

## ONTARIO LACROSSE MAGAZINE

Ontario Lacrosse Magazine is the primary source of information for Ontario lacrosse players, parents, coaches and officials. Published quarterly (Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall), Ontario Lacrosse Magazine is mailed directly to more than 45,000 members of the Ontario Lacrosse Association (OLA). Our readers turn to the magazine for the latest lacrosse news, products, trends, insights and expert opinion. All editorial submissions and article queries should be sent to Ron MacSpadyen, editor: ron@ontariolacrosse.com. The views expressed by the authors are not necessarily those of the Ontario Lacrosse Association.

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### EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Ron MacSpadyen

### ART DIRECTOR

Mark Tzerelshtein | markintoshdesign.com

### ADVERTISING SALES

Ron MacSpadyen

### CONTRIBUTORS

Graig Abel

Canadian Lacrosse Association

Mike Davies

Jack Dempsey/Colorado Mammoth

Paul Grattoli

Al Fournier

Jack Kohane

Perry Lefko

Ron MacSpadyen

Michelle Morra-Carlisle

Megan Muir

Jim Parker

Tim Prothero

Tammy Schuetzkowski

Michelle Quance

Jeff Vogan/SPORTDAD Sports Photography

Brad Watson

Cover photo: Jack Dempsey/Colorado Mammoth.

Canadian Publications Mail Agreement #41833525

Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to:

Ontario Lacrosse Magazine,  
3 Concorde Gate, Suite 306,  
Toronto, Ontario, M3C 3N7.

Printed in Canada

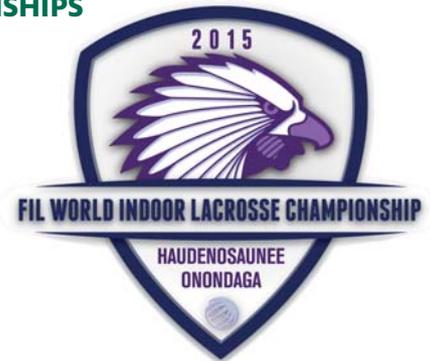
## RECORD TEAM ENTRIES FOR 2015 WORLD INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

For the first time ever, FIL (Federation of International Lacrosse) will hold the 2015 World Indoor Lacrosse Championships at the Onondaga Nation, capital of the Iroquois Confederacy. The Championship will be played September 18-27 at three venues in and around the Syracuse area: the games will commence at the War Memorial Arena in downtown Syracuse on September 18th; the traditional round-robin tournament play will continue at the Onondaga Nation Arena; medal games will take place at the Syracuse University Carrier Dome, with a capacity of 28,000 seats for lacrosse, on Sunday, September 27th. Tickets are on sale now by visiting [www.wilc2015.com](http://www.wilc2015.com).

“On behalf of The Federation of International Lacrosse (FIL) and all our members, I would like to extend our best wishes and gratitude to the Haudenosaunee for hosting the FIL 2015 World Indoor Lacrosse Championships,” said FIL President Stan Cockerton. “We are confident that hosting the 2015 WILC in Onondaga Nation and in Syracuse will result in an event that will set a benchmark for future events to aspire to.”

The FIL World Indoor Lacrosse Championship is an international tournament that is held every four years. The 2011 event was held in Prague, Czech Republic. The defending World Champions are Canada. A record-setting thirteen countries will compete in the event this year including Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, England, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Iroquois Nation, Israel, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States.

“Syracuse University has a rich tradition of lacrosse excellence and it is a privilege



for us to host these championship games on our campus,” said Syracuse University Chancellor Kent Syverdy. “The event will bring tens of thousands of visitors to campus and allow our university to again celebrate and honor the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Onondaga Nation, which is the home of the game. We look forward to this world championship taking place in the Carrier Dome in September.”

The Haudenosaunee peoples will host a Cultural Festival during the Championship. Native dancers, musicians, artisans, and craftsmen from across North America will showcase their native history, values, traditions and talents.

Also announced was the roster of seven Canadian referees selected to officiate at the event. Four of the seven referees are from Ontario: Mark Gardonio (Guelph), Ian Garrison (Kingston), Chris Williams (Virgil) and Jason Wiswell (Oshawa). Brent McCauley (Brampton) and Matt Robinson (Welland) have been named Assessors. **OLM**

**For more information about the 2015 FIL World Indoor Lacrosse Championship, visit: [www.wilc2015.com](http://www.wilc2015.com).**

At the most recent OLA Annual General Meeting, Residence & Conference Centre Director of Sales, Matt Markovic (left), presents OLA President John Doherty with a cheque for their accommodation partnership with the OLA.

**Photo: Muir Image Photography**



## LACROSSE FUND RAISING FOR A CAUSE

Recent lacrosse tournaments continued a tradition of fund raising for worthy causes.

