

2015 INDUCTEES

Aaron Fiacconi – ATHLETES

A grade 11 extracurricular sport for Aaron Fiacconi transferred into a professional career with international recognition. Attending St. Mary's College in Sault Ste. Marie, Aaron excelled at football and discus. After graduating he continued to excel at the post-secondary level where he played one year of college football at Graceland University (Lamoni, Iowa). The year following, he transferred to Mansfield University of Pennsylvania. In Mansfield, he became a Division II All American in 2001 and was named to the East Coast Athletic Conference 1st All Star Team. The prestige of winning those highly acclaimed awards continued as he also received the Butsko award in 2001. This award is for Mansfield's Top Offensive Lineman, given to a player that best exemplifies a commitment to excellence and loyalty to his teammates and the football program.

After graduating from Mansfield, with a Bachelor's Degree

in Human Resources and a minor in Business Management and Psychology, he was drafted to the Montreal Alouettes, in the Canadian Football League. There he played as an offensive lineman for three years and won a Grey Cup Championship during his rookie year. From 2005-2007, Aaron played for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. He started in 14/15 games in the 2005 season for the Blue Bombers, a team that led the CFL in rushing and allowed the third fewest quarter back sacks for the season. In his final years of his Canadian Football League career, Aaron played for the Edmonton Eskimo's. In 2010, Aaron was the Edmonton Eskimos team nominee for Outstanding Offensive Lineman of the year. A year following, Aaron received the David Boone Award that highlights a player who does exemplary work in the community. Fiacconi was also nominated for the Tom Pate Memorial Award in the CFL, recognizing a player with outstanding sportsmanship and who has made a significant contribution to his team, community, and association. After an injury in 2011, Aaron announced his retirement in 2012 after playing professional football for 10 years. Aaron has proudly represented Sault Ste. Marie.

Accomplishments:

- 2002-2011 115 Games Played in the Canadian Football League
- 2002 Drafted 32nd Overall in the 4th Round of the CFL Draft
- 2002 Montreal Alouettes Grey Cup Champion
- 2010 Edmonton Eskimos Nominee for Outstanding Offensive Lineman CFL
- 2011 Edmonton Eskimos David Boone Award Winner
- 2011 Tom Pate Memorial Award Nominee in the CFL



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Adam Kates – ATHLETE

At the age of 14, Adam Kates began cross country skiing and joined the Soo Finish Ski Team. After joining the ski team, that same year Adam won gold at Nationals, from there his skiing career skyrocketed. In 1996, Kates competed at the Canadian Junior Cross-Country Championships in British Columbia. There he achieved two gold medals and was named Canadian Juvenile champion. Two years following, Adam was named to the National Junior Team of Canada and participated in several other national events.

As a junior skier, Kates won eight gold medals in Canadian National Championships. In 1999 he competed at the Canadian Winter Games and was a gold medalist. He was then chosen by Power Bar to be on their Power Bar Team of Elite athletes. Later that year, Adam was selected to the National Team Development Centre squad in Thunder Bay. Two years

following, in 2001, Kates was named a “Carded Athlete” through SPORT Canada. A year later in 2002, Adam was named to the Under 23 National Team and achieved a gold medal in the Men’s Open 15 kilometer race at the Canada Cup. In 2003, he was selected to the World Champion Team and competed in many World Championship events. He continued to succeed at Cross Country Skiing, as he then won the Austrian Cup being named to the Canada Senior Team and then placing third in New Zealand 42km in 2004. Two years following, Adam was the Overall Canadian Men’s Open Champion.

Since competing in international championships, Adam became a coach for Cross Country Skiing in Ontario. Motivating other aspiring athletes, Kates was a coach for the Soo Finish Nordic Ski Club of Sault Ste. Marie, the Ontario Ski Team as an apprentice coach and additionally the Big Thunder Nordic and the Lakehead University Nordic skiing programs. In 2009, Adam was the inaugural winner of the Heinz Niederhauser memorial coaching award. Adam has proudly represented Sault Ste. Marie.

Accomplishments:

- Eight-Time Canadian Junior Championships Gold Medalist
- 1999 - Canada Winter Games Gold Medalist
- 1999-2005 - Canadian National Ski Team Member
- 2006 - Overall Canadian Champion
- 1999, 2002 - Represented Canada at World Ski Championship

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Richard MacLennan – ATHLETE

At the age of 12 Richard MacLennan pursued an interest in speed skating that led him to gain international accolades. Although focused on speed skating, Richard MacLennan was a versatile athlete. In his high school years at St. Mary's College, Richard was an AAA hockey player, a gold medalist at the OFSSA Track & Field Competition, and also played baseball.

Speed Skating is the fastest sport on ice, allowing the athlete to travel over 50km/hour. His dedication to speed skating allowed him to set Junior Canadian records and participate in Canadian Championships and Canada Cup events winning several medals. In 2007, MacLennan competed at

the Canada Winter Games in White Horse & Yukon, winning gold in the 500 m race. Two years following, in 2009, Richard was named Canadian Junior Champion and setting two junior records in Canada in the 500 and 1500m distances. Richard was then selected to the Canadian Junior Team and attended the World Junior Championships in Zakopane, Poland. In Poland, Richard won a silver medal in the 500m race. He was then recognized with the H.P. Broughton Award as Sault Ste. Marie Athlete of the Year. In 2010, Richard won silver medals in both the 500 and 100m events at the World Junior Championships in Moscow, Russia. Since his international debut, Richard has been a member of the National Development Team of Canada and has been training at the Olympic Oval in Calgary, Alberta. While training, Richard also studied at the University of Calgary for Kinesiology. Being a member of the National development team, Richard competed in 19 World Cup events around the world. In 2014, he placed 10th in the 1000m at the World cup in Seoul Korea, his best ever World Cup result. In 2015, he ranked 14th in the world for the 1000m at the World Single Distance Championship. Richard MacLennan has proudly represented Sault Ste. Marie.

Accomplishments:

- 2007 Gold Medalist - Canada Winter Games - White Horse, YT
- 2009 Canadian Junior Champion
- 2009 Silver Medalist - World Jr. Championships - Zakopane, POL
- 2010 Two-Time Silver Medalist - World Jr. Championships - Moscow, RUS
- 2014 10th Place - World Cup - Seoul, KOR
- 2015 14th Place - World Single Distance Championship