

# STICKS & STONES



## Prime Minister Harper Tours the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame

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By Chuck Puchmayr, Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame



Prime Minister Stephen Harper visits the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame and Museum. Pictured here with the top of the old Minto Cup, Harper is joined by city councillor-elect Chuck Puchmayr, a governor of the hall. At left is the original Mann Cup.

During 2011 Grey Cup weekend the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame received a very special visitor: Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

"I was quite surprised when Prime Minister Harper's staff contacted the hall of fame after his advance staff had toured it to see if this could be an appropriate stop before dinner on Friday night of Grey Cup Weekend", said Chuck Puchmayr, Governor of the CLHF. "I was told that it was top secret and that no one was to know in advance of his arrival".

When Puchmayr received the go ahead that the PM was one hour away, he attended and waited for his arrival.

There were protective service agents diligently insuring that the security

procedures were in place as they prepared for the impromptu tour. Some posed with the Mann Cup while Puchmayr took their photos with a promise to email them to the addressed business cards.

On the Prime Minister's arrival, he toured the hall showing particular interest in lacrosse heroes of pre-World War 1 that were also involved in hockey. The Prime Minister is currently working on an historic book about hockey.

James Murphy, Lawson Whitehead, and the Techumseh Lacrosse Club were of interest to him as well as pre-WW1 pictures of Toronto and Techumseh clubs.

On his departure, he praised the work of the CLHF for preserving this National Treasure, and wrote these comments in the guest book. "Thanks for the tour and for preserving an important part of our national history! Stephen Harper November 25, 2011." He was then invited back to open the new Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame, which is currently under construction at 777 Columbia Street in New Westminster's historic Down Town district.

Puchmayr, along with CLHF governor Tony Glavin, are currently working with members of Parliament Fin Donnelly, Canadian Heritage Minister James Moore and the City of New Westminster, to insure that funding opportunities are achieved that will enhance and preserve the collection of this valuable treasure prior to the move in 2013.

The Canadian Lacrosse Foundation has recently, generously, awarded the CLHF a matching grant of \$40,000 towards the relocation project.

In other news, the CLHF has just received, from the Canadian Lacrosse Foundation, a one Kilo 99.99% pure silver coin, depicting 375 years since the first European reference to the game of Lacrosse in 1638, written by the hand of a French Jesuit priest who witnessed the game, then referred to Bagadaway.

This beautiful, very limited edition coin will soon be proudly displayed in the shrine of lacrosse history, The Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame.

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## Canadian Lacrosse Association Announces 2012 U19 Men's Field National Team Final Roster

The Canadian Lacrosse Association (CLA) is pleased to announce the final team roster that will represent Canada at the 2012 FIL Under 19 Men's Field World Championships being held in Turku, Finland.

The selection of the final 24 players was not an easy one and follows a successful final selection camp held over the November 25-27, 2011 weekend in Oshawa, Ontario. The camp offered 50 spaces for players who were selected from the over two hundred player applications received since the player application period opened. The final selections also come after many weeks of Team Canada coaching staff and scouts, who are scattered throughout the country, seeking out players, watching them in action and comparing notes on prospective players and those up and coming for future programs.



Being selected to attend the camp was an impressive accomplishment and the players were put through the paces. Team Canada Head Coach, Brodie Merrill summarized the final selection camp, "As expected, the players performed very well and conducted themselves with class on and off the field. The players experienced a lot of lacrosse in a short period of time and I was impressed with how they handled themselves. They showed strength through adversity and were able to sustain a high level of effort in order to compete throughout the entire weekend. I think it is a reflection of how important the national program is to young Canadian lacrosse players. All 50 players are fully capable of representing Team Canada and should certainly feel proud of their effort and their role in the process of achieving our program objectives. We are confident in the team we have selected and confident in the process we went through to get to this point. The focus will now quickly shift to preparing the team for Finland."

Merrill's comments were echoed by the CLA's National Team Director of Men's Field Lacrosse, Dave Huntley, "The level of play at this camp exceeded the already high expectations we had going in. The level of athleticism and skill demonstrated by the players speaks volumes about the development of these athletes at the local and provincial level and bodes well for the future of Canadian lacrosse. Our coaches had a lot of difficult decisions to make in coming up with the group that will represent Canada in 2012."

