



CANADA'S SYNCHRONIZED SWIM TEAM BRINGS POOL FULL OF INTERNATIONAL MEDALS WITH THEM TO 2008 SEASON

-Synchro Canada's top team calls Montreal home

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Montreal — Synchro Canada named 12 athletes that will go on to train at the Aquatic Centre of Excellence in Montreal in preparation for the 2008 Olympic Qualifying event to take place in Beijing this April. Several of the athletes named to the team were a part of the 2007 Pan American Games silver medal team, two carry Commonwealth Games gold medals, while several of the athletes have reached the international or Junior World Championship podium at least once in their career.

"The group of athletes named to our national team have extensive competitive experience and international success, and also youthful energy and drive," said Lisa Schott, Synchro Canada President. "This team will represent Canada very well at the Olympic Qualifiers in Beijing this spring and are poised to achieve our goal of a medal performance at the 2008 Olympic Games."

Olympian and team captain Marie-Pierre Gagne, of Montreal, will lead the Canadian synchro team, which has consistently been among the world leaders since its first appearance at the Olympic Games as an exhibition event in 1984. Gagne was a member of the 2004 Olympic team, and has been a member of Canada's top synchro team since 2002.

The Canadian national A synchro team members are:

- Marie-Pier Boudreau-Gagnon (Riviere-du-Loup, Qc.)
- Jessika Dubuc (Mercier, Qc.)
- Marie-Pierre Gagne (Montreal, Qc.)
- Dominika Kopcik (Surrey, BC)
- Eve Lamoureux (Montreal, Qc.)
- Tracy Little (Montreal, Qc.)
- Elise Marcotte (L'Ancienne-Lorette, Qc.)
- Tanya Matson (Coquitlam, BC)
- Alison McKenny (Calgary, Alta.)
- Megan Poss (Waterloo, Ont.)
- Isabelle Rampling (Burlington, Ont.)
- Jennifer Song (Calgary, Alta.)

Coaches are :

- Susan Kemper (Surrey, BC)
- Denise Sauve (Montreal, Qc.)
- Nathalie Lagrange (Montreal, Qc.)

To kick off what promises to be a thrilling synchro season, Josée Grand'Maître, CNMM Athlete Services Manager, was poolside to wish good luck to the selected athletes: "We just want you to know that our entire staff is dedicated to making you feel at home," said Grand'Maître. "We're also here to help you achieve your Olympic dream."

About Synchro Canada

Synchro Canada is the national governing body for the sport of synchronized swimming in Canada. We support the development of synchro athletes, officials and coaches at all levels and our mission is to develop champions for life.

About the Québec's Centre of Excellence in Aquatics sports:

Developed and managed by the Canadian Sport Centre – Montréal (CNMM) and hosted by the Régie des installations olympiques, as well as the Parc Jean-Drapeau Aquatic Complex in the summer months, it is the first high level program in Canada to serve all four aquatic sports simultaneously. All facilities meet and exceed international standards and athletes and coaches benefit from state of the art services in the field of sport science.

For more information on Synchro Canada, please visit us on the web at www.synchro.ca.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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