

#### **Thank You**

#### 2014 MANITOBA RUGBY HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Committee Chair: Jim Russell Members:

John Russell

Secretary; Jose Orellana - Communications

Finance Sub-committee Chair: Members:

Blair Riordan

Dinner Sub-committee Chair:

Members:

Rick Romsa

Exhibit Sub-committee Chair:

Brenda Treleaven

Members:

Glenys Mackenzie

Selection Sub-committee Chair:

Ray Hoemsen

Members:

Larry Cherrett; Brenda Treleaven; Wilf Erichsen; Garry Nicholson; Ashley Prest

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Istock (Cover Photo), Tao Pasnak (Tao Design), Designtype

and Thank You to all the Advertisers who made this program so special.

Note: Feel free to drop us a line should you have comments or suggestions. At rugbyhalloffame@gmail.com

#### Our Vision.

To support the growth and development of all aspects of the sport of Rugby in Manitoba.

#### **Our Objectives.**

- 1. Work to help establish, restore and sustain connections among Rugby Alumni.
- 2. Financially and morally support and improve the game of Rugby at all levels of play.
- 3. Identify males and females with standout athletic ability and provide financial support that will widen their opportunity to play at an elite level.
- 4. To provide a financial vehicle for patrons and friends of Rugby to assist in the growth and development of Rugby in Manitoba.
- 5. To support programs that will increase the number of players and build community awareness for the sport of Rugby.
- 6. Support events that restore and strengthen the relationship between Rugby Alumni and the current community based clubs involved with Rugby in Manitoba.
- 7. To provide additional financial support for programs not currently funded at a provincial level that improve the quality of play and skill levels for players, coaches
- 8. To continue to support and enhance Maple Grove Rugby Park as one of Canada's



# **Manitoba Rugby**

#### **Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Honourable Members**

Honourable Member	Category	Inducted
Ken Adams	Official	2010
Riley Barkman	Player	2013
Dave Barnes	Official	2011
Mike Brown	Official	2012
Larry DeBooy	Player/Team	2010
Bob Elder	Builder	2011
Corinne Enns	Player/Team	2010
Wilf Erichsen	Official	2013
Dwight Evans	Builder	2010
T. Colin Gibbs	Official	2013
Val Gompf	Player/Team	2011
Art Logan	Builder	2011
Gary MacDonald	Builder	2011
Glenys Mackenzie	Builder	2012
MGRP Founders Committee	Builder	2010
Garry Nicholson	Official	2012
Ken Pearn	Builder	2011
Don Pincock	Builder	2012
Jim Platt	Pioneer	2011
Peter Press	Builder	2013
John Reilly	Builder	2010
Neville Rhoda	Player/Team	2011
Gillis Roy	Builder	2010
Saracens RFC Men's Premiership		
Championship Team 1979-1986	Team	2013
Albert Shepherdson	Pioneer	2010
Ray Skett	Official	2012
SNAFU Rugby Tournament	Player/Team	2011
lan Williams	Pioneer	2010
Winnipeg Rugby Football Club		
(Winnipeg Blue Bombers)	Player/Team	2010
1994 Manitoba U-17		
Boys Provincial Team	Player/Team	2012

# Sincere Congratulations

Congratulations to all of our Rugby Manitoba Inductees tonight.
A special thanks to **Brian Erichsen** for his outstanding contribution to the Saracen's Rugby Club



#### **Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame**



io: Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame 2013 Inductees

From: **Jim Russell** 

Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Committee Chair

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of congratulations to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame and its 2014 inductees

As we move forward into an era with emphasis on Olympic Games, elite athletes and U18 grassroots development, our sport has not been healthier. However, we must never lose sight of our sports rich history and what has always made it a success. A history that has a chance to be forgotten with passing time and changing attitudes within our sport. With the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame, I think that our memories are safe in this part of the world!

To the inductees for 2012, I would say that it takes a particular individual to invest so much of themselves into a sport or cause that they are even nominated for such an honor. Your dedication, whether as an athlete, official or builder of the sport, is to be commended. The gifts you have given our sport will now never be forgotten.

