

# LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME

---

A CELEBRATION OF SPORT



INDUCTION CEREMONY

2025

39<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

May 9, 2025

AGRI-FOOD HUB  
LAKEVIEW SALON



# CONGRATULATIONS

## 2025 INDUCTEES



### ROCKY MOUNTAIN TURF CLUB EVENT CENTRE

rockymountainturfclub.com

#### CHECK US OUT

# BULLY'S CASINO

**GREAT FOOD & CHEER**

WINNERS EDGE PLAYER REWARDS  
SLOT MACHINES / VLTS  
POOL TABLES  
OFF TRACK SIMULCAST  
KENO/ 649/ LOTTO MAX  
SCRATCH N WINS  
BEST !!!! Food & Beverage Prices  
Check out our Breakfast  
Menu & Happy Hour Specials  
EVERYDAY SPECIALS !!!

**6 ROOMS FOR  
EVENTS OF ALL SIZES**

**ALSO...**

A GRANDSTAND

INFIELD

**FACILITY BOOKING**

403 380-1905

OR 403 382 -1119

## Congratulations To all the Inductees From All of Us!



### TURF CLUB

LIVE HORSE RACING ACTION  
& WARRIOR INDIAN RELAY  
MAY - JUNE SEPT - OCTOBER



# CHAIR'S MESSAGE

## TOBY BOULET *Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Board Chair*



LETHBRIDGE  
SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
~ 2025 ~

I am proud to be able to share a snippet of the life stories each of our 2025 Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame inductees and Kinsmen Sportspersons of the Year have built. Sharing stories allows us to build our foundation knowledge. It is a simple way to keep history alive, transitioning from generation to generation. The Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame is a keeper of many great stories of sport in our community. The passion, determination, tears of joy along with pain and humility, have given future generations aspirations to participate and succeed. I encourage you to take the time to read some of the many stories we have been given the honour to keep for you at our permanent display at the Cavendish Farms Centre and within our website.

Curtis Hatch, a talented boxer from Raymond, began boxing at the age of nine under the guidance of Kai Yip and his father, Mark. Upon retiring in 1993, Hatch had achieved an official record of 112 wins and 33 defeats. His accomplishments include 13 provincial championship titles, seven Golden Glove crowns, two Alberta Diamond Belt titles, and two Canadian championships. Curtis was married with four children when he sadly passed away in 2010.

Kyle McLaren embarked on his hockey career at the Coaldale arena at the age of eight. He was selected ninth overall by the Boston Bruins and made the club as an 18-year-old and paired with Ray Bourque on defense. McLaren concluded his NHL career with the San Jose Sharks in the 2007-08 season, having played 719 games with 46 goals, 161 assists for 207 points. McLaren represented Canada at the 2001 World Hockey Championships.

In 1986, the Lethbridge Miners baseball team won the Montana State "B" championship while competing in the Montana State American Legion program, marking an unprecedented achievement for any Canadian team. The Miners were managed by head coach Mike Barker and pitching coach Jeff Hird and six of the players were part of the 1985 Lethbridge Senior Little League team that won the Canadian championship. Ten players from the 1986 Miners moved on to the 1987 Lethbridge Elks, managed by head coach Mike Barker and assistant coaches Scott Maxwell and Robert Larson. They subsequently won the Montana

American Legion "A" Division championship, their third Montana State title in seven seasons.

Builder Kevin Kvame has spent four decades advancing baseball in Lethbridge and its surrounding area, elevating the sport within the city. As president and CEO of Under the Lights Sports and Entertainment Inc., Kvame oversees baseball operations for both the Lethbridge Bulls and the Prairie Baseball Academy as he supports the sport across the province and country.

When the Lethbridge Broncos was put up for sale in 1984, Alf Gurr found Joe Feller and a plan was hatched to spearhead a group to form a community owned WHL franchise if the team was sold and moved. This idea by Alf ultimately created the Hurricanes franchise in 1987 with Alf Gurr, Joe and Ted Feller, Dennis Pahara, and Brad Goodman, amply assisted by City Manager Bob Bartlett and lawyer Herb Beswick, leading the group.

Malcom Kano, an avid athlete, has spent 40 years promoting sports participation. In 1995, he founded the Lethbridge/Taber KidSport Society and led it for 25 years, securing its stability. His fundraising efforts enabled over 6,000 children to participate in sports within our community. Additionally, he served 20 years on the KidSport Alberta board, supporting the belief that no child should be excluded from sports.

Historical inductee Herman Linder was a renowned cowboy who earned the title "King of the Cowboys" at the Stampede, winning the Canadian all-round championship seven times and capturing the North American all-around championship five consecutive times. Linder claimed 22 championships at the Calgary Stampede. Transitioning from bucking to building in the early 1940s, Linder turned his attention to promoting the sport in an organizational capacity, producing rodeos in Lethbridge and across Canada.

Keyara Wardley, a native of Vulcan, dreamed of becoming an Olympian. Her love for Rugby began in high school in Vulcan and continued in Lethbridge, where she played for the Alberta Rugby Southern All-Stars. Keyara's Olympic debut came at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics (postponed to 2021 due to COVID). Despite sustaining injuries, she earned her spot on Canada's silver-medal-winning women's rugby sevens team at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Apollo (Fox) Hess, also dreamed of becoming an Olympian. As the first member of the Kainai Nation to compete in the Olympics, Hess helped Canada secure fifth place in the 4x100-metre medley relay. While at the University of Lethbridge, his talent flourished, earning him numerous medals at the 2022 U Sports Championships and breaking records. Hess secured a spot on Team Canada for the Paris 2024 Olympics by earning a silver medal in the 100m breaststroke at the Canadian Olympic Swimming Trials.

Please take the time to speak to a past or present inductee or Sportsperson of the Year about their story. Thank you to Dave Sulz for carefully creating the biographies of each honoured guest tonight and for providing me with these stories. I want to thank the entire Board of Directors as it is their collective passion to keep our collective communities' stories alive which makes this evening of celebration so very special.

*Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame congratulates all this year's honourees and salutes our magazine sponsors, many of whom are long-time supporters.*

*Thank you also to the City of Lethbridge for their continuing support hosting our permanent display area in the Cavendish Farms Centre.*

# LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Back row: Jamin Heller, Dave McMurray, Keegan Brantner, Toby Boulet, Marni Hope  
Front row: Knud Petersen, Sara Peters, Paul Kingsmith, Susan Eymann, Dori Rodzinyak**

[www.lethbridgesportshalloffame.ca](http://www.lethbridgesportshalloffame.ca)

The Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame was established in 1985, the City's Centennial Year, for the purpose of recognizing the outstanding achievement, in sport, of individual athletes, teams, builders and special award recipients. The Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame identifies and honours, not only contemporary individuals, but also those who have excelled in sport at some time since the founding of Lethbridge.

In its inaugural year, the Sports Hall of Fame was adopted by the Lethbridge Elks Club as its Centennial Project.

The Sports Hall of Fame is administered by a Board of Directors-volunteers representing various sectors of the sports community.

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE



On behalf of Lethbridge City Council, I am thrilled to welcome everyone to the 2025 Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Banquet & Induction Ceremony.

Thank you to the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame for hosting this wonderful event – the 39th – and for their phenomenal efforts toward preserving the legacy of sport in our city. As I have said before, for a city our size we have produced an incredible number of amazing athletes, coaches, builders and Olympians.

The 2025 induction class includes representatives from baseball, boxing, hockey, rodeo and a special award for involvement with KidSport: Congratulations to Curtis Hatch, Malcom Kano, Kevin Kvame, Lethbridge Hurricanes Founding Group, Lethbridge Miners 1986 and Elks 1987, Herman Linder and Kyle McLaren.

Congratulations also to the 2025 Kinsmen Sports Persons of the Year: Apollo (Fox) Hess, who represented Canada in swimming at the 2024 Paris Olympics, and Keyara Wardley, who earned a silver medal with Canada's women's rugby 7s team at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Lethbridge is the Gateway to Opportunity. We are the agricultural, commercial, financial, transportation, industrial – and sporting – centre of southern Alberta. Let's continue to make sure everyone knows it!

*Blaine Hyggen  
Mayor of Lethbridge*



# AGRI-FOOD HUB & TRADE CENTRE HOST YOUR EVENT WITH US



**SOUTHERN ALBERTA'S GATHERING PLACE**

**SPORTING EVENTS**

**CONFERENCES**

**MEETINGS & MORE!**



SCAN ME

→ **BOOK YOUR EVENT TODAY AT [AGRIFOODHUB.CA](https://agrifoodhub.ca)**



# MASTER OF CEREMONIES

## MARNI HOPE



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
~ 2025 ~

Miisomii'kitsikaakii (Long Time Offering Woman), also known as Marni Hope, comes from the Siksikaisitapi (Blackfoot) community of the Kainai Nation. A dynamic scholar, athlete, and advocate, Marni's journey is one of resilience, community connection, and a healthy dose of adventure.

Marni has a rich athletic history, showcasing her determination on and off the court and trail. She excelled in basketball at SAIT and competed in cross-country running for Trent University, adding to her impressive athletic achievements. She has completed two full marathons, numerous half marathons, and triathlons, proving her passion for endurance sports. Whether hiking, biking, golfing, spinning, or attempting yoga poses that may or may not end gracefully, she's also exploring the art of the jingle dress dance with her signature enthusiasm.

Her academic pursuits are rooted in her commitment to both education and Indigenous traditions. Currently in the final stages of completing her Master of Education degree at the University of Calgary, Marni focuses on land-based learning—a framework that emphasizes the connection between education, the natural world, and cultural values. This approach resonates deeply with her love for the outdoors and athletic pursuits, as she draws inspiration from the land to encourage wellness, growth, and learning.

Marni cherishes her role as a proud mother to three wonderful children. Whether watching her boys play baseball, hiking with her daughter, traveling to explore new places, spinning in classes, spending time with family and friends, or working on creative projects, she strives to live a life of balance, staying grounded and mindful in all she does.

