



NANAIMO MUSEUM

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Media Release – Nanaimo Sports Hall of Fame Announces 2009 Inductees – July, 2009

Nanaimo, BC – Today, July 18, is a big deal not only for the Nanaimo Museum, but for local sports fans as well. Not only is the museum celebrating its first birthday in its new space in the conference centre, it is also announcing the latest inductees into the Nanaimo Sports Hall of Fame. A total of eight new inductees will be honoured at the Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in the Vancouver Island Conference Centre on Saturday, Sept. 19.

Included in this prestigious list of local athletes and team builders, who will have their names permanently inscribed on the Sports Hall of Fame wall, are the 1970 Canadian Curling champions from the Don MacRae Rink; Olympian and national soccer player Ray Telford; championship soccer player, coach and referee John Sandland; founding member of the Nanaimo Track and Field Club Bill English; multi-talented lacrosse and football player Douglas White; former NHL referee Lloyd Gilmour; basketball Olympian Angie Dobie; and gold medalist Paralympic athlete Michael Edgson.

“Once again, we were impressed by the caliber of local athletes, teams, officials and sports pioneers that were nominated,” says John Manning, chair of the Sports Hall of Fame Nominating Committee and president of the Nanaimo Museum Society. “They have all made a huge difference to their respective sports as well as their communities here in the Central Island region.”

Manning also admits that it continues to be a challenge selecting inductees because of the number of deserving candidates, but since the induction process is annual, there is plenty of opportunity for nominees to be inducted at a later date.

To be nominated for the Sports Hall of Fame you must be an individual athlete, team or builder (e.g. officials, coaches, administrators, members of the media) who lives, or is from the Nanaimo area and has made significant contributions to sport in Nanaimo and elsewhere.

Tickets to the Nanaimo Sports Hall of Fame Induction Banquet are now on sale at the Nanaimo Museum for \$75. Call 250-753-1821 for more information.

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For more information, please contact Debbie Trueman at 250-753-1821 or by email at Debbie@nanaimomuseum.ca.

2009 Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

Don MacRae Rink, Team Curling

1970 Senior Men’s Canadian Curling Champions

Don MacRae Skip, Gene Koster Third and Bev Smiley Second and

Dr. Gordon Howden, Lead and the only member of the team still alive and we are looking for contact info.

Please email debbie@nanaimomuseum.ca if you have any information leading to Dr. Howden's whereabouts.

Ray Telford, Athlete Soccer

On the Canadian National soccer team that went to the 1971 and 1975 Pan Am Games

Was team captain on the 1976 team at the Olympic games in Montreal

Involved in soccer in the community since 1965

John Sandland, Pioneer (Athlete)

Deceased nickname Gunboat

Referee, coach and manager of soccer, softball teams and organized the Nanaimo Pony League for soccer

As an athlete he was a member of the City of Nanaimo team that one the Championship of Canada in 1927 with a record 21 goals to get into the final

Bill English, Builder

Deceased

Founding member in 1960 of the Nanaimo track and field Club

30+ years service as official, coach and board member

Great memory for and rapport with young athletes

Major force in implementing the Island Track and Field and Cross Country series for which he became the voice as announcer at meets

Douglas White, Athlete Lacrosse, Football

Winner of the Tom Longboat Medal for Western Canada for athletic achievement, sportsmanship and leadership in 1964

Multi sport athlete playing lacrosse, soccer and football as the quarterback of the 1962 Redmen who won the "Little Gray cup"

Competed in the Mann Cup in 1968

Soccer manager and coach for 15+ years

Lloyd Gilmour, Builder-Official

NHL referee for 20 years and officiated in the 1972

Canada-Russia series and well as many Stanley Cup events bringing recognition to Nanaimo during his years in the community

Angie Dobie (Radonovich), Athlete Basketball

Member of the Canadian National Basketball team 1969-1976 but could not compete in the 1976 Olympics in Montreal due to injury and early retirement

Played in the Pan American games and World Games and won Gold in the Canada Games in 1975 and Canadian Championship in 1976 as the tournament MVP

Has competed in the World Maters in 1994, 1998 and 2005 and won 2 Gold and a Bronze medals

Michael Edgson, Athlete

1988 Paralympics as a blind swimmer was the most successful athlete on the Canadian team winning 2 Relay team Gold and setting 4 individual world records

1992 Paralympics games won 4 Gold and 1 Silver setting another world record

Started with the Nanaimo Riptides