Once again, congratulations to you all

Chair, Macifoba Bugby Hall of Fagre Committee

2013



On behalf of Sport Manitoba, congratulations to all the inductees at the 5th Annual Induction Dinner for the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

Manitoba's sport community is proud of its rugby history and those who have distinguished themselves as players, coaches, umpires, and volunteers. Being inducted into the Hall of Fame represents excellence in the sport of rugby along with hard work, dedication, and motivation.

It is my pleasure to acknowledge all the athletes, teams, and builders worthy of induction into the Rugby Hall of Fame. Their accomplishments will be persevered as part of Manitoba's great sport heritage and will inspire those to come.

Sincerely,

President & CEO
Sport Manitoba







Congratulations to Jim Feasby in the builder category for his many years of outstanding contributions to Rugby Manitoba.

Sincere congratulations to all of the Rugby Manitoba Inductees.



Looking forward to next year!

2015

will be the

5th Anniversary

of the
Rugby Hall of Fame.



The Manifoba Rugby Hall of Fame and 2014 Inductees

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of congratulations to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame and its 2014 inductees.

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Once again, congratulations to you all,

Respectfully yours

Sandy Donald

President

Rugby Manitoba

From the Desk of Pat Aldous Rugby Canada



September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014

#### 2014 Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Induction Dinner

A Message from the Chairman of Rugby Canada,

I am delighted to welcome you to the 2014 Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Induction Dinner.

It is my honour to congratulate this year's inductees. On behalf of Rugby Canada, I would like to acknowledge your commitment to the great sport of Rugby in Canada. This past year there have been many tremendous accomplishments made in the sport across the country at the grassroots and international levels, and the contributions made by members of the Manitoba Rugby community form part of these successes. With players from Manitoba involved at the National Team level and competing on the world stage, rugby will surely continue to flourish in your province.

Rugby has a rich history in the Province of Manitoba, dating back over 130 years. The establishment of the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame was centered on recognizing significant contribution to the sport and its development in Manitoba. The achievement of being inducted into the Hall of Fame is something you should be especially proud of.

Congratulations to all, and enjoy the evening.

RUGBY CANADA

Pat Aldous Chairman

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### **Guy (Mac) McKim -** Official

Few people involved in the sport of Rugby in Manitoba over the past 47 years have not been touched or influenced by the commitment and contributions made by Guy (Mac) McKim. Guy's significant contributions and accomplishments encompass a broad spectrum of involvement in the sport. Player, referee, manager, coaching practitioner and educator, administrator, volunteer and pioneer, Guy has done it all and then some.

Guy started playing rugby in 1968 with the Winnipeg Wasps RFC and since that time played on various club teams including the Winnipeg Wasps, Portage Wolves, Brandon Barbarians, Peterborough Pagans, Devonshire RUFC and Headingly FC (England). Debuting his Manitoba provincial team involvement in 1970, Guy played for numerous Manitoba provincial and representative teams throughout the 70s, 80s and 90s, including a stint with the Mid Ontario 15s, and concluded his representative playing career against a Toronto Under-23 team in 1991.

Throughout the years, Guy also played (and organized/co-organized) many club tournaments waged throughout Canada, the USA and oversees including Scotland, England, Wales and Czechoslovakia. Winning several 7's Team championships over the course of his playing career, Guy continued his playing success with the Winnipeg Wasps RFC winning two Manitoba 1st Division Provincial Championships and a 2nd Division Championship with the Brandon

In addition to his pursuits as a player, Guy served as a MARR Westman Section referee for thirteen years and as the Manager of the Manitoba Under 18 Boy's Provincial Team (Canada Games & England Tour) in 2001. Moreover, it is Guy's contributions as a coaching practitioner and educator that have earned him the respect of the rugby community, the coaching fraternity and his induction under the category of Official.

Over the years Guy has coached many 7s, 10s and 15s men's and women's teams at every level. On tour, Guy coached the "Athletes against the Bomb Rugby Tour" side to Czechoslovakia in 1987 and the Prairie U16 Tournament side to Calgary in 2007 winning a Bronze medal. Between 1997 and 2011 Guy coached a number of High School Boy's and Girl's teams with several stints each at Viscount Alexander, Winnipeg Technical Vocational, Vincent Massey, Victor Mager, Lavallee, Glenlawn and Dakota High Schools; winning several championships in the process.