Congratulations to all 2025 Inductees and Kinsmen Sportspersons of the Year!




Logan Boulet Endowment Fund supports the community by annually donating to: Youth Sport, Youth Fine Arts, Special Olympics, and Organ/Tissue registration awareness, research, patient support, and transplantation.

[www.cflsa.ca](http://www.cflsa.ca)

Work Hard! Play Hard! Have Fun!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE 2025 INDUCTEES!**



**RS RUNNERS SOUL**

**Lethbridge and Southern Alberta's Soul Specialty Running and Walking Store**

2646 South Parkside Drive 403.327.2241  
Lethbridge, Alberta T1K 0C4 [runnersoul.com](http://runnersoul.com)

## Kevin Kvame, *Builder*



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
~ 2025 ~

Kevin Kvame has devoted four decades to furthering the cause of baseball in Lethbridge and area, and during that time, he has taken the game to new heights in the city.

He serves as the president and CEO of Under the Lights Sports and Entertainment Inc., an organization that runs baseball operations for both the Lethbridge Bulls and the Prairie Baseball Academy, and Little League Alberta, while also supporting the game across the province and the country in a variety of volunteer roles.

Kvame was an early adviser to the Bulls during their formation before becoming general manager in 2002, and president in 2006. The Bulls celebrated their 25th Anniversary in 2024. He has overseen the growth of the Western Canadian Baseball League club as well as the league that time. Under his guiding hand, the Bulls have been a consistently strong contender and have two league titles in five championship appearances to their credit, with wins in 2015 and 2021 and only missing the postseason once in their history.

Kvame originally hails from Fort Macleod and always saw baseball as a teacher of not only technical skills but life skills as well. He sports a leadership style that has been described as a perfect balance of professionalism, approachability and a genuine concern for the personal and professional growth of each member of the team.

He ensures the Bulls organization is a team player in the community as well. The Bulls support many causes each year and host charity events such as the Battle of the Badges, featuring members of the Lethbridge Police Service and the Lethbridge Fire and Emergency Services. In 2024, the club introduced the Lethbridge Bulls Youth Baseball Camp.

Kvame has given generously of his time beyond his own back yard as well, serving as the Western Canadian Baseball League's president since 2009 and overseeing exceptional growth in the league. He also was asked in 2017 to serve as

president of the Canadian College Baseball Conference and oversaw the PBA host the Canadian College World Series at Spitz Stadium since 2022. From 1999 to 2010, he served as president of the Alberta Amateur Baseball Council.

In his role with Under the Lights Sports and Entertainment, he supervised the management collaboration with Prairie Baseball Academy in 2015 that continues to this day, and which brought the PBA, the PBA scholarship program, and the Junior Bulls Academy program under this tent. He was also instrumental in establishing the Lethbridge High School Baseball Academy in 2021 to offer that level of instruction to local area students.

Kvame's dedication to baseball started in the 1980s in Fort Macleod Little League and as founder of the Fort Macleod Royals American Legion team. His first ballpark project saw the development of Westwinds Stadium for the town which became home to the Royals as well as Canadian championships in 1989-91. He has served continuously in many Little League roles at the local, provincial, national and international levels including chairing 17 national championships in Lethbridge over that period.

The Bulls' home is Spitz Stadium (formerly Henderson Stadium), and Kvame has served as the Henderson Stadium Society president since 2001, overseeing significant improvements to the facility. He also oversaw the development of Canola Harvest Field in Lethbridge which opened in 2002 for a Canadian championship and is slated to do it again in 2027.

He was a member of the Lethbridge Sports Bid Committee from 2004 to 2012, chairing the Committee from 2008-12, and served on the board of directors with the Lethbridge Sport Council as one of the founding directors from 2008 to 2012.

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
TO THE INDUCTEE CLASS OF 2025  
AND KINSMEN SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR

**ULTIMATE**  
AUTO CARE



**Saluting the Sport of Baseball**  
**BLAKE TAMAYOSE**  
403-634-6360



*Omedetou gozaimasu!*

Congratulations to all those being inducted into the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame. Your passion, dedication, and contributions have left a lasting impact on our community and the spirit of sport. Thank you for inspiring us all!

NIKKAYUKO.COM    INFO@NIKKAYUKO.COM    (403) 328-3511

# Hurricane Group, Builder



LETHBRIDGE HURRICANES 1987-88



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
~ 2025 ~

Even before the Lethbridge Broncos left the city at the completion of the 1985-86 Western Hockey League season, a dedicated group of local businesspeople had begun working to ensure hockey fans would continue to enjoy major junior hockey in the community.

Their efforts led to the start of the Hurricanes franchise, which marked 38 years in Lethbridge with the 2024-25 WHL season.

Alf Gurr spearheaded the original group that pursued the idea of a community-owned Tier 1 junior hockey franchise for Lethbridge. The group included brothers Joe and Ted Feller, Dennis Pahara and Brad Goodman, who was the president of the Lethbridge Hockey Hounds at the time.

Initially the group, acting on rumours that the Broncos hockey club was to be sold, looked into purchasing the Broncos in order to keep the team in Lethbridge. When those efforts fell through and the Broncos returned to their original home of Swift Current, Sask., the group began working to bring another franchise to the city.

With the assistance of Bob Bartlett, Lethbridge's City Manager at the time, and local lawyer Herb Beswick, the group established a non-profit society to begin selling \$100 shares in the hockey club they hoped to acquire. To help with the daunting task, other local hockey supporters were recruited, including Les Colwill, Steve Arisman, Ralph Guzzi, Al Mathison, and Ray Austring.

Their hard work enabled the group to accumulate a financial base of \$186,000 with which to continue their pursuit of a hockey team. Initial

reports that the Brandon Wheat Kings might be available proved to be unfounded, but not long afterward, the group learned that the Calgary Wranglers were available for purchase for \$350,000.

An interest-free loan from the City of Lethbridge matching the funds the community group had already raised provided the necessary capital to acquire the Wranglers franchise, and the team, renamed the Lethbridge Hurricanes, began operations in the 1987-88 hockey season.

The Hurricanes missed the WHL playoffs in their first campaign, but reached the playoffs the next season, winning their first playoff series against the Prince Alberta Raiders before being eliminated by the Regina Pats.

The Canes captured their first division title in 1989-90 and reached the League Championship Series, where they fell to the Kamloops Blazers. Another division title and another trip to the WHL Championship Series followed the next year.

The Hurricanes reached the playoffs in five of the next six seasons, and the franchise claimed its first WHL championship in 1996-97, finishing as runners-up in the Memorial Cup.

Fans in Lethbridge and area have continued to enjoy top-calibre hockey entertainment in the years since, thanks to the dedicated efforts of a group of local men who worked hard to ensure that the city would not be without Tier 1 junior hockey.

## Congratulations to all 2025 Inductees!



**Hass Wealth** 403-307-4304 | hasswealth.com

Wealth Management  
Dominion Securities

Start drinking upstream from the herd.

## CSN KUSTOM Collision Centre CONGRATULATES



The Hurricane Group and all the past & present Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame inductees & Kinsmen Sportspersons of the Year

1623-20 Ave Coaldale, AB T1M 1N1  
cscncollision.com • Phone: 403-345-3079  
Email: reception@csnkustom.ca  
Owners: Jeff & Kevin Fujita



# HOCKEY HOUNDS 50/50



**Congratulations  
all 2025 Inductees!**



## MEET THE TEAM

CALL US FOR YOUR BUILDING NEEDS



BLAYNE  
587-394-7601



RYAN  
403-393-1966



GREG  
403-635-9542



ANTHONY  
587-394-7682



JOHN  
403-330-4220



DAVE  
403-593-0150

[elevatecp.ca](http://elevatecp.ca)



# CONGRATULATIONS!

On behalf of the University of Lethbridge and Pronghorn Athletics & Recreation, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2025 and the Kinsmen Sportspersons of the Year.

GOHORNS.CA  
@UOFLPRONGHORNS



## Malcom Kano, Special



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
~ 2025 ~

An avid athlete throughout his own life, Malcom Kano has spent the past 40 years providing opportunities for others to enjoy and benefit from participation in sports.

Before beginning his community efforts on behalf of sports, Kano, who hails from the town of Barnwell, was a member of the track team at Dixie College of Utah, located in St. George, Utah, and later graduated from Brigham Young University, where he competed in badminton and hockey.

After returning to Southern Alberta, Kano began working with the Alberta Sport Council in 1984 and served as a coordinator for 15 editions of the Alberta Games.

In 1995, Kano became the founding chair of the Lethbridge/Taber KidSport Society, a post he held for 25 years, during which he assured the long-term stability of the organization through his leadership and unwavering dedication. He served as the key figure in organizing fundraisers and developing donors, helping to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars that went toward providing more than 6,000 youngsters with the opportunity to participate in sport in the Lethbridge and Taber area. He has also served for 20 years as a provincial board member for KidSport Alberta. The KidSport organization holds to the belief that no child should be left on the sidelines.

In 2015, Kano received the 2015 Provincial Sport Volunteer Recognition Award for his work with KidSport at both the local and provincial levels. In May of the same year, he was awarded the first ever honorary Black Belt from United Traditional Tae Kwon-Do Canada.

Kano has also served as vice chair for the Lethbridge Sport Council from 2008 to 2017 and as a member of the Lethbridge Sport Bid Committee.

In 2016, the Lethbridge Sport Council selected him as the recipient of the 2016 Shaun Ward Sport Champion Award.

On July 14, 2017, in partnership with the 50th anniversary of Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden and in honor of Canada's 150th Anniversary of Confederation, Kano was among the 11 individuals and groups to receive special recognition for significant contributions to traditional Japanese sport in Lethbridge, or those of Japanese descent who achieved significant accomplishments in sport. He was honoured for his work with KidSport, which, as of that time, had raised more than \$30 million in Alberta and provided sports opportunities for more than 93,000 youngsters in the province.

