



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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32 Athletes representing the Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut Section head to the 2019 Canadian Tire National Skating Championships in Saint John, New Brunswick

Edmonton – Today marks the start of the 2019 Canadian Tire National Skating Championships in Saint John, New Brunswick and Alberta will have a strong presence among the 250 skaters vying for the National title this week. Along with the National title, athletes at this competition will vie for spots on the Skate Canada National Team who will compete at the 2019 ISU World Figure Skating Championships, the 2019 ISU Four Continents Figure Skating Championships and the 2019 ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships.

“We are excited and proud of the hard work and commitment our athletes are putting in and the results are showing” states Lisa Hardy, Executive Director of Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut Section “This is the highest number of athletes our Section has seen competing in the National Skating Championships in the last ten years, and it is a perfect way to kick-off our celebration of the successes that the Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut Section has left on our sport over the past 50 years”

This year the Section has 6 Dance Teams that have qualified, including the 2019 Skate Canada Challenge Novice Gold Medalist Team Isabel McQuilkin and Jacob Portz from the Calalta Figure Skating Club in Calgary, which partially accounts for the increase in the numbers.

Other Alberta skaters to keep an eye on include Novice Men skater Matthew Newnham, and Senior Men skater Eric Liu - both from the Edmonton Ice Palace Figure Skating Club. Matthew placed Silver and Eric 4th at the 2019 Skate Canada Challenge in November. Kaiya Ruitter from the Glencoe Club in Calgary,

competing in the Novice Women category, is already demanding attention at the National Championships after placing 1st in the short program earlier today.

Of course, all eyes across the Country will be on our Alberta Senior Mens' Skater, [Keegan Messing](#), from the Sherwood Park Skating Club who is hunting for Gold at the National Championships. Keegan placed Silver in October at the Skate Canada International competition held in Laval, Quebec, and has yet to add the Canadian Tire National Championship Gold Medal to his impressive list of achievements.

The event is being livestreamed in addition to being broadcast on TSN and CTV. The schedule for livestream can be found at <https://skatecanada.ca/2019-canadian-tire-national-skating-championships/> and the broadcast schedule at <https://skatecanada.ca/2019-canadian-tire-national-skating-championships/>. Current standings are posted after each event and final total results for each category is updated once all events in that category have been completed. Results can be found at <https://skatecanada.ca/2019-canadian-tire-national-skating-championships/>

The full list of 2019 Canadians Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunuvut Team members can be found at <http://skateabnwtun.ca/canadian-team-members/>

Skating Clubs and Schools represented at the Skate Canada Canadian Tire National Championships:

Calalta Figure Skating Club – Calgary

Ice Palace Figure Skating Club – Edmonton

Canmore Skating Club - Canmore

Okotoks Skating Club - Okotoks

Derrick Skating Club – Edmonton

Sherwood Park Skating Club – Sherwood Park

Extreme Edge Skating Club - Edmonton

Springbank Figure Skating Club – Springbank

Huntington Hills Skating Club – Calgary

The Glencoe Club - Calgary

Background:

Skate Canada: Alberta – NWT/Nunavut (“Section”) is a non-profit sport organization and is the provincial governing body for the sport of figure skating in Alberta, NWT and Nunavut. The Section is dedicated to the principles of providing safe and inclusive programs, enabling everyone to participate in skating throughout their lifetime for fun, fitness, and achievement.

Past champions of the Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut Section include 2-time Olympic medalist and 2018 World Champion Kaetlyn Osmond, four-time World Champion Kurt Browning, 2002 Olympic Champion Jamie Salé, and 1982 World Bronze medalist Brian Pockar.

-30-

Related Information

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Flickr Team Photos

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/161713185@N08/albums>

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