In addition to serving as the Winnipeg Wasps Colts coach, Under 21 coach and the Wasps Women's coach in various capacities over the years, Guy was an assistant rugby coach with the Leeds University Men's team (England) and Co-coach of the Brandon Barbarians RFC. Over eight seasons between 1990 and 2013, Guy was Head Coach of the Winnipeg Wasps RFC winning four 1st Division and two 2nd Division Manitoba Provincial Men's Championships.

At the Provincial level, Guy continued to distinguish himself amongst his coaching peers. Between 1987 and 1989 Guy was a Player/Coach with the Manitoba Senior Men's Teams, all with 3rd place finish results. For six years Guy served as coach of the Manitoba Senior Women's Provincial Team finishing in the finals twice and winning a Silver medal at the 1991 Western Canada Summer Games. In the years following 2003, Guy directed his talents to a younger group of athletes, coaching the Manitoba Under 23 Men's, Under 18 Boy's Provincial Teams to respective a 2nd and 4th place finishes and twice coached the Under 16 boys to 4th place finishes at National Festivals and in 2007, a Bronze medal at the Western Canada

An NCCP, Rugby Canada and IRB certified Level 3 coach, Rugby Canada Level 2 and Level 3 Coaching Assessor, IRB certified Trainer/Educator and a Level 1 Strength and Conditioning Coach, Guy is currently working to complete an Advanced Diploma in Coaching with the National Coaching Institute at the University of Winnipeg. As an educator, Guy is a Course Conductor for Rugby Canada Level 1 Coaches and for NCCP Level 1 and Level 2 Coaches and has piloted several new NCCP Rugby courses in the process. As an educator, Guy has undertaken or participated in hundreds of coaching clinics, workshops and conferences throughout Canada, USA and England. To the present day Guy remains a member of the Manitoba Coaching Advisory Committee, the Rugby Canada and Coaching Manitoba coaching award selection committees, various Rugby Canada Coaching Development working groups and serves as a Course Level Evaluator, Learning Facilitator Trainer and Curriculum Writer, as well as a Master Learning Facilitator with the Coaching Association of Canada.



Expanding his horizons further, Guy spent over 30 years in a variety of administrative positions on various Boards and Committees including: Executive Member Winnipeg Rugby Union; President and Past-President Brandon Barbarians RFC; Manitoba Rugby Union Treasurer and Director of Coaching; Rugby Manitoba Coaching/Player Development President and Vice President as well as Director of High Performance Rugby; Vice President Schools/Junior Development: Chairman Manitoba High School Rugby Review Committee and President Manitoba High Schools Rugby Board of Directors.

Along the way Guy managed to found or co-found the Portage la Prairie Wolves RFC and the Brandon Barbarians RFC that led to the formation of the Dauphin Mavericks and Shilo Rugby Football Clubs as well as Westman High School Rugby. In addition, Guy assisted with the organization of Manitoba's 3rd Division Men's League; co-established the Manitoba Colts Rugby League, the Rural Manitoba Rugby Union, the Man-Sask Interlock League and Championship games, the Winnipeg Wasps Legends Rugby Team, the Winnipeg Wasps 3rds and 4ths 15s, the Prairie Under 16 and Under 18 rugby tournament in Calgary and the Under 16 Manitoba R.A.T.S.; and initiated and continues to strive to establish Manitoba University and College Rugby Competitions.

Guy's breadth and volume of involvement in the sport of Rugby knows no bounds and are likely to continue for many years to come. His enthusiasm, dedication, accomplishments and pursuit of excellence serve to inspire us all. The recipient of numerous awards over the years including: Canadian Olympic Association Volunteer Award, Manitoba Rugby Union Award, Raymond Skett Award, Rugby Manitoba President's Award, Dakota "Wall of Fame", Coaching Manitoba Excellence Award - Runner, Sport Manitoba Service Award and Manitoba High School Athletics Association Volunteer of Year Award, serve to illustrate and punctuate the value "Mac" brings to the rugby community and our sport in Manitoba and his deservedness as an Inductee to the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.