**Congratulations Malcom on your induction  
into the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame!**



**We envision a Canada where all children have the opportunity to participate in sport!**

Lethbridge + Taber KidSport    Donate: [kidsportcanada.ca/alberta/lethbridge-taber/](https://kidsportcanada.ca/alberta/lethbridge-taber/)

# One Group. Every Detail. Beautifully Handled.

From intimate weddings to large-scale galas, Sky + Table Event Group is your one-stop destination for seamlessly executed events.

With five specialized brands under one roof - catering, venues, rentals, and styling - we bring every element together to make your celebration

*Let's Create Something Memorable*



Sky + Table  
— EVENT GROUP

L'Chefs  
CATERING

COAST  
lethbridge hotel &  
conference centre

The NORLAND  
— HISTORIC ESTATE VENUE —

Countryside Barn



LETHBRIDGE  
EVENT RENTALS

# CONGRATULATIONS CONGRATULATIONS



TO ALL THE 2025 INDUCTEES AND  
KINSMEN SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR

A special congratulations to Kevin Kvame and Malcom Kano, who served on the Lethbridge Sport Council Board. We are proud to celebrate their lasting impact.



## LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME PROGRAM

**39<sup>th</sup> Edition May 9, 2025**

## INDUCTION BANQUET

**Theme: Baseball**

**5:30 – 6:30 pm:** Doors open & refreshments

**6:30 pm:** Welcome & Land Acknowledgment by MC Marni Hope

**6:35 pm:** Opening Remarks by Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Board Chair Toby Boulet

**6:40 pm:** Welcome from Alberta Sports Hall of Fame secretary Diane Jones-Konihowski

**6:45 pm:** Canada's National Anthem by Charles Sciortino

**6:50 pm:** Dinner

**7:45 pm:** Inductee Roundtable Discussion hosted by Paul Kingsmith

**8:25 pm:** **Inductees:**

Herman Linder (Historical)  
Malcom Kano (Special)  
Hurricane group (Builder)  
Curtis Hatch (Athlete)  
Kevin Kvame (Builder)  
Kyle McLaren (Athlete)  
1986 Lethbridge Miners - 1987 Lethbridge Elks (Team)

**9:20 pm:** **Kinsmen Sportspersons of the Year:**

Keyara Wardley (Rugby)  
Apollo (Fox) Hess (Swimming)

**9:30 pm:** Closing Remarks: Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Board member Marni Hope

Audit  
Bookkeeping  
Business Advisory  
CFO Services  
Cloud Accounting  
Data Analytics  
Estate Planning  
HR Consulting  
Litigation Support  
Tax  
Valuations  
Wealth Management

**Avail** CHARTERED  
PROFESSIONAL  
ACCOUNTANTS

[availcpa.com](http://availcpa.com)

# Herman Linder, *Historical*



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
~ 2025 ~

Herman Linder was still a teenager when he made his rodeo debut in 1924, and by the time he quit competing in the 1940s, he was one of the most decorated rodeo cowboys on the continent.

Linder was born in Darlington, Wisconsin on Aug. 5, 1907, the son of a circus performer who had emigrated from Switzerland. The family moved to a ranch near Cardston when Linder was 10, and it was there that he and his brother Warner were bitten by the rodeo bug after witnessing their first rodeo at Cardston in 1920.

“It was pretty exciting stuff, I can tell you, real tough, tough wild-west cowboys,” Linder said in a 1970 Lethbridge Herald interview.

Linder entered his first competitive rodeo in 1924 at Cardston, where he tied for first in the saddle bronc event. After becoming serious about rodeo in the late 1920s, he began to dominate the sport. In his first time competing at the Calgary Stampede, he won both the Canadian saddle bronc and bareback bronc riding events. From 1929 to 1939, he became known as “King of the Cowboys” at the Stampede, winning the Canadian all-round championship on seven occasions and capturing the North American all-around championship five consecutive times.

Competing in saddle bronc riding, bareback bronc riding, bull riding, calf roping and steer decorating, Linder claimed an unprecedented 22 championships at the Calgary Stampede, a record that still stands. Besides his all-around championships, his victories included three saddle bronc titles, three bareback titles and four bull-riding titles.

His rodeo career took him across North America, as well as to England and Australia for exhibition events in those countries.

In 1936, Linder was one of 61 cowboys who staged the first rodeo cowboy strike at the Boston Garden, an action that helped bring about the formation of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys’ Association. Later, he was involved in founding the Canadian Professional Rodeo Association.


After retiring as a competitor in the early 1940s, Linder turned his attention to promoting the sport in an organizational capacity, producing rodeos across Canada, including one held at Expo 67 in Montreal. As a rodeo producer, he introduced many fine bucking horses from the Blood Reserve to the rodeo circuit. He also served a term as president of the Canadian Stampede Managers Association and is credited with introducing the sheepskin-lined bucking strap to rodeo.

The list of honours he has received includes induction to the Canadian Cowboy Hall of Fame, the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City, the Horseman’s Hall of Fame in Calgary, the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame, and the Lethbridge Exhibition Hall of Fame. He was also made an honorary chief of the Blood Tribe in 1950; was named to the Order of Canada; and was honoured in 1987 as the Cardston and district male athlete of the century.

Linder passed away in 2001 at the age of 93 in Cardston.

*Congratulations*  
to  
*Honoured Member*  
*Herman Linder*  
and the  
*Class of 2025!*

*Thank you for your dedication to sport—your achievements inspire the entire sporting community.*




## LETHBRIDGE SOCCER ASSOCIATION

[www.lethbridgesoccer.com](http://www.lethbridgesoccer.com)

**Indoor & Outdoor Programs**  
**Girls & Boys**  
**4 - 18 year olds**

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**TO ALL 2025**  
**HONOUREES**

**Email: [admin@lethbridgesoccer.com](mailto:admin@lethbridgesoccer.com)**

Phone (403) 320-5425      2501 - 28 Avenue South  
Fax (403) 327-5847      Lethbridge, AB T1K 7L6

Music Venue, Art Gallery and  
Events Promotion

*The  
Geomatic  
Attic*

[www.geomaticattic.ca](http://www.geomaticattic.ca)

**W I D E S K I E S**  
**MUSIC FESTIVAL**

July 28-30, 2025

[www.wideskiesmusicfest.org](http://www.wideskiesmusicfest.org)



**Congratulations  
to all  
Inductees!**

**SUPPORTING THE  
COMMUNITIES WE SERVE**

3608 - 4th Avenue South  
Lethbridge, AB T1J 4Z5

**403.328.9651**

[www.mcdonaldnissan.com](http://www.mcdonaldnissan.com)

# > CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE 2025 LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
INDUCTEES, INCLUDING SEVERAL OF OUR ALUMNI WHO  
WERE MEMBERS OF THE LETHBRIDGE MINERS 1986  
AND THE LETHBRIDGE ELKS 1987 TEAMS.

Nearly four decades later, student-athletes continue  
to contribute to the student experience at Lethbridge  
Polytechnic, with their commitment to the classroom,  
athletic excellence and contributions to the community.

Thank you to these inductees, who inspire a next  
generation to be ready to make a difference through sport.



LETHBRIDGE  
POLYTECHNIC

KODIAKS



[gokodiaks.ca](http://gokodiaks.ca)

# THE EARLY HISTORY OF BASEBALL IN LETHBRIDGE

Prior to the mid-nineteenth century, baseball presented itself through a variety of similar but regionally influenced forms. In Canada, the first recorded baseball-like game, took place on June 4, 1838 in Beachville, Ontario. Held on a holiday, the Beachville players competed against the Zorras, a team comprised of men from the surrounding area. The rules included 11 players per team and the use of four 'bases' or bases and a home plate. Of interest, was the ability for runners to be tagged between bases by having the ball thrown at them.

These rules became popular in Ontario, but the codification of gameplay by Abner Doubleday and Alexander Cartwright in Cooperstown, New York in 1845, provided the framework for the modern game to emerge. In 1859, the first recorded game using 'New York' rules in Canada, took place between teams from Hamilton and Toronto. This standardization of gameplay allowed its popularity to spread, particularly among the working class, and by the end of the 1860s, it had become entrenched into Canadian communities as an instrument for civic boosterism. However, its rapid ascent and popularity in the United States evoked a level of concern from members of the Canadian social elite, who saw it as an unfettered intrusion of American culture.

By the 1880s, baseball had become established across the prairies; following settlers from eastern Canada and the United States. In Lethbridge, the first recorded game took place in 1886 between townsfolk and members of the North West Mounted Police at a ten-acre space known as 'the square'. Located in the centre of the original townsite, 'the square' became the public space where men could demonstrate their manliness and civic pride through participation in baseball along with other sports such as lacrosse and cricket.

In September 1888, a baseball team travelled from Lethbridge to Medicine Hat to play in a tournament that also included teams from Calgary and Donald. This was reciprocated in the summer of May of 1889 when a team from Medicine Hat travelled to Lethbridge to play at 'the square'. Of note, was the absence of Lethbridge's social elite from participation on the team, save for druggist, J.D. Higinbotham. This reflection of baseball's working-class roots did not however, diminish the popularity and support that it received from the community. Indeed, baseball would feature prominently in local boosterism. For instance, the Lethbridge Herald highlighted a game that was played on January 27, 1906, to promote the region's mild climate.

By the early twentieth century, baseball had become firmly established in Lethbridge and throughout the newly formed province of Alberta. In 1905, the first provincial baseball league was formed. Called the Twilight league because the games took place in the evening, participating teams came from Edmonton, Calgary, Medicine Hat, and Lethbridge. Indeed, local businessman, George Houk, sponsored the 'Houk's Savages' between 1905 and 1907.

The formation of the Western Canada League (WCL) in 1907 by promoters in Edmonton and Calgary marked the emergence of professional baseball in Alberta. Consisting of Edmonton Grays, the Calgary Bronchos, the Medicine Hat Hatters, and the Lethbridge Miners, the WCL was designated as D-class, which placed it in the same competition category as teams from the United States. This then attracted future Major League Baseball (MLB) players such as Art Bues, Ed 'Kickapoo' Kippert, and Cy Pieh to travel to Canada to join the Lethbridge Miners.