A newly launched Junior "A" Christmas tournament raised just over \$3,500 for Wounded Warriors Canada. The brainchild of Ontario-resident and Brown University student Todd Stewart, and sponsored by Donville Kent Asset Management, the event showcased teams at the Iroquois Lacrosse Arena in Six Nations. Stewart felt that much of the fund raising success was a result of a free admission policy to the event and great volunteer support of the Canadian military; something he "absolutely wants to maintain" moving ahead.

Future plans include expanding the number of teams and games in the tournament; introducing a playoff format and creating additional

buzz on social media platforms.

Once again this April, the Jammer Classic kicked off the minor field season at Cherry Beach Fields in Toronto. Dedicated to celebrate the life of Jamieson Kuhlmann, a Beach and Hill Academy graduate, the tournament has raised \$88,000 over the past six years for the Children's Miracle Network.

The 2015 event was filled with more competitive lacrosse on Varsity Day in the high school division. Assumption College School, Birchmount Park, Christ the King, Hill Academy, St. Michael's College and Upper Canada College battled on the Friday. Participating in the minor divisions of U11-U17 were Clarington, Hamilton, Mimico, Newmarket, Oakville, Orangeville, Toronto Beaches, Toronto Stars and Whitby. **OLM**



## WOMEN'S U19 TEAM CANADA SELECTED

The Canadian Lacrosse Association (CLA) recently announced Canada's roster for the 2015 Federation of International Lacrosse (FIL) Women's U19 World Championship. The 18-member roster will represent Canada at the tournament in Edinburgh, Scotland this summer, July 23-August 1.

Twelve members of the final Team Canada roster are from Ontario. Congratulations and good luck to Tessa Chad (Orono), Bailey Collins (Guelph), Aurora Cordingly (Oakville), Erica Evans (Peterborough), Emily Gillingham (Kitchener), Kameron Halsall (Caledon), Avery Hogarth (Mississauga), Jocelyne Lemay (Peterborough), Kennedy Milburn (Whitby), Kenzie Neal (Orangeville), Brenna Shanahan (Mississauga) and Brynne Yarranton (Toronto).

"We're thrilled with the roster that we have put together and the talent that is set to represent Canada on the national stage," said head coach, Scott Teeter. "We have 18 very talented young players who have the ability to win gold in Scotland. It's been a long process determining the final roster and I have to thank my assistant coaches, scouts and administrators. We are definitely excited for the coming months and look forward to competing with the very best and for a spot at the top of the podium."

The 2015 FIL Women's U19 World Championship will take place at the University of Edinburgh's Peffermill Playing Fields. The last Championship was played in Hannover, Germany, where Canada took home the bronze. Canada's previous U19 appearances include bronze in 2003 and 1999 and 4th in 2007 and at the inaugural event in 1995. Fifteen countries will take part in this year's event, with Colombia, Finland, Israel & Republic of Korea competing at women's U19 level for the first time. The event will be the largest U19 World Championship to-date, with nearly 400 participants (squads and officials). **OLM**



After a 12-year NLL career, Whitby native Gavin Prout retired from the Colorado Mammoth as the team's all-time leader in points (664) and assists (459). Colorado's captain for six seasons, Prout led the Mammoth to the 2006 Champion's Cup and MVP honors as part of a record-setting postseason. His 621 career assists are seventh-most in league history, and his 922 points are ninth-best. The Mammoth honoured Prout with a jersey retirement ceremony March 29th in Denver. **Photo: Jack Dempsey/Colorado Mammoth**

## 2014 OLA AWARD WINNERS

### Chuck Rowan Award



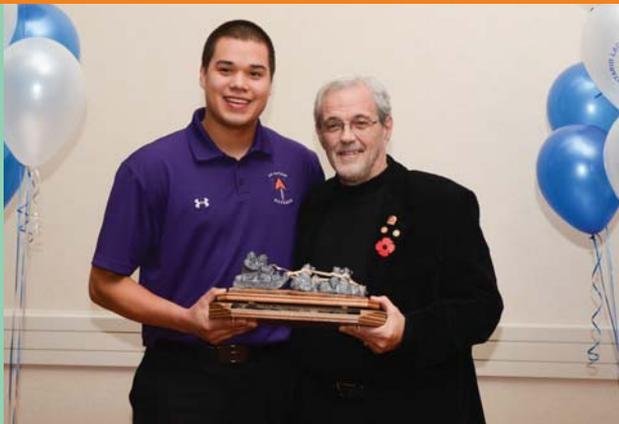
To be awarded to the Midget or Intermediate player demonstrating high proficiency in Box Lacrosse combined with outstanding achievement in citizenship, together with high standards in academics or his/her chosen profession. **Winner: Kyle Dawson, Wallaceburg**  
*Left to right: Chris Dawson, Kyle Dawson, John Doherty*