Team Canada Defensive Coordinator, Taylor Wray commented, "This was certainly one of the deepest and most talented pools of defensive players we have ever had at a Team Canada U19 tryout. The final decisions were extremely difficult, but I feel we have selected the best group to represent our country and give us the opportunity to win the World Championship. It is a versatile group of athletes with great speed, toughness, skill level and overall athleticism. We focused on selecting players we felt would operate well within the defensive system and would be able to offer benefits to our transition game. I'm really looking forward to coaching this group."

CLA Vice President of International Competition, Stewart Begg, has been with the Team Canada program during each step of the selection and shared his thoughts on the process and future of Canada's national teams, "The CLA is very proud of the effort and investment our coaching staff and scouts have put into our national team program and long term strategy. Young lacrosse players will see this team take to the field in Finland and will be inspired and infused with pride just as our Head Coach, Brodie Merrill was, who as a young lacrosse player, witnessed Canada come back from an 11-1 deficit in a world championship game against the US in 1998. The future could not be more exciting for young lacrosse players who dream of one day playing for Canada."

The following players will represent Canada's 2012 U19 National Team and the hopes and dreams of every Lacrosse fan...

Dan Litner (ON), Joe French (ON), Turner Evans (ON), Reily O'Connor (ON), Zack Herreweyers (ON), Reegan Comeault (BC), Jesse King (BC), Wesley Berg (BC), Brian Cole (ON), Joel Tinney (ON), Kyle Jackson (ON), Tyler Albrecht (ON), Chad Tutton (ON), Jay Lindsay (ON), Ian MacKay (ON), Derek Searle (ON), Danny McDermott (BC), Aaron Moroney (ON), Leo Stouros (ON), Tyler Gilligan (ON), Kyle Trolley (ON), Brennan Donville (ON), Hayden Johnstone (ON), Ross Bowman (BC).

Team Canada Staff and Scouts who faced the difficult task of selecting the final team...

MF National Team Director – Dave Huntley, Head Coach – Brodie Merrill (ON), Offensive Coordinator – Matt Brown (BC), Defensive Coordinator – Taylor Wray (AB), Substitution Box/Faceoff – Geoff Snider (AB), Goalie Coach – Angus Dineley (ON), Offensive Coach – Scott Browning (BC), Defensive Coach – David Summerville (ON), Video Coach – Lawrence Taylor (NS), Team Manager – Terry Lloyd, Equipment Manager – Paul Wade, Therapist – Jessica Price, Therapist – Jenn Bell, Head Scout – Stu Brown (ON), Western Scout – Rey Comeault (BC), Western Scout – Paul Rai (AB), Eastern Scout – Clancy Almas (ON), Eastern Scout – Daryl Haynes (ON)

The 2012 U19 Men's Field World Championships will be held July 12<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> in Turku, Finland. Team Canada will be playing for gold against Australia, Bermuda, Czech Republic, England, Finland, Germany, Ireland, the Iroquois Nationals, Netherlands, USA and Wales.

## Canadian Lacrosse Association Announces Head Coach for 2013 Senior Women's World Cup National Team



The Canadian Lacrosse Association is pleased to announce the selection of Alexis Venechanos as the Head Coach of Canada's 2013 Women's World Cup National Team.

Alexis brings with her an impressive list of accomplishments and knowledge of the women's game. A winner on every level, Venechanos (pronounced: ven-eh-CHAN-ohs) has been a part of four NCAA titles (as a player and coach) and a total of eight conference championships. Her infectious energy, athlete-centred approach to coaching and a genuine desire to challenge and be challenged should prove to be a winning formula for Canada's best senior female players.

Alexis is currently the Head Women's Lacrosse Coach at Ohio State University, a position she's held since July of 2010. Prior to that, as Head Coach at the University of Massachusetts, she led her team to postseason play for the first time in over 20 years in her third season and repeated in her fourth and final season there. Her coaching career started at Northwestern University where she served for three seasons as the first assistant coach and recruiting coordinator, primarily mentoring goalkeepers and defense, and helped the Wildcats to their first two of a string of consecutive national championships.

As a player, Alexis was a four-year member of the winningest women's lacrosse program of all-time at the University of Maryland, and part of two NCAA championships with the team. In her final year, she was named an All American, National Goalie of the Year, and team captain.

