



September 10, 2019

**For immediate release**

### **Moncton Sports Wall of Fame class of 2019**

**MONCTON** – The City of Moncton is proud to announce its 2019 inductees for the Moncton Sports Wall of Fame. These individuals have shown excellence and dedication, and have enriched the sports community in Greater Moncton.

The 'Class of 2019' will see Rhéal Cormier and Jonathan Henry inducted under the athlete category; David Fraser and Ralph Chambers inducted under both the athlete and builder categories; and Marc Beaudoin and Benjamin Millett inducted under the builder category.

The 2019 Wall of Fame ceremony will be held on **Saturday, October 26, 2019** at the **Capitol Theatre at 7 p.m.** Tickets are available free of charge at the Capitol Theatre box office located at 811 Main Street or by visiting [www.capitol.nb.ca](http://www.capitol.nb.ca).

The Moncton Sports Wall of Fame can be found within the Avenir Centre located at 150 Canada Street in Moncton.

Bios of the Moncton Wall of Fame 2019 inductees:

✓ **Rhéal Cormier – Athlete – Baseball**

Rhéal Cormier is among Canada's most prolific baseball players. He played for Team Canada at the 1987 Pan-Am Games and the 1988 Olympics in Seoul. He made his major league debut in 1991 and played for 16 seasons with the Boston Red Sox, Cincinnati Reds, Montreal Expos, Philadelphia Phillies and St. Louis Cardinals. Cormier, a left-handed pitcher, appeared in 683 games, second-most ever by a Canadian. He finished his Major League career with 71 wins and a 4.03 ERA. His best season was in 2003 with the Phillies, where he finished with an 8-0 record and a 1.70 ERA over 84.2 innings pitched. At the age of 41, he represented Team Canada again at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. Cormier was inducted into Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame in 2012 and New Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame in 2014.

✓ **Jonathan Henry – Athlete – Swimming**

Jonathan Henry has been described as a “Coach’s dream”. He has had a long history of sporting success in the region, and has achieved significant achievements in the sport of swimming. He is a 5 time world Down Syndrome Swimming champion and holds various world records. He participated in the 2009 Summer Games and various Special Olympics and Canadian National Championships. He has also participated and qualified in the 2016 Canadian Olympic and Para-Swimming Trials. Jonathan leads by example and serves as a role model to other Special Olympians by continuously encouraging his teammates and demonstrating sportsmanship and perseverance. He is an advocate for inclusion of persons with disabilities in sport and the community.

✓ **David Fraser – Athlete/Builder – Softball and Hockey**

David Fraser epitomized the position of third base. His slick fielding and smoothness of foot graced the “hot corner” on many Provincial Championship teams winning batting titles, MVP’s and All-star selections. In 1969, he was selected to the first Canada Games team to represent New Brunswick in Softball. In 1975, Dave was selected All-star Third Baseman at the Canadian Senior Men’s Fast Pitch Nationals; he finished fourth in the Batting Championship at the tournament. Dave was inducted into the Softball New Brunswick Hall of Fame as a player in 1994, the Saint John Hall of Fame with the Saint John Alpines in 1995, the Softball New Brunswick Hall of Fame with the Moncton Viponds in 2009 and the Moncton Wall of Fame in 2010 with the Moncton Viponds. In hockey, Dave was a talented goaltender who played on several Provincial Championship teams before serving for over 20 years with the Moncton Minor Hockey Association as an official and various board positions including President in 1984/85 and 1985/86.

✓ **Ralph Chambers – Athlete/Builder – Baseball**

Ralph Chambers was instrumental in 1984 in the resurrection of senior baseball in Moncton. He not only put together an outstanding organization but contributed significantly to the success of the Moncton Mets on and off the field throughout his nine seasons, winning six Provincial championships. In 2001, nine years after he retired, Ralph was asked to return as General Manager of the team. He has volunteered countless hours to promote baseball in the community. Ralph was known as a fierce competitor and always respected his opponents. Ralph has been inducted in both the Riverview Hall of Fame as an athlete and builder in 2017 and the Moncton Sports Wall of Fame in 2008 and Baseball New Brunswick Hall of Fame in 2017 as a member of the 2006 Moncton Mets Baseball Team.

✓ **Marc Beaudoin – Builder – Athletics**

Marc Beaudoin has been involved in developing athletes in track & field, cross country and running at the regional, provincial, national and international levels since 1984. He created the Eclipse Track and Field Club in 1984 and then the Bleu et Or Track and Field Club in the mid-90s. Marc was head coach for the New Brunswick Canada Games team in 1989 and for various national teams competing in Japan and Korea, including the Jeux de la Francophonie international in 1989 and again in 2001. He also served as head coach of the Université de Moncton athletics and cross country programs from the early 1980’s until 2004. Marc has received numerous coaches of the year awards. He proposed the concept of the IAAF World Junior Track and Field Championship for the

city of Moncton, and he worked tirelessly alongside other builders in the community in building the Croix Bleue Medavie Stadium and in hosting national competitions through Athletics Canada and the World Junior Track & Field Championship in 2010.

✓ **Benjamin Millet – Builder – Soccer**

The Moncton soccer community has grown substantially since Ben Millett arrived on the Greater Moncton soccer scene in 1981. He immediately began organizing a Senior Men's League which grew rapidly. By 1983, women began joining and soon a senior Women's League was organized. Both the senior leagues are still in existence today. In addition, Ben also organized indoor leagues, tournaments, coached and served on various local and provincial boards over the years. Ben is also well known as a referee of the sport for over 45 years. He served as coordinator for assigning referees for both youth and adults soccer leagues. Ben was given the Award of Merit from the Canadian Soccer Association in 1991, became an Honorary Life Member of Soccer New Brunswick in 2001 and an Honorary Member of the New Brunswick Soccer Referee Association in 2010.

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