The Winnipeg Wasps would like to congratulate **Guy McKim and Jim Feasby** on their induction into the Rugby Manitoba Hall of Fame.

Both men have made tremendous contributions to our club and to the sport of rugby in this province, and they both embody the true spirit of rugby. Thank you for your dedication to the sport we love, this recognition is well and truly deserved.

**Black and Gold Forever** 



# Black and Gold Forever

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#### Introduction

#### 2014 Inductees Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Saturday, October 18, 2014

The Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame celebrates the history of the sport of Rugby in Manitoba, recognizing those who have significantly contributed to the game and its development.

The Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame Selection Committee – Rugby community representatives Ray Hoemsen (chair), Larry Cherrett; Brenda Treleaven; Wilf Erichsen; Garry Nicholson; and community/media representative Ashley Prest of the Winnipeg Free Press- recommended 7 inductees who were ratified by both the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame and Rugby Manitoba.

The Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame 2014 Inductees are truly worthy, and we are honoured to be recognizing both their accomplishments and contributions to the game of Rugby in Manitoba.

# PIONEER • ROBERT PRINGLE - ???????? BUILDER • JIM FEASBY - Wasp's Rugby Club TEAM • 1996 MANITOBA U-19 JUNIOR WOMEN'S PROVINCIAL TEAM PLAYER • BRIAN ERICHSEN - Saracens Rugby Club • BRENT TOMCHUK - Assassins Rugby Club OFFICIAL

GUY McKIM

JOHN WHITE

**- ???????** 

Wasp's Rugby Club





#### Greetings from Mayor Sam Katz:

On behalf of the City of Winnipeg, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone attending the Rugby Hall of Fame 2014 Induction Dinner, hosted by Rugby Manitoba.

I would like to congratulate those who are being inducted into the Rugby Hall of Fame this evening. It takes tremendous discipline and dedication to achieve the level of success you have attained, and you should be proud of your accomplishments. I hope that you will continue to inspire younger athletes not only by having your name in the Hall of Fame, but by coaching, volunteering, and sharing your knowledge with them.

I would also like to commend the coaches, volunteers, and family, who give so much time to support the talent of our athletes. Your tireless commitment, dedication, and love for the sport allow our athletes to excel and develop a true passion for the sport.

On behalf of the citizens of Winnipeg and my esteemed colleagues on City Council, best wishes for an enjoyable evening and success in the future.

Warm regards,

Sam Katz MAYOR

Heart of the Continent • Au cœur du continent

## **Brent Tomchuk - Player**

**Brent Tomchuk** is a gifted multi-sport athlete who excelled at wrestling, football and rugby.

A 1974 graduate of MacGregor Collegiate Institute (Manitoba), Brent was a star wrestler at the local and national levels; as well as an outstanding half back and kicker for the MacGregor Mustangs which won consecutive Central Plains Nine-Man Football League Championships in 1972 and 1973.

A member of the University of Manitoba Bisons football in 1974 (along with Bison roommate Guy McKim); Brent later played for the Winnipeg Rods in the Manitoba Junior Football League until 1978; where he is listed as a Canadian Junior Football League record holder in three categories, including a 108 yard punt return for a touchdown against the St. Vital Mustangs.

Brent also wrestled for the Bisons and representing Manitoba, won a Bronze Medal in the 191 pound category - the first medal ever for Manitoba wrestling at the 1975 Canada Winter Games.

Brent started playing for the Assassins Rugby Football Club in 1975 and continued on until the late 1990s and was on the Premiere Division Championship side in 1976. Over the years he also played with the former FUBAR touring side and the Legends as well as any other side which needed a player. Brent also was selected to represent Manitoba with both the Buffalo (in British Columbia), and the Saracens Rugby Football Club (in Saskatchewan) at a time when a club selected to represent the Province was allowed to pick up players.

