](https://www.stmu.ca)

University / College Athlete Awards

St. Mary's University Athletes



Male Athlete of the Year Award Winner

Pelumi Ajayi – Male Athlete of the Year

Pelumi Ajayi leaves St. Mary's Lightning Basketball as one of the most accomplished and impactful student-athletes in program history.

In his final season, Pelumi led the team with 20.5 points per game, finishing second in the ACAC, and was on pace to lead the entire league in scoring prior to injury. He earned ACAC All-Conference honours, capping off a career defined not just by production, but by sustained excellence.

Over 78 career games, Pelumi recorded 1,198 points (third all-time), 528 rebounds (second all-time), and 143 steals. He became the first player in program history to surpass both 1,000 career points and 500 rebounds, while also setting a new record for career two-point field goals made. He was a key contributor to three ACAC medal-winning teams.

Beyond the numbers, Pelumi's impact was foundational. He established a standard of physicality, consistency, and defensive intensity that shaped the identity of the program. He was a player trusted in the biggest moments—composed, dependable, and unwavering in his approach.

Pelumi represents the very best of Lightning Athletics: a competitor who elevated those around him and left the program stronger than he found it.



Female Athlete of the Year Award Winner

Kendal Russell – Female Athlete of the Year

Kendal Russell concludes her career with the St. Mary's Lightning as one of the most dynamic and decorated players in program history.

In her final season, Kendal averaged 18.1 points per game—third in the ACAC—and finished second in total points. She ranked among the league's best in multiple categories, placing top three in three-pointers made and steals, while competing in every game. Her performance earned her First Team All-Conference honours,

ACAC South Player of the Year, and national recognition as a CCAA All-Canadian.

Over 66 career games, Kendal recorded 945 points, 165 three-pointers, and 157 steals—ranking among the program's all-time leaders in scoring and perimeter shooting. A two-time All-Conference selection, she consistently produced at a high level while impacting the game on both ends of the floor.

Beyond the statistics, Kendal's presence was unmistakable. She played with a rare combination of energy, toughness, and confidence—capable of taking over a game while elevating those around her. Her competitiveness and fearlessness helped define the identity of the program during her time with the Lightning.

Kendal represents the standard of excellence within Lightning Athletics: a playmaker, a competitor, and a leader whose impact will be felt well beyond her career.

University / College Athlete Awards

Mount Royal University Athletes



Female Rookie of the Year: Isa MacPhee

In her rookie season with the MRU Cougars, Isa MacPhee quickly became a key piece of the team's defensive core. She recorded two goals and 13 points, leading all Cougars rookies and ranking second among MRU defencemen. Her impact extended across the conference, as her 13 points tied for the lead among Canada West rookies. MacPhee was named to both the Canada West and U SPORTS All-Rookie Teams. An Arts student from Kingsboro, PEI, she has already shown the potential to be a steady

presence on the Cougars' blue line for years to come.



Male Rookie of the Year: Kale Orr

Kale Orr delivered an outstanding debut season with the MRU Cougars, emerging as one of the conference's most dangerous offensive threats. He quickly became the centerpiece of MRU's attack, leading the team with 259 total kills and averaging 3.55 kills per set—marks that not only topped the Cougars but also ranked third across the conference. Orr's breakout season was cemented as one of the best in program history by being named the Canada West and U SPORTS Rookie of the Year.



Female All Bonohus Athlete of the Year: Tamara Djuriscic

Tamara Djuriscic was the heartbeat of a Cougars squad that enjoyed one of their best regular seasons in program history. Djuriscic co-led the conference in scoring with nine goals in 14 games, a performance that earned her the title of Canada West Player of the Year. In just her third season, Djuriscic became the Cougars' all-time leading goal scorer, while her nine goals also set a new single-season Canada West record for the program. On the national stage her excellence was recognized with a U SPORTS First Team

All Canadian selection.



Male All Bonohus Athlete of the Year: Chanan Chanda

Chanan Chanda's impact on the MRU soccer program was felt immediately. Chanda was the primary offensive driver for Mount Royal enroute to them capturing the Canada West title. Chanda's season resume speaks for itself, as he set multiple MRU records for goals in both the regular season and playoffs. His standout campaign also earned him the U SPORTS and Canada West Rookie of the year awards, Canada West Second Team All-Star honours, along with selections to both the Canada West and U

SPORTS All-Rookie Teams.



