



# News Splash!

IN THIS  
EDITION:

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 2010

- **Burning Bright for Breast Cancer 2010**
- **National Stream Awards**
- **Hilton Worldwide Partnership**
- **Upcoming Events for 2011**
- **And much more!**

## Over \$40,000 Raised for CBCF-Ontario

Ontario clubs were once again in synch for pink raising an astonishing \$40,330.71 during the 7th anniversary of the annual "Burning Bright for Breast Cancer" province-wide charity initiative in support of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

Since 2004, Ontario synchro swim athletes have participated every October during Breast Cancer Awareness Month in an event at their local club where they incorporate a common theme of keeping a candle burning within the pool for a minimum of one hour, in which swimmers hand off the torch in a relay format. The candle symbolizes keeping the flame alive for creating a future without breast cancer. Over seven years synchro athletes have now raised over \$252,000 for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

"On behalf of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, Ontario Region, I would like to congratulate Synchro Swim Ontario, for their amazing achievement during the 2010 Burning Bright for Breast Cancer Event", said Sandra Palmaro, CEO of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation – Ontario Region. "This year, through the coordinated efforts of the Ontario Synchro Swim clubs, the event raised a total \$40,330.71, bringing their 7 year combined total to over a quarter of a million dollars - \$252,800.71!"

The Sudbury Synchronized Swimming Club was the club with the most pledges collected with a total of \$9,429.62 Burlington Synchro ranked second overall with \$7,312.47, and Gloucester Synchro had the third largest total with \$3,473.25. Over 320 athletes at 14 clubs across the province participated with 262 swimmers raising over \$50 each.

For the fifth year in a row Elizabeth Sweeney from the Sudbury Synchro Club was the athlete with the most pledges collected with a total of \$2,500, bringing her 5-year personal total raised to \$10,305. Courtney Davidson from Brant Synchro followed with a total of \$1,200, and Cassidi Clairmont of Burlington Synchro has the third highest total with \$1,040.64.

"Synchro Ontario is extremely grateful and proud of our members, who never fail to amaze me with their unconditional willingness to deliver such huge success year after year to our partnership with the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation", said Synchro Ontario Executive Director Mary Dwyer. "The synchro community in Ontario continues to embrace this cause with all of its heart. I feel privileged to be a part of an organization that understands the value of helping the greater community at large, ensuring Burning Bright's success each year" added Synchro Ontario President Suzanne Laroche.



From L-R: Leigh Jasmine (CBCF-Ontario), Suzanne Laroche, Mary Dwyer and Kara Heald

"Synchro Canada would like to congratulate Ontario for its amazing success with Burning Bright for Breast Cancer 2010", said Synchro Canada CEO Catherine-Gosselin Depres. "We are so proud that our members are so engaged with this cause that touches so many people. We would like to thank Synchro Ontario for taking such a strong leadership for so many years and being a role model to make a real difference. Synchro Canada fully endorses what has been done and encourages everyone in the Synchro community to also champion the cause in future."

Synchro Swim Ontario made the official cheque presentation to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation – Ontario Region on December 5th at the Lisa Alexander Figure Meet where the top fundraising clubs and top fundraising athletes were also recognized.



Synchro Swim  
Ontario gratefully  
acknowledges the  
continued support  
of the Ministry of  
Health Promotion  
and Sport

## 2010 National Stream Athlete and Coach of the Year Awards presented at Lisa A Meet



*Junior Coach of the Year Yingli Hou*

Synchro Ontario presented the annual 2010 National Stream Awards during the Lisa Alexander Meet in London. The awards are presented annually to the top 13-15, Junior and Senior athletes and coaches based on their results and achievements during 2010 Provincial, National and International competitions and are selected by the High Performance Selection Committee.

The 13-15 Athlete of the Year was presented to Alina Ryssina

of Granite Synchro who was a member of the 13-15 National Team, placed 4th in 13-15 Solo at Espoir Championships and was the 13-15 Provincial Solo Champion.

The Junior Athlete of the Year is shared by 2010 National Duet Champions and 2010 Junior National Team Members and world bronze medalists Rachel Kowalski and Rebecca Maule.

The Senior Athlete of the Year is Julia Maclean of Durham

Synchro, who won Senior Duet Free, and placed 2nd in Senior Solo Tech at the 2010 Canadian Open.

The 13-15 Coach of the Year is Jennifer (Shaver) Koptie of Variety Village, who was Head Coach of the 13-15 Provincial A Team.

The Junior Coach of the Year is Yingli Hou of Granite Synchro who led her team to a silver medal at the COSSC and was named the 2011 Canada Games Team Head Coach.

## First FINA World Trophy appearance for Ontario's Rachel Kowalski

*Canada was edged for the bronze medal position, less than three points behind the Ukraine.*



Ontario's Rachel Kowalski was part of the Canada's FINA World Trophy Team that competed December 3-5 in Moscow, Russia. Canada had an overall 4th place finish at the World Trophy. The team placed 4th in the Thematic Team event, 3rd in Combo, 3rd in the Team Highlight Event, and 4th in the Thematic Duet Event (Camille Bowness/Marie-Lou Morin). This is the 5th edition of the FINA World Trophy. The competition is solely judged on artistic merit and athletes are allowed to use original costumes and accessories. There were also celebrity judges included for this event (from other sports such as gymnastics) along with the official FINA synchro judges who determined the final scores, making this event unique from other competitions.