Brent was an impact player with a phenomenal skill set who could and did play at a very high level at every position, forwards or backs. His size, speed, hands, hard running and the ability to read the field and deploy the right tactics made him a formidable opponent and a valued team mate. Brent was recognized numerous times by his club, including awards for "Best Back" and "Most Valuable Player".



Off the field, Brent has served his Club and the Province both as an executive for a decade with the Assassins and as the club's Coach, including seven seasons as an Assistant Coach and one season as Head Coach. At the representative level, Brent has spent six seasons since 1997 as a Coach, Co-Coach and/or Manager for the Manitoba U17 Boys, U18 Boys, Junior Buffalo and Senior Buffalo provincial teams. In 1998, Rugby Manitoba recognized his coaching accomplishments with the Ray Skett Award.

Brent's past contributions as a player are significant and he continues to contribute to the game of rugby today.

# A proud history of champions!

The Saracen's Rugby Club would like to salute **Brian Erichsen** 

along with a special congratulations to all the 2014 Hall of Fame Inductees.

You are all champions of Rugby in Manitoba.

#### MANITOBA PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1968	Saracens RFC	1979	Saracens RFC	1984	Saracens RFC
1969	Saracens RFC	1980	Saracens RFC	1985	Saracens RFC
1972	Saracens RFC	1981	Saracens RFC	1986	Saracens RFC
1973	Saracens RFC	1982	Saracens RFC	1988	Saracens RFC
1974	Saracens RFC	1983	Saracens RFC	1990	Saracens RFC
1975	Saracens RFC			1992	Saracens RFC



# Robert William Pringle, OBE - Pioneer

Although he spent less than a decade (1948 to 1956) in Manitoba, **Dr. Robert W. Pringle** (1920 – 1996) made significant contributions which served to support and build the game of rugby in Scotland, Manitoba and Monaco.

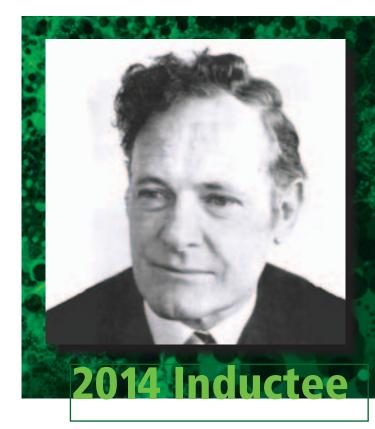
Born in Edinburgh, Scotland he attended George Heriot's School and Edinburgh University. While in school he developed his passion for rugby, and was a talented hooker who played for a combined Edinburgh-Glasgow side against the 1947 Wallabies. While he never earned a cap, he played for the Rest-of-Scotland against Scotland, scoring a brilliant try.

Proclaimed as "An outstanding rugby player, he took part in the international finals in Scotland last season" by the Winnipeg Tribune (September 21, 1948) in an article about his appointment as an Associate Professor in the Department of Physics at the University of Manitoba, he rapidly progressed to become Department Head in 1953.

The "rugby-player-turned-physicist" (Winnipeg Tribune, November 3, 1949) co-invented a portable scintillometer for geophysical exploration — which formed the basis of his company Nuclear Enterprises (established with two colleagues from the University of Manitoba in 1950, prior to his return to Scotland) which eventually employed 800 employees around the world, ultimately becoming EMI Thorn (in 1979).

In 1967, in recognition of his distinguished service, Pringle was appointed by the Queen to the Order of the British Empire as an Ordinary Officer of the Civil

In late 1953, the Manitoba British Rugby Union was reformed and he was elected to the Board. As one of his responsibilities, Pringle represented the union during 20-minute stopover on March 8, 1954 near the conclusion of a six month tour by the New Zealand All Blacks (Captained by Bob Stewart) who made City of Winnipeg Alderman Howard McKelvey an honourary member of the All-Blacks during their brief time in Winnipeg.



In April, 1954 the University of Manitoba Rugby Football Club was established and competed in a league comprised of teams from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the Royal Canadian Air Force, the Wanderers and the Maple Leaf United. At the inaugural election, Pringle was appointed to represent his club at the Union, ultimately serving as President of the Union.