Female Brian Fleming Award Winner: Allee Gerrard

For the MRU women's hockey program, Allee Gerrard has set the standard through her performance on the ice, commitment in the classroom, and dedication to the community. The 2025-26 season marked a career year, as she led the Cougars in both goals and overall scoring, finished among the top 10 in conference scoring, and earned Canada West Second Team All-Star honours. Away from the rink, Gerrard is a four-time Academic All-Canadian and has been actively involved in the community, including her work with Heroes Hockey.



Male Brian Fleming Award Winner: Sam Barnie

Sam Barnie is a multitime Academic All Canadian, the current Vice President of the Cougars Athletics Board, and the MVP of the men's basketball program for the 2025-26 season. On the court, Barnie was a constant presence, leading the team in rebounding, topping the Cougars in total minutes played, and appearing in all 20 regular season games. His commitment across academics, athletics, and leadership roles makes him a true standard-bearer for Cougars Athletics.

CONGRATULATIONS AWARD WINNERS!

Thank you for your dedication to sport and our community.



University / College Athlete Awards

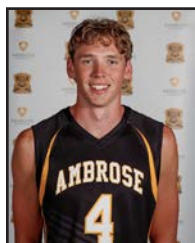
Ambrose University Athletes



Female Mel Sylvester Christian Leadership Award Winner Brooklyn Deol

This year's Female Leadership award winner is a light that fills every room she enters. She is a tremendous leader on and off the court, one who sets the tone for everyone around her through sheer work ethic, consistency, and love. Despite any personal struggles she faces, she shows up every single day and gives her team everything she has, never making excuses and never asking for anything in return. She leads not only by example, but through her competitive yet deeply caring

words, lifting teammates up even in her own difficult moments. She is so full of God's love that she naturally projects it onto everyone around her, always the first to hype up, high five, and encourage those beside her. She has worked incredibly hard to grow academically, and that same coachable, growth-oriented mindset shines through in everything she does. She never fails to treat others with genuine love and make them smile, including her coaches. This young woman embodies what it means to lead with both fire and grace. This year's Female Mel Sylvester Christian Leadership Award winner is Prissy Chuoi.



Male Mel Sylvester Christian Leadership Award Winner Noah Verhoef

This year's Male Leadership award winner is the kind of person who makes everyone around him better, not through words alone, but through who he is at his core. He truly embodies a servant's heart, leading with humility and genuine care for others in everything he does. What sets him apart is not simply his performance, but the way he shows up for his teammates, his program, and his community off the court. He leads study halls, invests in the lives of those around him, and is always the first to ask how he can help. He

served on the SALT team and has been a consistent source of encouragement and support for those beside him all season long. He is deeply engaged in the classroom and in his program, and his love for God is not something he simply talks about. It is something you see in his actions, his attitude, and his character every single day. His outstanding coachability, positive spirit, and relentless work ethic make him a model for what it truly means to be an Ambrose Lion. This year's Male Mel Sylvester Christian Leadership Award Winner is Noah Verhoef.

University / College Athlete Awards



Female Athlete of the Year Award

Brooklyn Deol

This year's Female Athlete of the Year is a force of nature, dominant, driven, and absolutely electric to watch. From the very first day of the season, she led by example, never hesitating to step forward into adversity, never allowing herself or those around her to make excuses, and always holding the standard high. She is the kind of player that other ACAC teams game plan around, and she delivers every single time. She was an ACAC All-Conference award recipient and ranked in the ACAC top 10 in multiple statistical categories, a reflection of the consistent, elite-level performance she brings night in and night out. But beyond the stats, it is her heart that truly defines her. She is a vocal leader and a beloved teammate, a steady, fierce presence who fosters vulnerability, trust, and belief among those around her. She is hard-working, deeply coachable, and embodies everything it means to be an Ambrose Lion. She also excels in the classroom as one of our Academic Award recipients. Without her desire and willingness to raise the bar, this team would not have found the success it did. This year's Female Athlete of the Year is Brooklyn Deol.