The Canadian Lacrosse Association Women's National Team Director, Joanne Stanga summed up the exciting future of the 2013 World Cup team under the leadership of Venechanos. "The CLA views the national team program as an investment in the development of Canadian lacrosse at all levels and in next generation national team members. With the implementation of the new national team strategy, a committed long-term investment in national team programs, and strong leadership to guide our World Cup Team, Canadians will certainly have something to share in and celebrate when all eyes are on Canada in 2013 and we proudly compete on home soil."

"We are pleased to have Alexis join our national team program", stated Stewart Begg, the CLA's Vice President of International Competition. "Her expertise, experience and youthful approach will be a tremendous asset to our 2013 World Cup team and the Canadian Lacrosse Association looks forward to her leadership as Head Coach."

Gary Gait, widely regarded as the best lacrosse player of all time and a former Team Canada member had this to say about Venechanos, "I have coached Alexis and followed her as she has transitioned from NCAA goalie of the year to becoming a head coach at the NCAA Div 1 level. She has become an exceptional coach and I am confident she will do an outstanding job with Team Canada. She will continue to build on the success that the program had at the last world championship and help take it even further."

Venechanos is ready to take on the new challenge. "I am humbled and honored by this exciting opportunity to coach the Canadian National Team. There is a great amount of momentum from finishing with the bronze medal at the 2009 World Cup. The aim is to use and build upon that momentum for the upcoming games. Hosting the World Cup is going to be a great platform to showcase how much passion and excitement the Canadian lacrosse community has for the sport. Lisa Miller (2009 Head Coach) and her staff did a terrific job with the program to put the team in a great position for 2013."

The 2013 Women's World Cup will be hosted at the Oshawa Civic Centre in Oshawa, Ontario July 11-20, 2013. The 2013 World Cup will be the first Women's World Cup hosted by Canada and the second major international women's event to take place. The Canadian Lacrosse Association was the host of the 2007 Under-19 World Championship, won by the United States at Trent University in August of that year.

**Do you have a great story about lacrosse in your province or community you'd like to share?  
Send it to [sticksandstones@lacrosse.ca](mailto:sticksandstones@lacrosse.ca).**

## Meet Cam Bomberry, CLA First Nations Director

**How long have you been involved in lacrosse and in what capacity, prior to serving on the CLA Board of Directors (i.e. player, coach, administrator, or official)?**

I started playing Tyke lacrosse in Six Nations in 1975 and continued playing all the way through Senior A. I split my Junior A career between St. Catharines and Six Nations, capturing the 1992 Minto Cup and being named the tournament MVP. I played Senior A with the Six Nations Chiefs from 1993-2006, winning the Mann Cup three straight years from 1994 to 1996. After that I turned pro, playing with the Rochester Nighthawks, Buffalo Bandits and the New Jersey Storm. I was fortunate enough to be a part of the first Iroquois Nationals national field lacrosse team at the 1990 World Championships in Australia. I played on three more field lacrosse national teams in 1994, 1998 and 2006 and was also a part of the Iroquois Nationals box team that won silver in 2003.

In 1995, I began coaching in addition to my playing career. I coached with the Six Nations Jr. A team until 1997 and then transitioned to coaching minor lacrosse. My accomplishments include gold medals at the 2006 pee wee nationals, the 2007 bantam nationals and the 2009 midget nationals, all with Team Iroquois. In 2010, I coached the Rochester Knighthawks of the NLL and the Iroquois Nationals field lacrosse squad.

In addition, I have been on the Iroquois Nationals Board of Directors since 2007 and currently hold the position of GM/Coach of the Six Nations Rebels. I am also currently coaching for the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Shamrocks of the North American Lacrosse League.

**What do you hope to achieve during your term in your current position on the Board of Directors?**

I would like to see the development and growth of the game in First Nations communities that have had little to no exposure to lacrosse.

**What do you envision for the future of lacrosse?**

If the First Nations communities accept, support and participate, I see lacrosse bringing good medicine to help our young ones grow into strong, healthy individuals that can, in turn, give back in a respectful, positive manner.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

I travel quite a bit with my lacrosse schedule, and being a father of 5 children, ages 2 to 17, I really enjoy being home with the wife and kids and being involved in their activities. We are always busy. Whether it's lacrosse, hockey, dance or figure skating, I enjoy watching them grow and participate. I have also been learning more about the art of making wooden lacrosse sticks.

**What is a favourite quote or saying that you follow in life?**

"Love the life you live, and live the life you love."

## Canadian Officials for 2012 International Championships Announced

The Canadian Lacrosse Association is pleased to announce the Canadian officials who have been chosen to represent Canada at two upcoming international championships.