After his retirement in 1976, he relocated to Monaco where he founded the Glenlivet Monte Carlo Sevens in 1987; "repeating what he had done in Manitoba where he had introduced the Canadians to Sevens also." (The Royal Society of Edinburgh, 1996).

Robert William Pringle was thus an individual who made significant contributions to academia, industry, society and rugby.

# Congratulations **Guy McKim, Jim Feasby** and **John Whyte**, and all the Hall of Fame recipients who truly stand out.



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On behalf of Rugby Manitoba we would like to congratulate all of the 2013 Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame inductees.

Your hard work and commitment to the sport of rugby in this province is exemplary.

It is because of your efforts and many like you that the sport we all love can continue to thrive in Manitoba.

Cheers



# **Brian Erichsen - Player**

**Brian Erichsen** first became involved with rugby in the late 1980s through the Youth Rugby Program held Saturdays at Maple Grove Rugby Park. Brian was one of the original participants in this program which was run by Wayne Guenther, Ray Hoemsen, Gary MacDonald, and Brian's father Wilf Erichsen, who himself was inducted by the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame in 2013 as an Official.

A lock and loose forward, Brian played his first organized rugby in 1995 with Oak Park High School, winning the high school championship. The same season Brian played Colts and Second Division Senior Men with the Saracens Rugby Football Club and was selected for the Manitoba Under 19 Provincial team. In 1996 he represented Manitoba with both the Under 19s and Senior Men/Buffalo teams whom he continued to play with until 2000. He helped the Manitoba Senior Men to win the 1997 Tier II National Championship. In 1998, Brian was awarded a Rugby Manitoba development scholarship to play rugby in New Zealand where he played both Under 21 and Senior Men with Teachers Eastern Rugby Club in Auckland.

Brian first played in the Rugby Canada Super League (RCSL) in 1999 with the Manitoba Buffalo and was selected to the RCSL All Star Team which toured Fiji. Brian also played for the Prairie Fire and Vancouver Wave teams in the RCSL.

Starting in 2003, Brian joined the Meraloma Rugby Club in Vancouver. He played with and captained them for 11 seasons, including five BC Premier League finals. After his retirement at the end of the 2013 season, he is helping to coach the Meralomas. Brian was selected for numerous BC Senior Men Provincial teams, helping them to win the Canadian Rugby Championship in 2009, and then advancing to the Americas Rugby Championship.

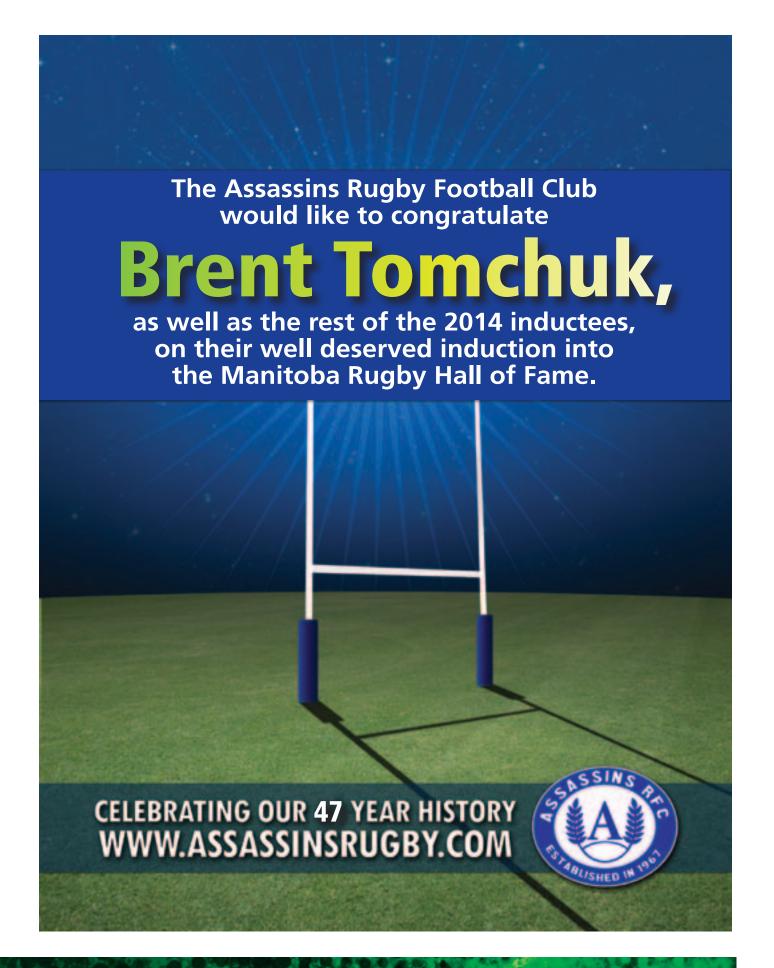
Brian's international playing career with Rugby Canada began in 1996 with selection to the Canada Under 19 team which toured Wales. In 1999, he was invited to join the Pacific Pride Canada Under 23 team, playing in the BC Premier League for three seasons as well as tours to New Zealand and Germany. Invited to play with Canada Senior Men's Team on a tour to Japan, he earned his first cap in November 2009 against Russia. Brian played in the 2010 and 2011 Churchill Cups, scoring the winning try against France A to reach the Churchill Cup 2010 Final as well as the 2010 Americas Rugby Championship.