### Mr. Lacrosse Award



The Thomas "Tip" Teather Trophy, awarded annually to a person considered to have made an outstanding contribution to Lacrosse. **Winner: Reg Holinshead, Arthur**  
*Left to right: John Doherty, Reg Holinshead, Barry Trood*

### E.W. "Billy" Evans Memorial Award



Awarded to the most outstanding graduating Junior 'A' player. **Winner: Johnny Powless, Six Nations**  
*Left to right: Johnny Powless, Dean McLeod*

### Referee Awards



Presented annually since 1988 by the Ontario Lacrosse Referees Supervision Committee to the OLA referee who combines on-floor officiating duties with program development efforts at all levels. **Winner: Andrew Ecclestone**  
*Left to right: Andrew Ecclestone, Ian Garrison*

### Jamieson Kuhlmann Award



To be awarded to the Midget player demonstrating high proficiency in Field Lacrosse combined with outstanding achievement in citizenship, together with high standards in academics or his/her chosen profession. **Winner: Tyler Stinson, Uxbridge**  
*Left to right: John Doherty, Lorrie Stinson, Tyler Stinson, Mark Kuhlmann*

### Tom Hutchinson Award



Presented jointly by the OLRA and the OLA in memory of Tom Hutchinson, this bursary award is given to a currently carded OLA referee who is enrolled in a full time post-secondary educational program at a Canadian university or college. The official must be a member in good standing with the OLRA and the OLA, and they must complete an essay to the satisfaction of a joint OLRA/OLA selection committee. **Winner: Shane Hubbard**  
*Left to right: Shane Hubbard, Terry King*

### Laurie Montgomery Award



Description: To be awarded to the individual (player, coach, parent, volunteer, referee) involved with Ontario Minor Field Lacrosse whose unselfish motivations are demonstrated by the dedication of their efforts to teaching and promoting sportsmanship through his/her hard work and dedication. **Winner: Jennifer Price, Toronto Beaches**  
*Left to right: Michael Varanesi, Jennifer Price*

### Ryan Haber Award



To be awarded to the Midget player demonstrating high proficiency in the game of Field Lacrosse, through his/her hard work, dedication and determination.  
**Winner: Tristan Hanna, Whitby, Jaden Walcot, Oakville**  
*Left to right: Michael Varanesi, Jaden Walcot, Nemur Haber, Tristan Hanna*

### Ken Murray Award



Presented annually to the Minor Lacrosse individual whose unselfish motivations are demonstrated by the dedication of their efforts to "helping the kids."  
**Winner: Todd King, Barrie**  
*Left to right: Todd King, Wyatt King, Dalton King, John Doherty, Bev Bravener*

### Merv MacKenzie Award



Presented annually in memory of the late Mr. Merv Mackenzie (Life Member), to the person selected as having done the most for the promotion of Lacrosse in Ontario.  
**Winner: Ken Jolly, Sun County**  
*Left to right: Jeramie Bailey, Ken Jolly, Marion Ladouceur*

## NEWS & NOTES

### EXPORTING BOX LACROSSE

The newly formed Arena Lacrosse League (ALL) will export the game of box lacrosse to U.S. cities in 2015 with the goal of becoming the lead provider of programs and services to the American market.

Many field players in the United States have been seeking opportunities to play the indoor game, but with limited infrastructure, resources, facilities and coaching expertise, progress has been slow. ALL hopes to fast-track that development and plans to target current and past college players to form an elite league.

"As each of our group members are experienced box lacrosse coaches and

players, we will teach the proper indoor techniques that will complement existing field skills, ultimately making better all-around players" says Arena Lacrosse League President & CEO Paul St. John. Some familiar Ontario lacrosse names are joining St. John in various administrative roles with the league: Blair Campbell, Fraser McDonald, Tom Koger, Steve McCarthy, Bill Fox, Tom Beckett and Doug Luey will assist with the organization and launch of ALL.

A 2015 ALL Showcase Tour runs this summer with week-long player combines and youth camps to recruit players in eleven U.S. cities. Launching in Reading, PA on July

6th, the Showcase Tour runs to August 29th with stops including Everett, WA; Stockton, CA; Wilkes-Barre, PA; Portland, OR; Albany, NY; Baltimore, MD; Salt Lake City, UT; Boise, ID; Trenton, NJ and Allentown, PA. The league hopes to introduce a hybrid version of the game which promotes more open-floor transition and fast-break opportunities. Ontario coaches and players will likely participate in the league.

St. John sees an elite league with affiliated youth divisions operating in 12-16 U.S. markets for the summer of 2016. Visit [www.arenalacrosseleague.com](http://www.arenalacrosseleague.com) for more information. **OLM**

## CLIPPERS TO OFFER SCHOLARSHIP MONEY AT ST. CLAIR COLLEGE

by Jim Parker, *The Windsor Star* (republished with the express permission of Postmedia Network Inc.)