Male Athlete of the Year Award Winner

Jarom Walton

Male Athlete of the Year -

This year's Male Athlete of the Year is one of the most complete players in the ACAC, a multi-skilled, multi-dimensional force who makes his presence felt in every aspect of the game. He was named to the ACAC All-Conference South First Team, one of the highest individual honours in the conference, and a well-deserved recognition of the dominant season he put together. He led his team in multiple offensive categories while also ranking among the conference's best across the board, stacking contributions all season long with rare consistency. He was named Player of the Game multiple times and was a regular nominee for Athlete of the Week. Other teams face guard him and make him the first name on their scouting report, yet he finds a way to impact the game regardless. He was also our best defender, trusted to shut down the opposing team's most dangerous players. Beyond the court, he grew into his role as co-captain, expanding his leadership throughout the season. He is a kind, upstanding young man who is strong in the classroom, and this program is incredibly proud of who he is becoming. This year's Male Athlete of the Year is Jarom Walton.

University / College Athlete Awards

SAIT Athletes



SAIT Trojans Female Athlete of the Year: Nikki Charlton

Nikki Charlton, a fifth-year student-athlete, will complete her Bachelor of Business Management this fall. In the 2025–26 season, she was instrumental in leading the SAIT Trojans women's soccer team to an outstanding 9-0-1 regular-season record and a first-place finish in the South Division.

The Trojans delivered a dominant campaign, scoring 83 goals while conceding just 8 in league play. Nikki contributed more than 10 goals,

playing a key role in the team's offensive success.

Her exceptional performance earned her numerous prestigious honours, including ACAC Women's Soccer Player of the Year, ACAC Futsal All-Conference, CCAA Women's Soccer All-Canadian, and CCAA Women's Soccer Player of the Year.

A relentless competitor, Nikki consistently outworks her opponents and leads by example. She embodies the values and spirit of the Trojans program, and her achievements bring great pride to SAIT Athletics.



SAIT Trojans Male Athlete of the Year: Andrew MacLean

Andrew MacLean is in his third year with the SAIT Trojans and is currently completing his Business Administration diploma. During the 2025–26 season, Andrew led the Trojans to their first ACAC Championship in 12 years and was named tournament MVP, highlighted by an outstanding Game 3 shutout performance in which he made 38 saves.

He was also recognized for his strong season with ACAC Second Team All-Conference honours and was named an ACAC Academic All-Canadian.

In regular-season play, Andrew recorded an impressive 390 saves while allowing just 45 goals across 841 minutes, demonstrating consistency and resilience in net.

Off the ice, Andrew is deeply involved in the Trojans community. He actively supports departmental initiatives, leads intramural teams in basketball and volleyball, and dedicates his time to coaching young goaltenders.

Andrew's commitment, leadership, and excellence both on and off the ice make him highly deserving of this recognition.



2024-2025 National Sports School



Booster Club Citizenship Award Recipients

Grade 8 Booster Club Citizenship Award Recipient - Abigale Lewison

Grade 9 Booster Club Citizenship Award Recipient - Annalise Cicoria

Grade 10 Booster Club Citizenship Award Recipient - Ella Novotny

Grade 11 Booster Club Citizenship Award Recipient - Maddison Bouchard

Grade 12 Booster Club Citizenship Award Recipient - Sophia Temple-Oberle

Avish Memorial Award Recipient: Myla Lambe

CALGARY BOOSTER CLUB



Updated April 2026

The Calgary Senior High School Athletic Association was established in 1913 to provide competitive athletic opportunities for students in Calgary high schools. The Association believes that the Interscholastic athletic program, as a recognized part of the school program, is educationally sound and will enhance the physical, mental, emotional and social development of young people.

Annually, over 10,000 student athletes participate in twelve sports including football, cross country, soccer, volleyball, diving, wrestling, basketball, swimming, rugby, track and field, badminton and field hockey.

The C.S.H.S.A.A. is unique in many ways, but is recognized nationally for its belief that the amalgamation of Calgary's two educational systems into one common athletic association is in the best interest of the residents of Calgary. As such, the Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School District have worked together harmoniously for decades. As well, the partnership with the Calgary Booster Club over the past eight decades has been beneficial to hundreds of student athletes.

Our partnership with the Calgary Senior High School Athletic Association goes back to 1956 when we presented our first scholarship to Jack Sharpe of Western Canada High School for the inaugural Harry Hood Memorial Football Award. Since then, we have honoured and recognized **807** individual high school winners for a total of **\$615,000** and an additional **295** student athletes with maximum participation scholarships over three years of high school, for another **\$105,000**. This amounts to **1,101** athletes with a total investment of **\$720,000** by the Calgary Booster Club for Outstanding Student Athletes in the C.S.H.S.A.A. programs.