The 2012 Men's Field U19 World Championships will be held July 12 to 21<sup>st</sup> in Turku, Finland and attending for Canada will be:

Lee Brien (BC), Brent Coulombe (ON), Scott McMullen (NS), Ryan Nose (BC), Brent White (MB)

Alternates:

Lawrence Zdrill (AB), Ian Garrison (ON)

The 2012 European Men's Championship will be held in Amsterdam, the Netherlands and attending for Canada will be:

Adam Crowe (AB), Greg Fancett (ON), Terry Mosdell (BC), Steve O'Shaughnessy (NB)

The Canadian Lacrosse Association and our officiating sector is very proud of the accomplishment of these officials in being selected to officiate at an international event and take pride in knowing that each official will represent our country in the very best spirit, both on and off the field.

## Helmet and Facemask Requirements for 2012-2013

Due to the delay in being given notice by CSA of there being approved lacrosse facemasks that meet CSA standards;

And upon concluding that this notice cannot provide for all lacrosse players to acquire CSA approved lacrosse facemasks but that the notice is sufficient to supply players 16 years and under with CSA approved lacrosse facemasks;

The Canadian Lacrosse Association (CLA) issues the following directives with regard to helmet and facemask requirements:

### **FOR PLAYERS 17 YEARS AND OVER:**

Players aged 17 years and over, as defined by CLA policy 18.2.1.3\* for box and 19.4.1.3\*\* for field, are not required to use a CSA approved facemask for lacrosse until **January 1, 2013**. Until then players 17 years and over are permitted to use NOSCAE approved facemasks with a CSA approved helmet, provided attaching the facemask to the helmet does not alter the helmet in any way which would void the CSA approval. This means that helmet and facemask configurations that were legal as per CLA policy and used in the 2011 season may continue to be used in the 2012 season.

Refer to CLA Technical Bulletin 11-05 for instructions on what qualifies as a legal helmet, facemask and chin cup configuration:

[http://cla.pointstreaksites.com/files/uploaded\\_documents/357/Tech\\_Bulletin\\_11-05\\_Legal\\_vs\\_Illegal\\_Helmets\\_v.3\\_-\\_FINAL.pdf](http://cla.pointstreaksites.com/files/uploaded_documents/357/Tech_Bulletin_11-05_Legal_vs_Illegal_Helmets_v.3_-_FINAL.pdf)

**The CLA warns all players 17 years and over about the potential risks of using non CSA approved facemasks and strongly recommends that players 17 years and over use CSA approved lacrosse facemasks where they are available. The CLA informs players 17 years and over who do not use CSA approved facemasks that they are assuming any and all risks associated with the use of non CSA approved facemasks.**

### **FOR PLAYERS 16 YEARS AND UNDER:**

The above exception shall **NOT** apply to players aged 16 years and under, as defined by CLA policy 18.2.1.3\* for box and 19.4.1.3\*\* for field. Such players must comply with CLA policy 12.4 as of **January 1, 2012**.

#### 12.4. Helmets & Facemasks

12.4.1. Lacrosse is a sport with intrinsic hazards and participation in the sport implies the acceptance of some risk of injury. When used as intended for lacrosse and in accordance with the manufacturer's fitting instructions, the use of the helmet certified under these standards is intended to reduce the frequency and severity of head injuries.

12.4.2. For Box and Men's Field Lacrosse, all players are required to wear a helmet which must meet either of the following standards:

12.4.2.1. A National Organizing Committee for Safety in Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) approved helmet and facial protector, approved as a complete unit, for lacrosse.

12.4.2.2. A Canadian Standards Association (CSA) approved for Ice Hockey helmet with the appropriate CSA approved facemask for lacrosse.

12.4.2.3. A Canadian Standards Association (CSA) approved for Ice Hockey helmet with the appropriate CSA approved facemask for hockey with the following exceptions:

12.4.2.3.1. The facemask shall be designed to cover the wearer's entire face to the lower line of the jaw, and prevent the ball or the head of the stick from touching the face of the wearer.

12.4.2.3.2. The facemask must be finished so that it does not create a risk of injury to the wearer or another person when it is used as it is intended.