In 2011 Brian became the first born and raised Manitoban to represent Canada in the men's Rugby World Cup (RWC) and played in both matches against the USA in the run up to the RWC. Brain earned five caps in the course of his playing days for Canada's Senior Men.

In the words of Ashley Prest (Winnipeg Free Press, August 24, 2011) "Brian Erichsen of Winnipeg is a lock for the annals of Manitoba's rugby history."

Brian is very deserving of his induction as a Player in the Manitoba Rugby Hall of Fame.



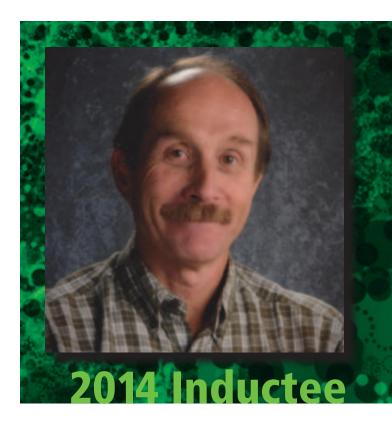
# Jim Feasby - Builder

**Jim Feasby** started playing rugby in its infancy in the Province of Manitoba. Though he played at the club and provincial levels and was a member of various championship and Provincial teams, his biggest contribution to the sport was in the foundation that he helped build and maintain through the school and Colts programs in the province.

In 1970 Jim was recruited by co-workers from River Heights Junior High to join the Wasps Rugby Club. After two years of playing at the club level, Jim realized that most of the local clubs had been founded by immigrants from Britain, many of whom were transient. In order to allow the game to grow in Manitoba, Jim recognized that some Canadian roots were required, and so he set about drawing in Canadian-born players by establishing a rugby presence in the school system.

By 1973, Jim had the support of Sport Manitoba's rugby office and set about organizing a school Sevens rugby tournament, to which 6 high schools and 6 junior high schools attended. With Jim's organizational direction the tournament ran well and he was also responsible for providing the results on Saturday night to CBC News Sportscaster Don Wittman. The tournament thereafter became an annual event.

Jim followed up this accomplishment in 1974 by forming the Manitoba Schools Rugby Union along with Peter Press, Ken Pearn, and Randy Hilderman, which the four of them ran for two seasons. By 1976 Peter, Ken, and Randy had left the organization and Jim became sole organizer, a position which he held until 1987. Jim was responsible for recruiting teams and referees, drafting schedules, as well as promoting and publicizing school rugby.



During this time Jim founded teams in three different schools, established the Colts League and the Charleswood Colts team, coached at the Colts, Junior, and Senior High School levels, and became a NCCP Level 1 Coaching Clinician as well as a Level 2 Certified Coach, providing guidance and helping to develop many of the other coaches in the province. He was a referee, a teacher professional development presenter, and helped organize a High School tour to Regina. Jim also served on the Organizing Committee for the Wasps Rugby Club 25th Anniversary and as Mission Staff for rugby at the 2005 Canada Summer Games and 2007 Western Canada Summer Games.