For more information on how to apply for the Gretta Schwartz and John Mayell \$2,000 scholarships, go to www.calgaryboosterclub.com. It must be done by a school coach or school representative. The deadline for applying is May 29, 2026.



Calgary Senior High School Athletic Association Award Winners

SCHOOL—AWARD

School Year 2024/25

All Saints High School—Terry Dolan Memorial Award
Bishop Carroll High School—Hayley Wickenheiser Award
Bishop McNally High School—Don Buchignani Award
Bishop O’Byrne High School—Joe Petrone Award
Bowness High School—Sheila Iversen Award
Centennial High School—Myrna Empey Award
Central Memorial High School—John Semkuley Award
Crescent Heights High School—Nev Anderson Memorial Award

Dr. E.P. Scarlett High School—Al Taylor Award
Ernest Manning High School—Allison Godfrey Bobenic Award

Father Lacombe High School—Erv Hickie Award
Forest Lawn High School—Skip Morgan Award
Henry Wise Wood High School—Lawrence King Award
Jack James & Alternative High School—John Schellenberg Memorial Award

James Fowler High School—Rob Wright Award
Joane Cardinal Schubert High School—Joe Massey Award

John G. Diefenbaker High School—Sharon Reid Award
Lester B. Pearson High School—Bill Mitchell Award
Lord Beaverbrook High School—Laurie Robertson Memorial Award

Nelson Mandela High School—Don Maxwell Award
North Trail—Brent Gough Award
Notre Dame High School—Stan Schwartz Award
Our Lady of the Rockies—Bert Joines Award
Queen Elizabeth High School—Henry Philip Taylor Memorial Award

Robert Thirsk High School—Tom Inkster Memorial Award

Sir Winston Churchill High School—Barry Kimick Award
St. Francis High School—Gary Deman Award
St. Gabriel High School—Carol Ericson Memorial Award
St. Martin De Porres High School—Dr. Arlene McGinn Memorial Award

St. Mary’s High School—Father Gallagher Memorial Award

St. Timothy High School—Leroy Pelletier Award
Western Canada High School—Al Holm Award
William Aberhart High School—Kevin Pelehos Memorial Award

RECIPIENT

Antonio De Giusti
Remo Cramer
Mato Brinovac
Calla McLeod
Alison Bolivar
Joseph Steed
Isabelle Lachance

Hannah Pflug
Gerrit Kuipers

Samuel Romero Marquez
Tammy Nguyen
Christina Tremblett
Hannah Franssen
Adriel Mohamed
Kalifornia Panther Bone
Ryley Graftaas

Liam Johnson
Troy Bester
Bevone Leung

Abigail Oshaneek
Nahum Abebe
Jayden Choi
Isabella Diluzio
Tessa Brouwer

Graydon Decksheimer
Mikka Kostanecki

Joel Laser
Kalyssa Komori
Emma Faith
Anna Massig
William Shewkenek

Nicholas Marra
Jaden Van der Linde
Anthony Brady
Talyn Flaman

RECIPIENT

Izabella MacDonald
London Harris
Thrish Pasion
Bukunmi Adeleye
Mattin Arvand
Paisley Brown

Kristen Nyrose

Jada Hepfner
Sham Teklemariam
Danny Diep
Finley Grant

Ava Brayton
Annie Xiang
Kareem Fares

Tomas Rivera
Amrit Sidhu
Nunu Ishaka
Devin Zhang

Chantel Laster

Jack Gagnon
Billy Onyenwosa

Sophia Hamilton

Destiny Adesegun

Gemma Ogoke

Maya Dasilveira

High School Awards

Gretta Schwartz Memorial Award Winner

Gretta Schwartz Memorial Award for Outstanding Female Student Athlete 2024 - 2025



CATARINA BELL – DR. E.P. SCARLET HIGH SCHOOL

Gretta Schwartz Memorial Award for Outstanding Female Student Athlete 2024 – 2025