There are currently four (4) CSA approved lacrosse facemasks on the sporting goods market. Photos of each of these facemasks, as well as examples of a NOCSAE approved helmet and a legal helmet based on CSA standards for hockey are all available for viewing at:

[http://cla.pointstreaksites.com/files/uploaded\\_documents/357/Technical\\_Bulletin\\_11-06\\_Helmets\\_and\\_Facemasks.pdf](http://cla.pointstreaksites.com/files/uploaded_documents/357/Technical_Bulletin_11-06_Helmets_and_Facemasks.pdf)

Equipment which violates the directives contained in this bulletin will be removed from the game and, where required, appropriate penalties will be given.

Should you have any questions in regard to this bulletin, please contact the CLA Office at [info1@lacrosse.ca](mailto:info1@lacrosse.ca) or at 613-260-2028.

\*CLA Policy 18.2.1.3: Age is determined to be the age of a player that he or she is or will be in the calendar year of the current playing season. For example, for play anytime from January 1 and December 31, 2006 inclusive, the calendar year is 2006. If a player turns 22 years old in 2006, he/she is ineligible to play Junior in 2006.

\*\*CLA Policy 19.4.1.3: Age is determined to be the age of a player that he or she is or will be in the calendar year of the current playing season. For example, for play anytime from January 1 and December 31, 2006 inclusive, the calendar year is 2006. If a player turns 20 years old in 2006, he is ineligible to play Junior in 2006.



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## Equipment Reminders On Nets and Goaltender Equipment

Current Goalkeeper equipment specifications are available at [www.lacrosse.ca](http://www.lacrosse.ca) under Equipment. The direct link is...

[http://cla.pointstreaksites.com/files/uploaded\\_documents/357/Oct\\_26\\_memo\\_Goaltender\\_Equip\\_Reminder.pdf](http://cla.pointstreaksites.com/files/uploaded_documents/357/Oct_26_memo_Goaltender_Equip_Reminder.pdf)

Box lacrosse net requirements and a list of approved net manufacturers are also available at [www.lacrosse.ca](http://www.lacrosse.ca) under Equipment. The direct link is...

[http://cla.pointstreaksites.com/files/uploaded\\_documents/357/Dec\\_2,\\_2011\\_Memo\\_-\\_Net\\_Specs.pdf](http://cla.pointstreaksites.com/files/uploaded_documents/357/Dec_2,_2011_Memo_-_Net_Specs.pdf)

## The Fédération de crosse du Québec hosts the 2011 CLA AGM

The Fédération de crosse du Québec hosted the 2011 CLA Annual General Meeting in Sainte-Adèle, Quebec, at Hôtel Le Chantecler nestled in the Laurentians. Fifty delegates from across Canada met November 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> to review the year and plan for the upcoming year.

This year the Box Sector delegates attended the AGM for the first time, to discuss and review the 2011 National Championships, equipment requirements and the player transfer policy. This sector has grown significantly and a decision was made to hold a second meeting in addition to the yearly meeting held at our Semi-Annual Meeting in May. The sector spent a full day discussing many topics, including National Championship recommendations put forward by the Convenors and RIC's and facemasks/helmets.

The meetings opened with the President, Joey Harris, thanking all those involved with lacrosse, directly and indirectly for their support and many hours spent volunteering in all aspects of the game. He went on to thank the families of our volunteers for their patience and support for the countless hours that their loved ones spend away from family for the love of the game.

There were many items of discussion during the two day meetings which included the approval in principle of the CLA 2012-16 Strategic Plan framework, the new Not for Profit Act that the CLA will have to adhere to and much discussion around facemasks and helmets.

Rachel Corbett, the CLA Strategic Planning Consultant, was available at the Board of Directors' meeting to review the framework of the 2012-16 Strategic Plan and to incorporate all the recommendations that came forward at this meeting.

The 2011 AGM also saw the election of one new member to the CLA Executive Committee. Tom Engel, from Alberta, was elected to the position of VP Administration. Joey Harris was re-elected as CLA President, AJ Jomha was re-elected as VP Domestic Competition and Terry Rowland was re-elected as VP Organizational Development. We would like to welcome all of the Executive Committee members into their positions and look forward to a busy year in lacrosse.

## Notice of CLA Office Closure

Please note the CLA office will be closed for the holidays beginning at noon ET on December 23, 2011 and will re-open on Tuesday, January 3, 2012. Happy holidays everyone!

## Important Dates & Deadlines...

December 23—CLA office closes for the holidays

January 3—CLA office re-opens

January 27—Officials clinic fees are due

January 31—Deadline for notification of attendance at minor nationals

**CLA Sponsor**