Jim was worn many hats and has had many significant accomplishments during his involvement with the sport of rugby in Manitoba. Through his foresight, hard work, and determination he helped to build a solid foundation upon which rugby in Manitoba has set down deep roots.

# Maple Grove Rugby Park



Maple Grove Rugby Park is one of North America's finest Rugby facilities boasting five regulation size rugby pitches, a licensed Clubhouse and is home to rugby for many clubs in Manitoba.



Congratulations from the MGRP to the Hall of Fame Inductees and to the organizers and supporters of the Hall of Fame Dinner.



#### Maple Grove Rugby Park Executive and Board Members

Rob St. Germain
Dave Wilson
Vice-President - CFO
Vice-President - Operations
Morgan Solilak
Secretary

#### **MGRP Board Members**

Kris Pritchard Wanderers
Rick Romsa Saracens
Shane Nobiss Assassins
Larry Cherrett U of M
Jared Marr Wasps
Amanda Kula Rugby Manitoba

Don InnesGeneral ManagerMichele WilsonBar Manager

#### 1996 Manitoba U-19 Junior Women's Provincial - Team



In 1996 Maple Grove Rugby Park hosted the Western Canada Women's Championship, the first major Junior Women's competition to be held there. Drawing teams from Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, and Manitoba, the local rugby community came together to put on an outstanding event for players and spectators alike. The community's support was well rewarded when the Manitoba side won the Gold Medal in the final game against B.C.

The Team held two intense four hour try-out sessions in May and early June to prepare for the July games. Over seventy players were scouted and invited to attend, trying out for a roster of twenty-four spots. Included in the final selections were two 15-year old players, Jody Shawn and Marsha Kindzierski, chosen for their impressive and hard-hitting try-out performances. Although Rugby Canada ultimately denied their exemption to participate as underage players, they were kept as non-playing members of the team.

Lead by Coaches Scott Harland and Bill Bien, Manager Tannis Nicol and Trainer Paul Haskins, the team roster (listed alphabetically included): Melissa Antonsen, Tanya Bailey, Amanda Brown, Tauna Craik, Danielle Dalton, Lindsay Dandeneau, Colleen Dzogan, Jamie Friesen, Christina Gajdosik, Jill Henselwood, Adeline Huynh, Kylie Inglis, Marsha Kindzierski, Molly Kirk (co-Captain), Krissy Kloss, Carol Kullman, Amanda Kury, Amanda Martenson, Holly McBride, Shannon Nesbitt, Heather Nuytten, Andrea Orthodoxou, Donna Peters, Jody Shawn, Heather Southam (co-Captain) and Candice Szezepanski.

Previous Western Women's Championships had featured only teams from Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan, with Manitoba placing second to a strong Alberta side in the previous year's tournament. 1996 marked the first year that a B.C. side was participating in the Junior Women's level, having already become a dominant force in Senior Women's Rugby in Canada.

Manitoba's team trained by playing several games against Senior Clubs, and the roster contained many players already involved in Club rugby. Their efforts were rewarded on July 14th when they faced B.C. in the final match and overcame them with disciplined defence, superior rucking skills, and effective teamwork. The Manitoba side denied their opponents a single try despite constant pressure, defeating them in an 8-3 Championship match in which the Winnipeg Free Press cited "Prairie Defence" as being the "hallmark" of the team's success.

In addition to becoming the Western Canadian Champions, the 1996 Manitoba U-19 Junior Women's Provincial Team accomplished it on home soil. By bringing home the Gold to the delight of spectators and organizers they created an unforgettable moment of local rugby history, demonstrating that Manitoba was a contender in the Western Provinces.

In the years following their Championship win, four players were invited to National selection camps. All but three of the players went on to play Senior Club Rugby. Ten players went on to play for the Senior Women's Provincial Team, and eight have become coaches.

The members of the 1996 U-19 Junior Women's Provincial Rugby Team have been and continue to be a driving force in Women's Rugby in the Province of Manitoba.