This amazing young lady is an inspiration to her teammates and coaches because of her leadership skills, perseverance, integrity and her passion to be her very best in everything she does. In three years of high school, she has been on a remarkable 14 teams in six different sports, winning many MVP Awards & All-Star honors. This includes Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton, Field Hockey, Swimming and Track & Field. She was a City & Provincial Champion in the Javelin, Discus and Shot Putt. With her CALTAF Track Club, she competed Nationally in the Javelin and was voted as the top Female athlete for Team Alberta and winner of the Spirit Award. While maintaining an 89% average through three years of high school, she still found time to be active in the rest of her school life. She was a Sports Medicine Trainer, a Tour Guide, a Cross County Meet volunteer, a student member of the Principal's & CBE Chief Superintendent's Advisory Council and her school's Valedictorian. She also received the Principal's Ambassador Award for representing her school so well, in a number of different areas. In the Community, she was a volunteer official and scorekeeper for her local Junior High and the Throws coach for their Track & Field team. She is currently a student at UBC and hopes to earn her Masters of Architecture degree there.

John Mayell Memorial Award Winner

John Mayell Memorial Award for Outstanding Male Student Athlete 2024 - 2025



NICHOLAS MARRA – ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL

John Mayell Memorial Award for Outstanding Male Student Athlete 2024 - 2025

As a four- sport athlete, our winner showed his leadership skills in Volleyball, Basketball, Golf and Track & Field. He was captain of the Volleyball & Basketball teams and was the recipient of several MVP Awards. In his grade 11 year, he was part of the City High School Volleyball & Basketball City & Provincial Basketball Championship teams and in grade 12, he led his Basketball team to another City Championship. He also made a name for himself in Golf when he qualified for Provincials, while being a member of the Canadian Junior Golf Association. Finally, at the Alberta U17 Golf Provincials, he had his first Hole-in-One. While maintaining an 89% average through three years of high school, he still found time to be active in other parts of school life. He worked with a Special Needs student in Physical Education, was a Peer tutor, a Fund Raiser, Open House guide, led school prayers and helped organize tournaments. In the Community, he was a Junior High Golf promoter, a volunteer referee in Flag Football, a scorekeeper for Basketball and a member of the Supreme Hoops, Canada Club Basketball. He is currently a student at the University of Alberta, where he hopes to obtain an Engineering degree.

High School Awards

Harry Hood Memorial Football Award Winners 2025



For Division I High School Football

– Jackson Martel, Bishop Carroll High School

As an Outstanding All Round football player and captain of his school team, he has left his mark as one of the very best Quarterbacks in school history. His dedication, passion, commitment and array of skills, has made him a leader amongst his Peers. He has played all three years on the senior football team and in that time was also a Receiver and Punter. While maintaining an outstanding 94% average in three years of high school, he was also able to play Basketball where his team won two City Championships and was a member of the Badminton, Track & Field and Swim teams. With his Community football Club the Calgary Wildcats, he was a coach for his Club's Bantam team and a referee for Junior High Flag football. In the Fall, he will enroll in the Field of Medicine at University, as he hopes to become a Doctor.



For Division II High School Football

– Fred Canning, William Aberhart High School

This years winner played several positions on his school football team and these included Linebacker, Defensive Back and when needed, he stepped in to play Quarterback. His coach said one of his greatest strengths was putting the team first, with encouragement & support to his teammates. During his three years of high school, he was able to maintain an 86% average and still found time to be active in other aspects of school life. He participates in Intramurals and is a member of the Track & Field team, where he qualified for the City Championships in the Sprints. This Spring, he hopes to play Rugby and is also active in the Community. He plays football for the Calgary Rebels as their Quarterback, is a Dog walker, a Calgary Food Bank volunteer and is active in his Church, where he was Baptized and is an Altar Boy. In the Fall, he hopes to attend University and would like to become a Civil Engineer or a Dentist.



For Division III High School Football

– Edison Wheeler, Sir Winston Churchill High School

As captain and Quarterback, our winner has shown his value to his team, thanks to his passing arm and his ability to run with the ball when plays break down. His coach says he has football smarts and was able to pick up their offensive system, with great success. His work ethic and his drive & passion for football, has earned him the respect of his Peers. This resulted in him being named MVP by his coaches at the end of the season. While maintaining an 87% average through three years of high school, our winner still found time to be active in school and the Community. In the Spring, he plans on playing Rugby and being a member of the Track & Field team. He was a member of the Rebel Football Club as their Quarterback, a volunteer referee for the Church Basketball league and is involved with Crossover Sports, a Summer Sports League.

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