



Press Release

For Immediate Release:

October 15, 2010

PARALYMPIC COACH EXCELLENCE AWARD NAMED AFTER WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL CANADA COACH TIM FRICK

(Ottawa, ON) Wheelchair Basketball Canada congratulates former Sr. Women's Wheelchair Basketball Coaching great Tim Frick who was selected by the Canadian Paralympic Committee's (CPC) Coaches Council when naming their new coaching excellence award – "The Tim Frick Paralympic Coach Excellence Award."

Frick led Team Canada to an unprecedented three straight Paralympic gold medals in 1992, 1996, and 2000 as part of a run of nine consecutive podium finishes at the Paralympic Games and World Championships between 1990-2006.

The CPC recognizes that for an athlete to reach the highest levels of Paralympic sport excellence, they require a coach who provides the vision, leadership, knowledge, and dedication to accomplish this in a collaborative environment. Frick, as a Paralympic coach, exemplified these traits throughout his career and his legacy of professionalism, leadership and excellence have set a standard of performance expectation that all Paralympic coaches strive to attain.

"To be recognized in this manner is overwhelming. I was fortunate to have very talented and dedicated athletes, unbelievable support staff and assistant coaches, and the incredible support of Wheelchair Basketball Canada, the CPC and the Canadian Sport Centre Pacific," said Frick.

"That made it easy to pursue excellence, but to be honoured with the naming of the Paralympic Coach Excellence award is acknowledgment of how much it takes to win gold internationally and how hard it is to stay at the top for so long," said Frick.

The award is one of distinction, as it is only presented once every four years to a Summer Paralympic Games Coach, and once every four years to a Winter Paralympic Games Coach. The bi-annual award recipient will be honoured at the CPC Congress banquet that follows the most recent Paralympic Games. The CPC Coaches Council selects the successful nominee.

WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL CANADA

Wheelchair Basketball Canada

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“On behalf of my coaching fraternity and particularly as a long time member of Coaches of Canada, I would like to express my gratitude that the contribution that coaches make has been valued so highly. We have an amazing cadre of great coaches in Canada therefore it is really special to be singled out in this fashion,” said Frick.

The 2010 Selection Committee consists of: Ozzie Sawicki (Athletics/Alpine Skiing), Chair, CPC Coaches Council; Craig McCord (Swimming), CPC Coaches Council; Kasper Wirz (Cross Country Skiing), CPC Coaches Council; Stephen Burke (Cycling), CPC Coaches Council.

To nominate a coach, please email a letter outlining how the nominee meets the award criteria to Laura Domenicucci care of ldomenicucci@paralympic.ca; by fax to (613) 569-2777; or by mail to 85 Alberta St., Suite 1401 Ottawa, ON K1P 6A4, Attn: Laura Domenicucci. For questions, please contact Laura at 613-569-4333 x234.

Nomination deadline: Friday October 15, 2010.

For more information, please contact:

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On the web: www.wheelchairbasketball.ca

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About the Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC)

The CPC is a non-profit, private organization with 43 member sports organizations responsible for creating an optimal environment for high-performance Canadian Paralympic Athletes to compete and win in the Paralympic and Parapan American Games, and by promoting their success, inspire all Canadians with a disability to get involved in sport. The next Parapan American Games will be held in Guadalajara, Mexico, from November 19-27, 2011, while the next Paralympic Games will be hosted in London in 2012.

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 four Paralympic Games. Visit www.wheelchairbasketball.ca for more information.

For more information, please contact:

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