Though it disappeared for the 1908 season, the WCL returned in 1909 with the original teams, plus four new ones: the Moose Jaw Robin Hoods, the Regina Bonepilers, the Winnipeg Maroons, and the Brandon Angels. The Miners' popularity within Lethbridge was noted by the 1100 fans who attended their home opener against Medicine Hat in 1909; though as with other teams in the league, popularity did not always translate to viability, and the Miners ceased to field a WCL team following the 1910 season. Indeed, the advent of the First World War would suspend the WCL until it re-emerged between 1919 and 1921. However, the Lethbridge Miners were not part of the rejuvenated professional league.



Photo courtesy of Galt Museum & Archives. LETHBRIDGE MINERS 1909



# THE EARLY HISTORY OF BASEBALL IN LETHBRIDGE

The end of the First World War witnessed an uptake in the active participation in baseball at the amateur level in Lethbridge. The 1920 Lethbridge City League featured four teams: the Miners, the Bankers, the Columbus Club, and the Rotary Club. From these teams, players would then be chosen to play on a Lethbridge All-Star team that would represent the city at inter-community exhibition play. The following year, Lethbridge players participated in two amateur leagues, the Lethbridge City League and the Lethbridge District Baseball League that also featured teams from Taber, Coaldale, and Coalhurst. Amateur provincial championships were also becoming established with a team from Lethbridge participating in the 1921 contest.

Baseball's bawdy reputation as a working-class game in the nineteenth- and early-twentieth centuries undermined its respectability for women. However, by the late 1920s, women's softball had become established with the Hudson's Bay Company sponsoring a team for its female employees in 1927.

Amateur baseball at the senior men's level solidified itself provincially during the 1930s, with the Lethbridge Galt Miners led by pitcher Alex Yanosik and slugger, George Yanosik, capturing the inaugural Alberta Senior Baseball Championship in 1936 and then again in 1937. Concurrently, the new Southern Alberta Semi-Pro League started play in 1936 and featured three teams: the Lethbridge Bears, the Medicine Hat Royals, and the Calgary Mustangs. However, it would be the senior Galt Miners who would enter and then win the 1936 semi-professional open challenge, the Calgary Brewers Cup.

The onset of the Second World War saw a decrease in the participation of organised baseball. However, the formation of the Southern Alberta Baseball League in 1945 is of particular interest. This eight-team league was organized by Japanese-Canadians and was divided into two divisions: the Northern and the Southern. Representing the Northern Division were: the Coaldale Bussei; the Raymond Young Men's Buddhist Association; the Raymond A.C.; and the Coaldale Cubs. The Southern Division was represented by: the Iron Springs I.P.A.; the Picture Butte Bussei; the Picture Butte Chinooks; and the Turin I.P.A.. A subsequent league, the Southern Alberta Nisei Baseball league operated in 1947.

Indeed, the vibrant history of baseball among Japanese Canadians in Southern Alberta, can be traced back to Japan where it had been taught in schools since the 1890s. In early twentieth century Canada, it was exemplified by teams such as the Asahi, which played in Vancouver from 1914 to 1941. The 1942 relocation and internment of Japanese Canadians within the interior of B.C. and southern Alberta, saw baseball played within the camps to raise morale.

After the War, many Japanese Canadian families remained in southern Alberta and former Asahi players such as George Yoshinaka, became critical builders and champions of the game. For example, in 1967, Yoshinaka organised a team of 12-year-old third-generation Japanese Canadians that captured the Western Canadian Championship. Yoshinaka then helped Reno Lizzi, among others, re-introduce professional baseball to Lethbridge in 1975 by serving on the board of Lethbridge's first Pioneer League franchise, the Lethbridge Expos. Two years later, the Expos became the Dodgers, remaining in the City until 1983. The Pioneer League returned to Lethbridge in 1992 with the Mounties, followed by the Black Diamonds from 1996 to 1998.

The tradition of women's softball continued in 1974 when the Lethbridge Junior Optimists team captured the Alberta championship and advanced to the Canadian Junior Girls Softball championships. This was followed in 1989 by the Val Matteotti Suntanas who won the national championship.

Baseball's modern success at both the amateur and professional levels, builds on a foundation that began with the city itself. Established in 1981, the American Legion Elks/Miners were followed by the Prairie Baseball Academy in 1995 and the Lethbridge Bulls in 1999. This continuity has persisted through times of upheaval and uncertainty; embedding itself within the social fabric of the community.

Photo courtesy of Galt Museum & Archives. LETHBRIDGE ELKS 1924



**Orion Sports &  
Training Centre**



(403) 380-8887 [www.orionsports.ca](http://www.orionsports.ca)

- Indoor Field Turf ideal for general sports training & practices (eg. baseball/softball, football, lacrosse, rugby, soccer)
- 2 Multi-Purpose Studios ideal for dance & movement
- Birthday Parties, Gatherings, Meetings

## Lethbridge Miners 1986 / Lethbridge Elks 1987, Team



### Lethbridge Miners 1986

**Back Row: Left to right:**  
Coach Mike Barker, Joel Weaver,  
Don Groves, Lauren Bell,  
Kevin Garinger, Mike Ell,  
Shane Mazutinec, Don Aos,  
Assistant Coach Jeff Hird.

**Front Row: Left to right:**  
Scott Lambert, Trevor Jorgensen,  
Brad Londeau, Todd Maier, Craig Deal,  
Bruce Giacchetta, Jeff Davies,  
Rob Virginillo.



### Lethbridge Elks 1987

**Back Row: Left to right:**  
Scott Maxwell - Assistant Coach,  
Bobby Larson - Pitching Coach,  
Don Aos, Rod Garinger, Mike Ell,  
Lauren Bell, Joel Weaver,  
Brad Anderson, Don Groves,  
Mike Barker - Head Coach.

**Front Row: Left to right:**  
Doug Durina, Guy Lapointe, Todd  
Maier, Robert Virginillo, Bruce  
Giacchetta, Ron McKinlay, Scott  
Lambert, Trevor Jorgensen.

In 1986, the Lethbridge Miners baseball team accomplished something no Canadian team had achieved up to that time: they won the Montana State "B" championship.

Competing in the Montana State American Legion program, the Miners, part of the Lethbridge Big League Baseball Association, were guided that season by first-year head coach Mike Barker and pitching coach Jeff Hird.

The Miners lineup consisted of Don Aos, Lauren Bell, Craig Deal, Jeff Davies, Mike Ell, Kevin Garinger, Bruce Giacchetta, Don Groves, Trevor Jorgensen, Brad Londeau, Scott Lambert, Todd Maier, Shane Mazutinec, Rob Virginillo, and Joel Weaver. Six of the players – Davies, Garinger, Groves, Londeau, Maier, and Virginillo – had been members of the Canadian champion 1985 Lethbridge Senior Little League team.

During the season, the Miners won their own tournament, the second annual Miners' Library Invitational Baseball Tournament, posting a 4-0 record in the five-team round-robin event played at Henderson Stadium.

Blending well together under the guidance of their new coaches, the Miners finished second during the regular season in the Montana State "B" Division standings, then finished third in the East Division tournament to advance to the Montana "B" Division State Tournament in Dillon, Mont.

At Dillon, the Miners peaked at the right time, posting a 5-1 record to capture the "B" Division Montana State title. Along the way, they defeated the defending state champions from Glendive before posting back-to-back victories over the favoured Havre North Stars.

At the Pacific Northwest Regional Championships in Hamilton, Mont., the Miners finished second, losing a 12-11 heartbreaker to A-side champion Roseburg, Oregon, in the final.

Ten players from the 1986 Miners graduated to the 1987 Lethbridge Elks, who went on to claim the Montana American Legion "A" Division championship. That group included Don Aos, Lauren Bell, Mike Ell, Bruce Giacchetta, Don Groves, Trevor Jorgensen, Scott Lambert, Todd Maier, Rob Virginillo, and Joel Weaver. Other members of the squad were Brad Anderson, Doug Durina, Guy Lapointe, Rod Garinger, and Ron McKinlay, along with head coach Mike Barker and assistant coaches Scott Maxwell and Robert Larson.

The Elks captured their third Montana State title in seven seasons by beating the Billings Scarletts 9-4 in the final in Whitefish, Mont., to finish the eight-team tournament with a perfect 4-0 record. With the victory, the Elks advanced to the Pacific Northwest Regional Championships in Casper, Wyoming, where they finished in fourth place.

# CONGRATS!



**LETHBRIDGE SPORTS  
HALL OF FAME  
CLASS OF 2025**

**WITH SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO**

## *Baseball Inductees*



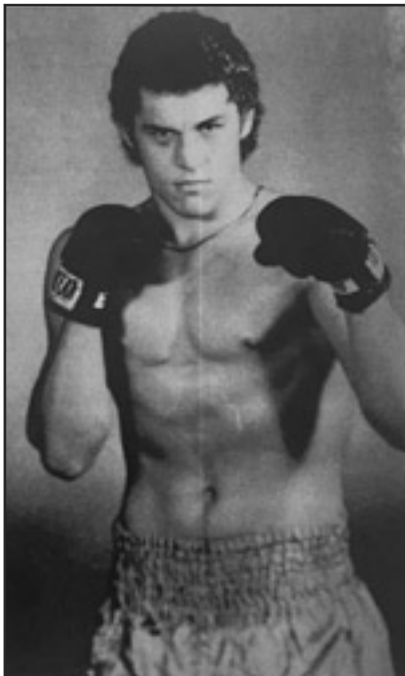
**KEVIN KVAME**    LETHBRIDGE MINERS 1986  
**BUILDER**                      & ELKS 1987



**FROM THE LETHBRIDGE & AREA BASEBALL ORGANIZATIONS**



## Curtis Hatch, Athlete



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
~ 2025 ~

Curtis Hatch was born in Calgary and raised in the small town of Raymond, but his decorated career in the boxing ring took him far beyond Southern Alberta – to more than a dozen countries, in fact.

