



The Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association Association Canadienne de Basketball en Fauteuil Roulant

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CANADIAN WOMEN'S NATIONAL WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL BENCHBOSS TIM FRICK WINS "COACH OF THE YEAR!"

(Ottawa, ON) - The Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association is pleased to announce that the Coaches of Canada have selected Canadian Women's National Team head coach Tim Frick as the recipient of the 2008 Jack Donohue Award as "Coach of the Year."

Coaches of Canada announced the 2008 winners of its two national awards — the Jack Donohue "Coach of the Year" Award and the Sheila Robertson Award. Both awards will be presented during Petro-Canada Sport Leadership sportif 2008, scheduled to take place in Calgary, November 7-9, 2008. The Sport Leadership Awards Ceremony will take place on Friday, November 7, at 7:00 pm at the Calgary Telus Convention Centre.

The Jack Donohue Award recognizes a coach's dedication to the profession and the outstanding performances of his or her athletes during the past competitive season. The late legendary basketball coach, for whom the award is named, was a towering figure in Canadian sport who taught his athletes to value life and to learn from each and every experience.

The 2008 winner of the Jack Donohue Award is Tim Frick, ChPC, of Pender Island, BC, the head coach of Canada's outstanding women's wheelchair basketball team.

In his 19 years at the helm, Frick guided his team to three Paralympic Games titles and four world championship gold medals. The successes include nine straight podium finishes at major international competitions. Frick, a seven-time winner of the Petro-Canada Coaching Excellence Award, is a passionate educator and a master tactician and technician who consistently demonstrates outstanding knowledge of the game and a keen ability to analyze and react in game situations. Prior to joining the women's team, he coached both Terry Fox and Rick Hansen. For many years a physical education instructor at Douglas College, he was also head coach of the college's women's wheelchair basketball team.

"Tim Frick is the epitome of the professional coach and his approach to coaching has earned admiration and respect worldwide," says Coaches of Canada president Steven Sugar of

CWBA / ACBFR
Suite B2 - 2211 Riverside Drive
Ottawa, ON K1H 7X5
Telephone (613) 260-1296 Facsimile (613) 260-1456
Email: cwba@cwba.ca Website: www.cwba.ca

Newmarket, ON. “He is above all a quality person who has had a profound impact on his sport and beyond. Jack Donohue left a powerful legacy and Tim fills his shoes admirably.”

Adds Wendy Gittens, executive director of the Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association: “Tim's contributions to wheelchair basketball in Canada and around the world cannot be overstated. He has been a driving force behind the tremendous success and growth of our women's program, which is regarded as one of the best in the world.”

The previous winners of the Jack Donohue Award, inaugurated in 2003, are diving coach Michel Larouche, ChPC, in 2003, artistic gymnastics coach Kelly Manjak, ChPC, in 2004, water polo coach Patrick Oaten, ChPC, in 2005, long track speed skating coach Xiuli Wang, ChPC, in 2006, and alpine ski coach Paul Kristofic, ChPC in 2007.

Frick's passion for working with wheelchair athletes has been a catalyst for positive change and he has been unfaltering in his efforts to inspire and engage throughout his influential career. Prior to being named to the Canadian Women's Wheelchair Basketball Team, Frick coached both Terry Fox and Rick Hansen whose individual efforts have raised millions of dollars for medical research and increased disability awareness around the world.

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For more information please contact:

Jody Kingsbury, Communications & Media Relations

Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association

(613) 260-1296 ext. 204

kingsbury@cwba.ca

or visit: www.cwba.ca

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About Coaches of Canada

Coaches of Canada is the national organization representing Canada's professional coaches-with members who represent all sports, both professional and amateur. Coaches of Canada's mandate is to advance the profession of coaching and to advance the contribution coaches make to individuals, teams, communities, and society.

About Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association

The Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association (CWBA) is the National Sports Governing Body responsible for the organization of wheelchair basketball in Canada. The CWBA is committed to sport excellence in the development, support and promotion of wheelchair basketball programs and services for all Canadians.

Please visit www.cwba.ca for more information.