

A CELEBRATION OF MANITOBA'S BEST COACHES

April 8, 2010 – Manitoba coaches will be honoured for their contribution to sport, leadership, personal development and coaching effectiveness.

The Coaching Manitoba Excellence Awards presented by Manitoba Lotteries are an annual event established to celebrate Manitoba's best coaches. These awards are designed to acknowledge the contributions coaches have made to their sport and athletes over a number of years.

"Good coaches are an integral component of our amateur sport system," states Jeff Hnatiuk, President and CEO for Sport Manitoba. "It's very important to formally recognize the dedication, hard work and commitment our coaches are making in our communities."

The Coaching Manitoba Excellence Awards celebrate four categories, which include Grassroots, Developmental, High Performance and School System.

The finalists for this year's Coaching Manitoba Excellence Awards are:

Vince Leah Memorial Award – Grassroots

- Eleanor Currie – Special Olympics (Winnipeg)
- Tim Morison – Hockey (Fannystelle)
- Dan Noordman – Football (Winnipeg)

Dr. Jack Hunt Memorial Award – Developmental

- Khadija Cutcher – Synchronized Swimming (Winnipeg)
- Donna Harris – Track & Field (Winnipeg)
- Kerri Nicol – Figure Skating (Brandon/Souris)

Peter Williamson Memorial Award – High Performance

- Derek Ingram – Golf (Winnipeg)
- Rob Meakin – Curling (Winnipeg)
- Robert Persechino – Gymnastics (Winnipeg)

Peter Dick Award – School Systems

- Jeff Laping – Basketball (Winnipeg)
- Stephen Tackie – Basketball (Winnipeg)
- Nathan Thacker – Multi-sport (Dauphin)

Honourees at the breakfast will also include Manitoba coaches who coached internationally in 2009, as well as those that have dedicated twenty-five years of service to their sport in the province.

The awards brunch will be held Sunday, April 11 at 9am at the McPhillips Station Casino.

Program Outline:

8am – Doors Open

9am – Greetings

9:15am – Breakfast Served

9:50am – Program Starts

9:52am – Peter Dick Award

10:06am – Vince Leah Award

10:41am – International Coaches

10:47am – Dr. Jack Hunt Award

11:01am – Peter Williamson Award

11:15am – Program Wrap

Coach Bios are available upon request.

Sport Manitoba is a not for profit organization and the lead planning, programming and funding agency for the development of amateur sport in Manitoba. Sport Manitoba partners with over 100 organizations to deliver sport in our province and is responsible for programs including the Power Smart Manitoba Games, Coaching Manitoba, Team Manitoba, Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame and Museum and KidSport.

“Good coaches build better people!”

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