Hatch, who also participated in soccer, football and rodeo in his youth, began boxing at the age of nine under the tutelage of local boxing legend Kai Yip, head coach of the Lethbridge Boxing Club. Hatch's father, Mark, served as an assistant coach with the club for about 10 years, and a younger brother, Wade, also boxed with the Lethbridge club.

By the time Hatch left the ring for good in 1993, he had compiled an official record of 112 wins and just 33 defeats and was never knocked out. Including exhibitions, he fought more than 200 bouts. Along the way, he piled up 13 provincial championship titles, seven Golden Glove crowns, two Alberta Diamond Belt titles and two Canadian championships. He also competed internationally, representing his country with the national team and earning medals in nations including Finland, Italy, Ireland, France, East Germany, Spain, Poland, the Dominican Republic, Thailand (twice), Kenya, Nigeria and Morocco.

Hatch earned his first national title in the 71-kilogram division at the Canadian National Championships held in Burnaby, B.C. Nov. 3-6, 1988. He outpointed Ron McGregor in the quarterfinals before defeating Kit Munroe in another 4-1 decision in the semifinals. In the finals, Hatch earned a unanimous 5-0 decision against Serge Charette.

He came close to repeating as the 71-kg national champion a year later in Hamilton, Ont., opening with a 3-2 split decision over Kevin Lyons in the quarterfinals. A 4-1 decision over Cam Stracken propelled him to the final, where he was defeated by Raymond Downey, who had been a bronze medalist in the 1988 Seoul Olympics, and who would go on to post a 16-2-1 record as a professional.

It was not the first time Hatch had held his own or more against notable opponents who would go on to greater heights in boxing. In 1985, for example, he successfully defended his title at the Alberta Diamond Belt Challenge in Calgary by beating Dale Brown in the 132-pound division en route to being named the tournament's top boxer. That's the same Dale Brown who represented Canada in the 1992 Olympics and who boxed professionally from 1995 to 2007.

Emblematic of Hatch's toughness was a unanimous decision he earned in a December 1985 tournament at Sunburst, Mont., over an opponent from Medicine Hat who outweighed him by 17 pounds.

His final fight as a member of the Canadian National Team came in Regina in 1990, where he won gold against an opponent from Ireland. He returned to boxing in 1992 after a hiatus of about a year and a half and wound up his ring career in 1993 by capturing his final provincial title in the 165-pound class.

After he left boxing, Hatch apprenticed in carpentry and later operated his own construction business. Tragically, he passed away in 2010 at the age of 40. He is survived by his wife and four children.



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
~ 2025 ~

Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame (LSHOF) very much appreciates the effort of Rogers TV and Ryan Craddock for recording this evening's Induction Ceremony & Banquet. It will later be available for everyone to watch on YouTube via LSHOF's website  
<https://www.lethbridgesportshalloffame.ca/>

The Lethbridge  
Boxing Club  
congratulate the  
Hatch family on  
the well deserved  
induction of  
Curtis Hatch into  
the Lethbridge  
Sports Hall of  
Fame



**LETHBRIDGE  
BOXING  
CLUB**

-Established in 1937-  
**Still operating and  
building champions**

Located at 110 22 Street North  
Contact Coach Rick Duff at  
403-894-1754

## Kyle McLaren, Athlete



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
~ 2025 ~

Kyle McLaren's road to the National Hockey League started at the age of eight when he began playing minor hockey in Coaldale. By the time his playing career ended, he had completed 12 seasons in the world's top hockey league.

McLaren was born in Humboldt, Sask., on June 18, 1977 and his family moved to Coaldale in 1980. His minor hockey journey included helping his Coaldale team win the Atom B provincial title in 1989. Two years later, he played with the Southern Alberta Selects pee wee team based in Calgary. He played his final year of bantam with the Lethbridge Val Matteotti Golden Hawks of the Alberta Major Bantam Hockey League. In 29 games with the Hawks, McLaren registered 14 goals and 17 assists while helping the team to the Western Canadian bantam hockey championship.

In 1993, the Western Hockey League's Tacoma Rockets made him the fifth selection in the bantam draft, and during his two seasons with the Rockets, McLaren established himself as a top NHL prospect. In his final season with Tacoma, he recorded 13 goals and 19 assists for 32 points in 47 games as the Rockets finished second in the WHL's West Division. In July 1995, he was drafted by the NHL's Boston Bruins with the ninth pick of the first round and surprised even himself by making the Bruins roster as an 18-year-old. He found himself paired on the blueline with future Hall of Famer Ray Bourque.

The fourth defenceman selected in the draft, McLaren quickly zoomed ahead of highly touted prospects Bryan Berard and Wade Redden, who went No. 1 and No. 2 respectively. McLaren's poise and

maturity at his young age was evidenced by the fact that the Bruins used him on the penalty-kill unit and in late-game situations, a high compliment for a rookie, let alone a teenager.

By season's end, McLaren had appeared in 74 games for Boston, scoring five goals, adding 12 assists, and finishing with a plus/minus figure of plus16, second on the Bruins only to Bourque's plus 31. For his efforts, McLaren was named to the NHL's All-Rookie First Team and also received the Bruins' Seventh Man Award, as voted on by Boston fans. He played six more seasons with the Bruins before being traded to the other side of the continent, where he played five seasons with the San Jose Sharks. In 2003-04, McLaren helped the Sharks reach the Western Conference finals before they were eliminated by the Calgary Flames in six games.

McLaren, who had grown into a strapping six-foot-four, 235-pound defensive force to be reckoned with, wrapped up his NHL playing days with the Sharks in 2007-08, finishing with career totals of 719 games, 46 goals, 161 assists, 207 points and a plus/minus mark of plus 27. He played in another 70 playoff games, recording 14 points.

He also experienced international competition when he was named to Team Canada for the 2001 World Hockey Championships played in Germany. He suited up for seven games for Canada and finished the tournament with two assists and a plus 7 rating.

McLaren retired as a player in 2009 and later coached the San Jose Junior Sharks from 2015-17.

**M&M**  
FOOD  
MARKET

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO ALL THE 2025  
LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
INDUCTEES!**

**225 12ST. NORTH LETHBRIDGE, AB T1H 2G3  
403-329-6630**



**Lethbridge  
Minor Hockey**

P.O. Box 65  
Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 3Y3  
Phone (403) 320-0745  
E-mail: lmha@telusplanet.net

*Best Wishes to  
all Inductees*

# Origins of the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame

[www.lethbridgesportshalloffame.ca](http://www.lethbridgesportshalloffame.ca)

The City of Lethbridge celebrated its Centennial in 1985. In planning for the celebrations, the Lethbridge Centennial Society struck a sub-committee to consider ways in which Lethbridge might showcase its rich sports history. The sub-committee, consisting of Gary Bowie, Keith Robin and Mal Clewes thought that a hall of fame could be established to recognize Lethbridge residents who had excelled as athletes, coaches and sport organizers.

A number of Lethbridge citizens with a strong sports background were recruited to serve on a board and the first meeting of the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors was held on June 14, 1984 with Mal Clewes serving as chairman. The Board consisted of the following members:

<b>Brian Bourassa</b>	City of Lethbridge administrator responsible for sports facilities and programs.
<b>Dr. Gary Bowie</b>	University of Lethbridge professor, multi-sport coach, and organizer of countless school and community sporting events.
<b>Marge Clark</b>	Former high school teacher and coach of the provincial champion Lethbridge Collegiate Institute Clipper Queens basketball team.
<b>Carole Gemer</b>	Former Canadian national track and field champion athlete who provided service as a coach and official at the local, national and international levels.
<b>Reno Lizzi</b>	Lethbridge businessman and sports personality who organized and promoted a variety of sporting events with a special emphasis on baseball and tennis.
<b>Hector Negrello</b>	Former member of the World Champion Lethbridge Maple Leafs Hockey Club who coached and organized hockey and baseball for decades.
<b>Don Pilling</b>	Former sports editor of the Lethbridge Herald and one of the City's foremost sport historians. Don's guidance enhanced innumerable Lethbridge sporting activities over the years.
<b>Dr. Keith Robin</b>	Lethbridge Community College instructor and administrator who provided leadership for a variety of community initiatives.

<b>Peter Smith</b>	Former Exalted Ruler of the Lethbridge Elks Lodge No. 37 who provided financial and organizational assistance for the Sports Hall of Fame.
<b>Dianne Violini</b>	Perennial national champion bowler who promoted the sport for young and old. Dianne also served as the first secretary of the Sports Hall of Fame.
<b>Wilma Winter</b>	University of Lethbridge professor, coach of national champion women's basketball team and supporter of a wide range of university and community activities.
<b>Mal Clewes</b>	Lethbridge Collegiate Institute principal who helped coordinate local and provincial sport programs for Alberta high schools.

The Board developed by-laws and became registered as a society under the Societies Act of Alberta. Guidelines were established for the induction of athletes, teams and builders and a banquet was planned to provide recognition for inductees.

The Lethbridge Elks Lodge No. 37 became a major sponsor of the Hall of Fame and enabled the creation of a portable display of inductee photographs and biographical information. A logo was approved and nominations for the first inductees were solicited.

The inaugural induction ceremony was held on April 27, 1985 at the Lethbridge Lodge with Brent Seely serving as Master of Ceremonies and G.S. (Joe) Lakie as Guest Speaker. A total of twelve athletes, six teams and twenty sport builders were inducted including the 1950 - 1951 World Champion Lethbridge Maple Leafs Hockey Club and the 1958 - 1959 Canadian Champion Lethbridge Broders Chinook Basketball Team.

The banquet was attended by six hundred people and set the stage for an annual event that celebrates the rich history of sport in our fine city.



## INDUCTION CATEGORIES

Four categories were established for the purpose of recognizing excellence in sport as follows:

### ATHLETE

**PURPOSE:** To recognize athletes who have distinguished themselves in competition in Lethbridge or elsewhere and to recognize athletes who have rendered prolonged and meritorious service to sport.