The Windsor Clippers have entered into a partnership with St. Clair College that could provide scholarship money for prospective players.

Under the partnership, a player for the Ontario Lacrosse Association Junior "B" Clippers could earn as much as \$2,500 a year in scholarship money at St. Clair College, while the partnership provides exposure and potential internships for students at the school that has an enrollment of 8,500.

"This is the first working agreement of its kind in junior lacrosse in Ontario and I think it will start to explode," said Andrew Soulliere, Director of Sponsorship for the Clippers. "I'm sure other teams will want to do it with schools in their area, but it's good to be No. 1."

The deal will allow the Clippers to pursue players in much the same fashion as a university might through a paid educational scholarship package.

"It's a rather unique partnership that reflects the changing ways for the pathway to post-secondary education," St. Clair president Dr. John Strasser said. "It's important to make change. The big thing for us is we get students. We're building a brand of excellence and you can't get this kind of exposure."

"Basically, we want to bring in players that wouldn't normally come here and retain players that go away to school," said Soulliere. The Far West Division champion Clippers had an opportunity to make trades last year that ended up falling through, but possibly would have been completed had this agreement been place.

"Being in Toronto, it's more convenient for players," Soulliere said. "It's harder for us to get players and trade for players because we're at a geographical disadvantage. We traded for two kids last year, but had a number of trades fall through because kids didn't want to come this far. If we had this opportunity, it could have changed things."

Under the agreement, the Clipper players that attend St. Clair College and maintain a 2.0 grade point average will receive \$1,250 in scholarship money a semester, which is the maximum amount of money that an Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) member school can offer.

St. Clair College will get exposure from the agreement with Clippers' players wearing a St. Clair patch on their jersey and a sticker on their helmet. The school will also be featured

in team advertising.

"It's beneficial to us, but the school cares about the area as well," Seguin said. "We're competing with some large resource schools in Toronto and we've been aggressive. By taking this to sports programs that aren't varsity in schools, but in the community, we hope to grab attention. We think that brand recognition attracts people."

As well, St. Clair and the Clippers will use the agreement to help develop students' skills in the school's new three-year advanced business diploma in sport and recreational management.

"There's also those sub-benefits for opportunities for our students," Seguin said. "Sports management is brand new for us. It's attracting students, but placements and work experience are limited. If we can get into that with Clippers, that's great."

As word gets out, Soulliere and Seguin hope it will be a win for lacrosse in the Windsor area and also benefit St. Clair College.

"I'm hoping it helps in the next two-to-three years as it's established," Soulliere said. "It's good community thing for us and St. Clair." **OLM**

## ROCK READY FOR PLAYOFFS

By finishing the National Lacrosse League (NLL) season as the first seed with a 14-4 record, the Toronto Rock receive a bye through the East Division semi-final and secure home floor advantage throughout their 2015 playoff run.

The Buffalo Bandits and Rochester Knighthawks face-off in the semi-final game with the winner meeting the Rock in the East Division Final. The Rock will host the second game of the two-game Final on Saturday, May 23, 2015 at the Air Canada Centre. Game time is 7:00 pm.

Should the Toronto Rock capture the East championship, they would advance to the Champion's Cup best-of-three series, hosting games on the weekends of May 29-31 and, if necessary, June 12-14. Exact dates for the home games had not been set at press deadline. Visit [www.torontorock.com](http://www.torontorock.com) for up-dates. **OLM**

## CLA APPOINTS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Canadian Lacrosse Association (CLA) recently announced the appointment of Joanne Thomson as their new Executive Director. During the last eleven years Thomson served as Executive Director of Biathlon Canada where she contributed to Biathlon Canada's successes domestically and internationally. She was a key contributor to the development and growth of biathlon in Canada and worked closely with the many partners and participants of the biathlon community.

Additionally, she has extensive experience working on volunteer boards in the sport community, currently serving as a member of the International Biathlon Union Development Committee, a director for the Canada Games Council (CGC) Board of Directors and a member of the Canadian Olympic Committee's (COC) Sport Strategies

and Relations committee.

"I am excited to have the opportunity to help lead the CLA over the coming years and to work with the staff and volunteers who have diligently made the CLA what it is today" said Thomson. "Knowing that Canada is a leading nation in the sport of lacrosse at the international level is a huge accomplishment, but it also means we need to continue to improve on the development and participation programs while keeping the high performance program focused on being the best in the world. This is something I am confident we can achieve if we all work together towards that vision."

Thomson is responsible for overall CLA Ottawa office management, financial planning and budgeting, policy development and implementation. **OLM**