



## Press Release

For Immediate Release:

June 4, 2012

### **CANADIAN WOMEN'S NATIONAL WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL TEAM CENTRALIZES IN WINNIPEG AHEAD OF 2012 PARALYMPIC GAMES**

**(Winnipeg, MB)** For the first time in program history, the Canadian Senior Women's National Wheelchair Basketball Team is fully centralizing in Winnipeg, MB from June 4 to early August as it prepares to compete at the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

In partnership with Canadian Sport Centre Manitoba (CSCM), Team Canada will converge at the University of Manitoba for a dynamic phase of mental preparation, physical training, and team-building exercises.

"We are looking forward to kicking off the next phase of our training toward London. We are really confident we are on the right path and we are going to bring home the gold medal," said Team Canada Head Coach Bill Johnson.

The fourteen women named to the preliminary roster in January are participating in centralization. The final roster of 12 athletes bound for the Paralympics will be announced later this summer.

"The CSCM is thrilled to be the primary training centre and host for the 2012 Paralympic Women's Basketball Team as they make their final preparations for London 2012," stated CSCM General Manager Randy Anderson. "The ability to work with and have these world-class athletes in our community for an extended period of time represents an outstanding opportunity for the CSCM."

The Senior Women's National Team is amongst the most successful and dominant teams in Canadian amateur sport history. The team captured three consecutive Paralympic gold medals in 1992, 1996, and 2000, and bronze in 2004.

The team has also reached the podium at six consecutive World Championships – a run that includes four straight gold medals in 1994, 1998, 2002 and 2006, as well as a bronze medal in 2010.

For more information, visit: [www.wheelchairbasketball.ca](http://www.wheelchairbasketball.ca)

WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL CANADA

Wheelchair Basketball Canada

[wheelchairbasketball.ca](http://wheelchairbasketball.ca)

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### **About Canadian Sport Centre Manitoba**

Established in 1997, CSCM is committed to supporting Canada and Manitoba's high performance athletes and coaches. For more information, please visit [www.cscm.ca](http://www.cscm.ca), or contact the Centre at (204)474-7148.

### **About Wheelchair Basketball Canada**

Wheelchair Basketball Canada is the national sports governing body responsible for the organization of wheelchair basketball in Canada. It is a non-profit, charitable organization that is the Canadian member to the International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF).

Wheelchair basketball is a fast-paced, hard-hitting, competitive sport that has emerged as one of the most competitive and athletic sports played at the Paralympic Games. Our senior national teams are held in high esteem around the world for the elite skill and control that placed them on the podium with a combined five gold and one silver medal in the last five Paralympic Games.

### **For more information, or to schedule an interview contact:**

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