**ELIGIBILITY:** In order to be considered as a candidate for the Hall of Fame, an athlete must:

- a) Have represented sport with distinction in athletic competition, either in Lethbridge or elsewhere, or by example have brought great credit to the sport and high respect for the individual.
- b) Have compiled an outstanding record which extends over a period of years in one or more sports.
- c) Have been a Lethbridge resident when possible during the period for which outstanding performance is claimed.
- d) Have been retired for five years or more.

### BUILDER

**PURPOSE:** To formally recognize the initiative, leadership and dedication of those individuals who participate in the development of sport.

**ELIGIBILITY:** In order to be considered as a candidate for the Hall of Fame, a builder must:

- a) Have demonstrated outstanding leadership in service to any sport, sport group or sport association in positions such as coach, trainer, manager, writer or administrator.
- b) Have been a Lethbridge resident during the period for which outstanding performance is claimed. This performance would normally have extended for a period of at least 10 years.

### TEAM AWARD

**PURPOSE:** The Team Award provides appropriate recognition for Lethbridge teams that have won a National, International or World Championship or have achieved the highest possible award in their particular realm of competition.

### SPECIAL AWARD

**PURPOSE:** To formally recognize individuals and/or organizations, athletes and builders who have made an outstanding and valuable contribution to Sports or to the community of Lethbridge through sports. This category is to reward people who have made a significant contribution to sports, or the community, but do not qualify under the other categories.

## NOMINATIONS

Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame candidates must be nominated prior to January 31st in order to be considered for induction that year. Nominations may originate with an individual, club or association and must be signed by the nominator. Nominations can be made via [www.lethbridgesportshalloffame.ca](http://www.lethbridgesportshalloffame.ca) or by using the appropriate nomination form and should include as much factual information as possible, giving details of the accomplishments of the nominee. Wherever possible, the accomplishments should be supported by documentary evidence. Nominations should include a head and shoulder photograph of the nominee.

If the nomination is successful, both the nominee and nominator will be informed by letter. In the case of an unsuccessful nomination, only the nominator will be notified. Nominations will remain on file and will be reviewed annually for three consecutive years. Nominations that have been unsuccessful for a 3-year-period must be resubmitted in order to be reconsidered.

## SELECTION PROCEDURES

All nominations shall be considered annually by the Board of Directors. The decision of the Board shall be final and all nominators will be notified accordingly. An induction ceremony will be held once per year when possible.

## KINSMEN SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR

The Lethbridge Kinsmen Club in co-operation with Lethbridge Sports Media and the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame recognize a female & male for their sporting achievements during the past year.

## PHYSICAL ARRANGEMENTS

After 35 years of portable exhibits, the City of Lethbridge kindly donated space in 2020 for a Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame permanent home located at the multi-purpose Cavendish Farms Centre on Britannia Boulevard in west Lethbridge. Each floor in the hallways between the Cor Van Raay YMCA and the curling & ice rinks features different aspects of the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame.

The first floor identifies current inductees, the Kinsmen Sportspersons of the Year and sponsors as well as an interactive monitor featuring a searchable database for all past and present honourees.

The second floor features a TV monitor where individual and team stories can be told. As well, several display cabinets are available where sports paraphernalia can be exhibited.

# LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME

## INDUCTEES

### **BUILDERS**

#### **1985**

Tony Bogusky (Boxing)  
Edmond Bruchet (Multi-sport)  
Stan Carmichael (Multi-sport)  
Peggy Currie (Figure skating)  
A.G. "Addie" Donaldson (Soccer, Hockey)  
Jack Emery (Boxing, Track & field)  
George Gemer (Track & field)  
Dick Gray (Hockey)  
Syd Hall (Hockey)  
Harold "Babe" Harris (Multi-sport)  
Yvonne "Sonja" Jacobson (Figure skating)  
George McKillip (Multi-sport)  
Frank Miles (Boxing)  
Hector Negrello (Baseball, Hockey)  
Steve Pedersen (Multi-sport)  
William Rea (Curling)  
Yoshio Senda (Judo)  
Stan Siwik (Swimming)  
Carl Trentini (Hockey)  
Henry Viney (Multi-sport)

#### **1986**

Dave Allen (Multi-sport)  
Leo Harrold (Hockey)  
Bill Kucheran (Baseball, Hockey)  
Frank Leffingwell (Marksmanship)  
Jim Whitelaw (Multi-sport)  
Miners' Library Club (Multi-sport)

#### **1987**

Ron Boyce (Motor sports)  
Les Colwill (Hockey, Baseball)  
Doug Frier (Baseball)  
Jack Kerr (Baseball, Hockey)  
Sam Serbu (Baseball)  
Lethbridge Elks Lodge #37 (Multi-sports)

#### **1988**

John Pahara (Boxing)  
Mike Wyrostock (Softball)  
Jim Gunn (Multi-sport)  
Gordon Kay (Weightlifting)  
Aldo Nechich (Soccer, Broomball)

#### **1989**

Doug Clark (Basketball)  
Dr. Gary Bowie (Multi-sport)  
Irene Karia (Multi-sport)  
Reno Lizzi (Baseball)  
Jim Szucs (Baseball)

#### **1990**

Thelma Coutts (Multi-sport)  
Ralph "Lefty" Eshpete (Multi-sport)  
Marilyn Snedden (Multi-sport)

#### **1991**

Marge Clark (Basketball)  
Reed Spencer (Baseball)  
George Swedish (Multi-sport)

#### **1992**

Ralph Guzzi (Multi-sport)  
Dr. Richard King-Brown (Squash)  
Bernie Ontkean (Rugby)

#### **1993**

Dan Bodell (Hockey)  
Pat Hamilton (Motocross)  
Peter Lewko (Multi-sport)

#### **1994**

Fritz Heinrich (Soccer, Broomball)  
Joe Lakie (Multi-sport)  
Jake Van Dyk (Multi-sport)

#### **1995**

Gordon Hoselton (Multi-sport)  
Lewis Kennedy (Football)  
Elwyn "Bush" Williams (Golf)

#### **1996**

Enso Baceda (Curling)  
Don & Ethel Higgins (Figure skating)  
Brent & Nancy Thorburn (Soccer)

#### **1997**

Gloria Gouthreau (Multi-sport)  
Dr. Jan Harvey-Kilam (Swimming)  
Dan Niehaus (Gymnastics)  
George Yoshinaka (Baseball)

#### **1998**

Robert "Bob" Bartlett (Hockey)  
Ed Henderson (Multi-sport)  
Harold "Ted" Major (Multi-sport)

#### **1999**

Colleen Gunnlaugson (Figure skating)  
John McLellan (Multi-sport)  
Darryl Medoruma (Alpine skiing)

#### **2000**

Wally Pickett (Hockey)

#### **2001**

Gene Eisler (Soccer)  
Ed Martyna (Badminton)  
Wayne Petersen (Golf)

#### **2002**

Steve Arisman (Multi-sport)

#### **2003**

Tim Tollestrup (Multi-sport)

#### **2004**

Dawn (Fry) Keith (Basketball)

#### **2006**

Kevin Wiber (Football, Baseball)

#### **2007**

Sheila Buelow (Ringette)

#### **2008**

Bertril Johansson (Cross Country Running)  
Blair Kubicek (Baseball)

#### **2009**

James Murphy (Tae Kwon-Do)  
Daniel Shapiro (Tennis)  
Don Chandler (Curling)

#### **2010**

Mal Clewes (Multi-sport)  
LAA Pioneers (Hockey)  
Florence Senda (Judo)  
Sharon Chmielewski (Curling)

## 2011

Ron Jacobson (Football)  
 Bob Tinordi (Broomball)  
 Lethbridge Lacrosse Association Pioneers

## 2012

Brad Brown (Football)

## 2013

Kurt Berndtsson (Marksmanship)  
 Terry Hanna (Basketball)

## 2014

Mary and John Schwengler (Triathlon,  
 Running)  
 John Lavorato (BMX)

## 2015

Pius Labolevech (Basketball)  
 Cal O'Brien (Multi-sport)

## 2016

Lawrence Steinke (Track & field)  
 Neil Langevin (Rugby)

## 2017

Morgan Munroe (Multi-sport)

## 2018

Duane Konyonenbelt (Multi-sport)  
 Steve Wilson (Volleyball)

## 2019

Ard Biesheuvel (Volleyball)  
 Bernhard Pohl (Mixed Martial Arts)

## 2020

Howard Rasmussen (Volleyball)  
 Eunice David (Figure Skating)  
 Cliff Nelson (Multi-sport)  
 Dr. Mary Dyck (Multi-sport)

## 2022

Scott Oikawa (Baseball)  
 Errol Smith (Soccer)

## 2023

Mitch Ball (Baseball)  
 Brian Donaldson (Wrestling)

## 2024

Randy Bardock (Soccer)  
 Mike Tamura (Judo)  
 Cooney Family (Speed Skating)

## 2025

Hurricane Group (Hockey)  
 Kevin Kvame (Baseball)

## ATHLETES

## 1985

Glen "Jinx" Anderson (Multi-sport)  
 Robert "Scotty" Armit (Soccer, Track &  
 field)  
 Harry Blacker (Basketball)  
 Jim Furlong (Football)  
 Earl Ingarfield (Hockey)  
 Enid (Dowdle) Pepper (Multi-sport)  
 Marie Popson (Archery)  
 Tom Sindlinger (Basketball)  
 Vic Stasiuk (Hockey)  
 D. Logan Tait (Basketball, Racquetball)  
 Katie Wilson (Multi-sport)  
 Kai Yip (Boxing)

## 1986

Robert "Bobby" Dunlop (Multi-sport)  
 Sydney Emery (Boxing)  
 Eddie Foychuk (Softball)  
 James Freel Sr. (Multi-sport)  
 William "Billy" Gibson (Hockey)  
 Glen Hamilton (Multi-sport)  
 Barbara Horne (Golf)  
 Bus Murdoch (Multi-sport)  
 Richard Steadman (Badminton)  
 Gerald Ward (Track & field)

## 1987

Lavern Dzuren (Racquetball)  
 John Eccleston (Track & field)  
 Thomas Green (Multi-sport)  
 Marvin Kirchner (Multi-sport)  
 Evelyn Leffingwell (Marksmanship)