## Elizabeth Sweeney named Synchro Canada Community Member of the Month



Synchro Swim Ontario nominated Elizabeth Sweeney of the Sudbury Synchro Club as the Synchro Canada November Canadian Synchronized Swimming Community Member of the Month, and were pleased when she was announced as the selected member. For the fifth consecutive year Elizabeth

Sweeney was the athlete with the most pledges collected for Burning Bright for Breast Cancer in support of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation with a 2010 total of \$2500 raised, bringing Elizabeth's 5-year personal Burning Bright total to \$10,305! Congratulations Elizabeth!

Visit the Synchro Canada website: [www.synchro.ca](http://www.synchro.ca) for more information about nominating someone for the Canadian Synchronized Swimming Community Member of the Month!

# Synchro Swim Ontario announces new partnership with Hilton Worldwide!

Synchro Swim Ontario proudly announces the signing of a two-year partnership agreement with Hilton Hotels Worldwide. This partnership is the culmination of building strong relationships over a period of months between our two organizations. It combines the pursuit of excellence by both parties, the growing strength of our sport in Ontario and the mission of Hilton Worldwide to be the preeminent global hospitality company – the first choice of guests, **team members** and owners alike.

The partnership agreement highlights Synchro Swim Ontario's ability to provide exceptional quality and service to our membership while giving to our provider, as

our primary hotel brand of choice, the advantages of increased revenue stream through our sport. This agreement will allow Synchro Swim Ontario, as a non-profit foundation, to receive superior rates, special privileges where applicable and a percentage of our bookings when our members stay at a named Hilton family of hotels. Hilton brand hotels will serve as our Officials' Headquarters at all Synchro Swim Ontario's events throughout Ontario and beyond and provide superior hospitality whenever available for our teams that travel to competitions within and outside of our province, both nationally and internationally. Synchro Clubs, members, parents and spectators that book as groups and stay at Hilton hotels,

will receive discounted rates in addition to continue being able to collect Hilton Honors points. Synchro Swim Ontario will also have the opportunity to secure local level sponsorship and/or special offers and privileges from hotel franchises in the meet areas that ties together Hilton brand local properties and sales people with our ability to provide consistently exceptional service and benefits for all meets. Please join us in welcoming Hilton Worldwide as a valued partner and we look forward to a long and successful partnership. Please visit our website regularly at [www.synchroontario.com](http://www.synchroontario.com) for more releases and hotel announcements in this very exciting new venture!

**Special Announcement!** As part of our new partnership with Hilton worldwide, we have also been privileged to receive silver and bronze sponsorships from the Hilton Garden Inn and Hampton Inn/Homewood Suites in Mississauga respectively as host hotels for our meets at the Etobicoke Olympium . . .

- 2011 Provincial Trials
- 2011 Provincial Championships
- 2011 Eastern Divisionals
- 2011 Ontario Age Group Championships

**Please visit the Synchro Ontario website for complete information and hotel flyers!**



Synchro Swim Ontario gratefully acknowledges the generous support of our sponsors and suppliers



## Congratulations to Granite Synchro winners of the 2010 Pink Pool Party Picture Contest!!!



### Working to Serve You Better!

#### **MEET SCHEDULES IN ADVANCE**

Synchro Ontario announces a new process in our quest for Continuous Improvement ...We have often heard from our Club members, that you would like to have the Meet Packages and particularly a draft of the Meet Schedule, created and distributed considerably earlier than our current process allows. We appreciate the amount of time, planning and effort required in advance to ensure your Club, athletes and parents have enough lead time to make the best possible plans and are working to make this happen for you. For more details see the website!

#### **PROPERTY INSURANCE**

If a member club would like an insurance quote for their property - equipment, you can contact Pearson Dunn directly. Complete the property application (available online) and return to Pearson Dunn for a quote. This coverage is separate from Synchro Ontario's Insurance Program.

#### **VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

We appreciate the time you spend volunteering for synchro and now we want to make your job a bit easier. Synchro Ontario is pleased to offer you and your membership a new way to get valuable advice . . . [volunteer@synchroontario.com](mailto:volunteer@synchroontario.com) is ready to answer ANY volunteer related question you may have (no question is too small so email anytime!). Our newly formed Volunteer Management Committee will receive your questions and send back ideas and success stories from fellow volunteers. If you have any questions regarding this new initiative, please contact Erika Lindner at: [kelindner@rogers.com](mailto:kelindner@rogers.com). PS Coming soon...a new, friendlier Meet Manager's guide!

## Upcoming Events

### **2011 Provincial Trials**

January 21-23, 2011  
Etobicoke Olympium

### **2011 Provincial Championships**

February 11-12, 2011  
Etobicoke Olympium

### **2011 Canada Games**

February 11-27, 2011  
Halifax, NS  
(February 22-26 synchro events)

### **2011 Eastern/Atlantic Divisionals**

March 15-20, 2011  
Etobicoke Olympium

### **2011 West Regionals**

April 1-3, 2011  
Waterloo Swimplex

### **2011 East Regionals**

April 8-10, 2011  
Nepean Sportsplex

### **2011 Central/North Regionals**

April 8-10, 2011  
Variety Village

# WANTED

(alive and definitely kicking)



**Ontario Synchronized Swimming Clubs**  
needing club wear, yoga jackets, t-shirts,  
water bottles, sports bags, and more...

## EXCEL

**ADVERTISING SPECIALTIES**  
INC.

We've got unique fundraising ideas and volume pricing for Ontario Synchronized Swimming Clubs

Excel Advertising Specialties is a proud supporter of Synchro Swim Ontario and preferred promotional products supplier since 2004!



## REWARD

products with punch and service with sizzle!

Contact: (Sheriff) Nancy Schreiner ~ 905.335.9784  
nancy@exceladvertising.com ~ www.exceladvertising.com