Allan "Chick" MacIntosh (Multi-sport)  
 Marty Maxwell (Baseball)  
 Stan Maxwell (Hockey, Baseball)  
 Charles "Bud" McKillop (Multi-sport)  
 Dianne Violini (Bowling)

## 1988

Joe Meli (Judo)  
 Steve Odney (Baseball)  
 Harvie Pocza (Multi-sport)  
 Natalie Reimer (Figure skating)  
 Matthew Slavich (Baseball)  
 Bill "Iron Man" Eagleson (Baseball)  
 Carole Gemer (Track & field)  
 Robert "Bob" Kastings Jr. (Swimming)  
 Jack Lilja (Basketball)

## 1989

Doug Barkley (Hockey)  
 Jody Fry (Racquetball)  
 Tom Greenway (Judo)  
 John Klem (Baseball)  
 Ed Schwartz (Golf)  
 Jack Smeed (Bowling)  
 Alvin Tietz (Soccer)

## 1990

Rick Duff (Boxing)  
 "Aut" Erickson (Hockey)  
 Tim Filuk (Racquetball)  
 Harold Mandeville (Rodeo)  
 George Santoni (Baseball)

## 1991

Len Frig (Hockey)  
 Eddy LeBaron (Boxing)  
 Peter Slobodian (Hockey)  
 Fen Tunbridge (Bowling, Golf)  
 Stan Wills Jr. (Marksmanship)

## 1992

Stan Howard (Multi-sport)  
 Jim Kotkas (Baseball)  
 Marla Lawlor (Equestrian)  
 Scott Maxwell (Baseball)

**1993**

Phil Illingworth (Judo)  
 Bert Mezei (Bowling)  
 Dan Santoni (Baseball)  
 Joseph "Jocko" Tarnava (Multi-sport)  
 Francis Wright (Multi-sport)

**1994**

Lori (Parsons) McArthur (Equestrian)  
 Kathy McCune (Softball)  
 Scott McGeoch (Soccer)  
 Ken Moore (Football)  
 Gary Tunbridge (Baseball, Bowling)

**1995**

Clark Bosch (Baseball)  
 Jack Hebert (Baseball, Bowling)  
 Nan Iwaskiw (Baseball)  
 John MacMillan (Hockey)  
 Bill Persley (Multi-sport)  
 Cliff Stroh (Golf)

**1996**

Karen Ewashen (Powerlifting)  
 Bill Koskoski (Baseball, Bowling)  
 Bruce Lyon (Baseball)  
 Ralph Oler (Marksmanship)  
 Corrido Santoni (Baseball, Basketball)

**1997**

Lori Chaki-Farrington (Track & field)  
 Reginald "Junior" Olsen (Combatives)  
 Gary Simmons (Hockey)

**1998**

Sharon (Davies) Fogtmann (Badminton)  
 Tara Gemer (Track & field)  
 Suzanne Pecht (Track & field)  
 Garth Pilling (Multi-sport)  
 Guy Pomahac (Multi-sport)  
 Jason Zuback (Golf)

**1999**

Gregory Duce (Baseball)  
 Barb Halladay (Multi-sport)

**2000**

Don Cavers (Golf)  
 Lorraine Hill (Equestrian)  
 Rob Roy (Baseball)  
 Nick Saler (Soccer)

**2001**

Ian Balfour (Alpine skiing)  
 Brian Rossetti (Bowling)

**2002**

Perry Mirkovich (Basketball)

**2003**

Malcolm Jones (Rodeo)  
 Shawna (Molcak) Kolaczek (Basketball)

**2004**

Brenda Pennington (Multi-sport)  
 Jamie Pushor (Hockey)

**2006**

Trevor Hardy (Kick Boxing)

**2007**

Dennis & Jude Hooey (Archery)  
 Mike Marcinkowski (Weight lifting)  
 Clarence Yanosik (Baseball)

**2008**

Charlton Weasel Head (Basketball)  
 Tyler Birch (Alpine skiing, Bowling)  
 Rachel Evans (Volleyball)

**2009**

Dori Johnson (Basketball)  
 Danny Balderson (Basketball)

**2010**

Andrea Hlady (Basketball)  
 Tom Three Persons (Rodeo)  
 Bryan Maxwell (Hockey)

**2011**

Sarah (Joly) Nickolet (Soccer)  
 Phil Tollestrup (Basketball)

**2012**

Jim Nakagawa (Multi-sport)  
 Gavin Edwards (Squash)

**2013**

Patricia Christiansen (Golf)  
 Ryan Watson (Hockey)

**2014**

Chad Murray (Swimming)

**2016**

Howard Yanosik (Hockey)  
 Laura Tsujikawa (Soccer)

**2017**

Mike Mezei (Golf)  
 Stacy Roest (Hockey)

**2018**

Carla Pavan (Skeleton)  
 Lauren Perry (Volleyball)

**2019**

Dawn Berry-Furtado (Golf)  
 Trevor McAlpine (Judo)

**2020**

Jolene Watson (Schweitzer)(Soccer)

**2022**

Dennis Chief Moon (Boxing)  
 Heather Steacy (Track & Field)  
 Jim Steacy (Track & Field)

**2023**

Lanny Tron (Track & Field)  
 Ashley Patzer (Rugby)

**2024**

Brad Wall (Mixed Martial Arts)  
 Carmen Rinke (Boxing)

**2025**

Curtis Hatch (Boxing)  
 Kyle McLaren (Hockey)

# **TEAMS**

## **1985**

Cliff Forry Rink (Curling)

1958-59 Lethbridge Broders Chinooks  
(Basketball)

1936-37 Lethbridge Galt Miners Senior Men  
(Baseball)

1950-51 Lethbridge Maple Leafs (Hockey)

Myrna McQuarrie Rink (Curling)

1932 Supina's (Soccer)

## **1986**

1947-49 Lethbridge Native Sons Juveniles  
(Hockey)

## **1987**

Betty Luco Rink (Curling)

1974-75 Lethbridge Y's Native Sons  
(Hockey)

## **1988**

Barry Coleman Rink (Curling)

1979-80 Lethbridge Elks (Baseball)

Bill and Cori-Jo Petrunik (Figure skating)

## **1989**

Wayne Bowes & Bob Daku (Racquetball)

Lethbridge All-Star Tigers (Baseball)

## **1990**

Great West Tire Super Sam (Slo-pitch)

## **1991**

1946 Blenner-Hassett and Smith Dodgers  
(Baseball)

## **1992**

Greg & Mary Lazaruk (Darts)

Val Matteotti Suntanas (Slo-pitch)

## **1993**

1969 Lethbridge Sugar Kings (Hockey)

## **1994**

1969 Lethbridge Chargers (Soccer)

## **1995**

1994 U of L Men's Pronghorns (Hockey)

## **1996**

1989 LCC Women's Kodiaks (Basketball)

## **1997**

1972 Lethbridge Amateur Swim Club Relay  
Team (Swimming)

1994 LCC Women's Kodiaks (Soccer)

## **1999**

1977 Lethbridge Norcrest Senior Little  
League (Baseball)

## **2000**

1982 Lethbridge Little League All-Stars  
(Baseball)

## **2001**

1979 Lethbridge Gotschna (Slo-pitch)

## **2002**

1990 LCI Rams (Football)

## **2006**

1989 Val Matteotti Golden Hawks (Hockey)

## **2007**

1963-65 Lethbridge Jr. North Stars

(Fastball)

2003 LCC Women's Kodiaks (Cross-Country  
Running)

## **2008**

2004 Kodiak Women's Basketball

## **2010**

2005-06 Lethbridge College Kodiaks Men's  
Cross-Country Team

1971 U of L Chinooks Women's Basketball

## **2011**

2007 LCI Rams Senior Boys Volleyball Team

## **2012**

2007-09 U of L Pronghorn Women's Rugby

## **2013**

1977 Lethbridge Norcrest Little League All  
Stars (Baseball)

## **2014**

2011 Lethbridge Giants (Baseball)

## **2015**

1966-1967 Lethbridge Junior College Men's  
Kodiaks  
(Basketball)

## **2016**

1963 Lethbridge Hungaria (Soccer)

## **2017**

1985 Lethbridge Senior Little League  
(Baseball)

## **2018**

1975 Lethbridge Chargers (Soccer)

## **2019**

2008 Senior Ladies World Curling  
Championship Team (Curling)

1981 Lethbridge Little League All-Stars  
Canadian Champions (Baseball)

## **2020**

Schwartz Angels 1983 Canadian Slo-Pitch  
Champions (Slo-Pitch)

## **2023**

1979 Lethbridge Senior Little League All-  
Stars (Baseball)

## **2025**

Lethbridge Miners 1986 / Lethbridge Elks  
1987 (Baseball)

# **SPECIAL**

## **1988**

Lethbridge Labour Club (Multi-sport)  
AC "Andy" Anderson (Multi-sport)

## **1989**

Val Matteotti (Multi-sport)  
Al McCann (Multi-sport)  
Don Pilling (Multi-sport)

## **1990**

Lethbridge Hockey Hounds (Hockey)

## **1991**

George Wesley (Baseball)

## **1992**

Royal Canadian Legion (Multi-sport)

## **1993**

Lethbridge Oldtimers Sports Association  
(Hockey)

## **1994**

Mary Oikawa (Multi-sport)

## **1995**

Sven Ericksen's Family Restaurant  
(Multi-sport)

## **1996**

Steve Fallwell (Multi-sport)

## **1997**

Keith Jorgensen (Multi-sport)  
Gordon Orser (Hockey)

## **1999**

Vivien Goodrich (Equestrian)

## **2000**

Rich Sutter (Hockey)  
Ron Sutter (Hockey)

## **2001**

Gus Herresvele (Multi-sport)

## **2002**

Max Gibb (Multi-sport)

## **2003**

Garry Allison (Multi-sport)

## **2004**

Sundown Hank Markus (Rodeo)

## **2006**

Jack Nagai (Multi-sport)  
1975 Canada Games Society (Multi-sport)

## **2007**

Ron Bain (Running)

## **2008**

Yoshitaka (Taka) Kinjo (Karate)

## **2009**

Southern Alberta High School Rugby League  
Pioneers

## **2010**

Bryan Jeannotte (Multi-sport)  
Harry Bentley (Multi-sport)

## **2012**

The Bascom Family (Rodeo)  
Raymond Knight (Rodeo)

## **2014**

George Virtue (Multi-sport)

## **2015**

Colin Nonomura, Darin Gibson  
(Tae Kwon-Do)  
David Wells (Multi-sport)

## **2017**

Knud Petersen (Multi-sport)

## **2019**

Carol Thibert (Multi-sport)

## **2022**

Jody Fisher Meli (Curling)

## **2023**

Rufus Goodstriker (Multi-sport)

## **2024**

Judge John A. Jackson (Multi-sport)

## **2025**

Malcom Kano (Multi-sport)

# **HISTORICAL**

## **2025**

Herman Linder (Rodeo)

**Terry Clark, PFP**  
Mutual Fund Representative  
Investia Financial Services Inc.

#20 - 491 WT Hill Blvd S  
Lethbridge, AB T1J 1Y6

Direct line: 403-381-0600  
Bus: 403-381-0610  
Cell: 403-330-3863  
Fax: 403-381-0663  
tclarkfinancial@shaw.ca

Mutual Fund Dealer  
Subsidiary of IA Financial Group

[investia.ca](http://investia.ca)



NOJI CHIROPRACTIC &  
WELLNESS CENTRE

BALANCE FOR LIFE...

DR. JANICE NOJI D.C.\*  
418 STAFFORD DRIVE SOUTH  
LETHBRIDGE AB T1J 2L2

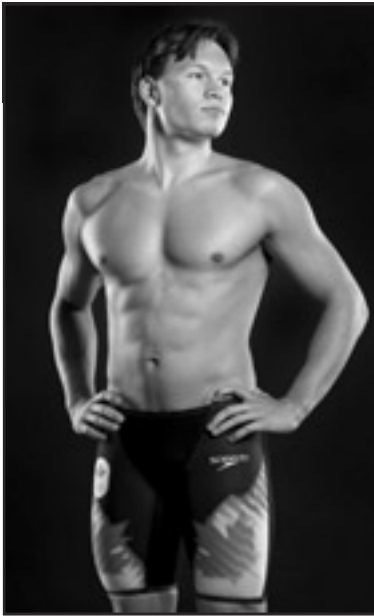
403.381.7766  
403.320.0082

DRJANICENOJI@GMAIL.COM

\* DENOTES PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

# KINSMEN

## 2025 SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
~ 2025 ~



### APOLLO (FOX) HESS

#### MALE SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR - SWIMMING

Apollo (Fox) Hess had a feeling as a youngster that he would go on to become a world-class athlete, and his intuition was proven correct when he represented Canada in swimming at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

The first member of the Kainai Nation to compete in the Olympics, Hess went on to help Canada earn a fifth-place finish in the 4×100-metre medley relay.

Born July 15, 2002, Hess grew up in Lethbridge playing hockey, soccer, basketball and volleyball as well as competing in track and field and swimming. He began swimming at the age of three and later swam with the Excalibur Swim Club in Lethbridge.

At age 14, he began dedicating himself to swimming, and went on to attend the University of Lethbridge, where his talent in the pool emerged in a big way. He won five medals at the 2022 U Sports Championships, including gold in 200-metre

breaststroke and 50-metre breaststroke, breaking the U Sports and Canadian short-course records in the latter event. His strong performance earned him U Sports Rookie of the Year honours.

In 2023, Hess placed third in the 50-metre and 100-metre breaststroke at the U Sports Championships. He now lives in Toronto where he trains at the High-Performance Centre – Ontario.

Apollo swam his best at the Canadian Olympic Swimming Trials in May 2024, when he secured a silver medal in the 100m breaststroke, earning him a spot on Team Canada for the Paris 2024 Olympics.

On June 3, 2024, Hess was honoured with a headdress ceremony at Red Crow Community College in Standoff. His Blackfoot name, given to him by his late grandfather, Norbert Fox, is Mo'tóyáóhkii, which, appropriately, translates to Ocean Boy.



### KAINAIWA

**On behalf of the Blood Tribe (Kainai), Blood Tribe Chief & Council and Administration, congratulations to Apollo (Fox) Hess on being chosen as 2025 Kinsmen Male Sportsperson of the Year. Thank you Apollo for making us proud, as you represented Kainai, and Canada, at the Paris 2024 Summer Olympics on the 4x100 medley relay swim team. Your hard work and extraordinary achievements are an inspiration to our community, especially with the youth of our Nation.**

# KINSMEN 2025 SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR



## KEYARA WARDLEY FEMALE SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR – RUGBY

When Keyara Wardley was a child growing up in the town of Vulcan, she used to dream of being an Olympian. She not only achieved that dream but took it a step farther by becoming an Olympic medal winner. Her love of Rugby began in Vulcan, AB as a high school star and continued to Lethbridge where she played for the Alberta Rugby Southern All-Stars, and trained at the Alberta Sport Development Program as well with Trevor Hardy at the Orion Sport Centre.

Wardley, born Jan. 27, 2000 in Calgary, was a member of Canada’s silver-medal-winning Women’s Rugby Sevens team at the 2024 Summer Olympics held in Paris, France. Fifth-ranked Team Canada reached the final by upsetting second-ranked Australia 21-12 in the semifinals July 30. In the gold-medal final later that day, played before 70,000 spectators at the Stade de France, the Canadian squad lost 19-12 to defending champion New Zealand to finish with the silver medal.

Wardley’s Olympic debut came at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, delayed until 2021 because of the COVID pandemic. There, she suffered a broken hip in Canada’s game against Fiji, AND then later had to recover from anterior cruciate ligament surgery in 2023, which set her back for nine months. Leading up to the Paris Olympics, she was also dealing with a knee ailment and a calf injury.

In spite of those physical challenges, Wardley battled back to suit up for Team Canada in the semifinal and final on the way to the Olympic silver medal. She now lives and trains in Victoria, B.C. Besides her Olympic appearances, she represented Canada internationally at the Youth Commonwealth Games in 2017, where Canada earned a silver medal, and at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games, where Canada won the bronze medal.



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
~ 2025 ~

County Central  
High School

# HAWKS

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Keyara Wardley, recipient of the 2025 Kinsmen Female Sportsperson of the Year award at the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame. This honour celebrates not only her outstanding achievements in sport but also her dedication, leadership, and the inspiration she brings to others. Keyara’s journey reflects a powerful vision—where passion, perseverance, and purpose come together to pave the way for future generations of athletes. County Central is proud to call you a HAWK!





# KINSMEN SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR AWARD



*The Kinsmen Club of Lethbridge is pleased to sponsor the*  
**SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR AWARD.**

The club has sponsored this award since its inception in 1995. These awards acknowledge individuals for their outstanding performance or participation in sports while representing Lethbridge.

In 2007, these awards were adjusted to include both a female and male recipient.

## PAST & PRESENT RECIPIENTS OF THE KINSMEN SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR AWARD

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| 1995 - Nicole Petersen   | 2009 - Ashley Patzer<br>Jim Steacy                 | 2018 - Tyler Wong<br>Casey & Jessie<br>Scheidegger       | ▶ 2025 - Apollo (Fox) Hess<br>Keyara Wardley |
| 1996 - Gary Bowie  | 2010 - Ashley Patzer<br>Willy Kimosop              | 2019 - Rob Klinkhammer<br>Sandra Latrace                 |  |
| 1997 - Knud Petersen   | 2011 - Heather Steacy<br>Mike Hansen               | 2020 - Nico Pasquotti<br>Evelyn Beaton                   |  |
| 1998 - Don Gatto   | 2012 - Jody Meli<br>Bob Bartlett                   | 2021- Hailey Driscoll<br>Christine Moser<br>Dylan Cozens |  |
| 1999 - Sarah Joly  | 2013 - Deb Williams<br>Coby Iwaasa                 | 2022 - Kacie Bosch &<br>Paige Crozon<br>Taylor Austin    |  |
| 2000 - Bruce Drewry  | 2014 - Taylor McDonald<br>Aaron Hernandez          | 2023 - Jinaye<br>Shomachuk<br>Ridly Greig                |  |
| 2001 - Mike Mezei  | 2015 - Kim Veldman<br>Jim Steacy                   | 2024 - Kacie Bosch &<br>Paige Crozon<br>Conner Cook      |  |
| 2002 - Trevor McAlpine   | 2016 - Rachel Nicol<br>Kris Versteeg               |  |  |
| 2003 - Nicole Stratyчук  | 2017 - Ashley Patzer-<br>Steacy<br>Zack McAllister |  |  |
| 2004 - Jim Steacy  |  |  |  |
| 2005 - Brent Seabrook  |  |  |  |
| 2006 - Jim Steacy  |  |  |  |
| 2007 - Ashley Patzer<br>Jim Steacy                             |  |  |  |
| 2008- Lethbridge Curling<br>Club - Foster Rink<br>Zach Boychuk |  |  |  |



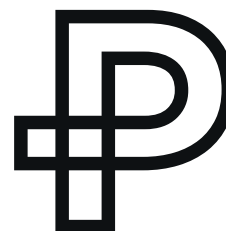
**We would like to  
CONGRATULATE  
all of this year's honorees!**

**Locally owned and operated,  
we are here to serve all your  
Insurance and Registry needs –  
Come see us today!**

**Lethbridge**

300 10th Street South  
Lethbridge AB T1J2M6  
P: 403.320.1010

[www.schwartzrelianceinsurance.com](http://www.schwartzrelianceinsurance.com)



**PARAMOUNT  
= PRINTERS LTD. =**

**CONGRATULATIONS  
SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
INDUCTEES**

☎ 403.327.3287

🌐 [paramountprinters.com](http://paramountprinters.com) 📷 @paramountprintersltd

**PRINT**

