

## **Media Guide**

This Media guide has been produced in order for the media to learn more about the participants in the women's hockey competition to the Canada Winter Games 2007.

### **Team profile :**

Fielding a team from a population of 30 000 and a athlete pool of under 50 is a challenge. The majority of our players are between the ages of 13 and 17 with the average age around 14.5 years old. This means that most of our players are too young to have been exposed to age proper elite hockey. Most of our players have participated in Artic Winter Games and some of our players are returning to the Canada Winter Games for the second time. That in itself is very unusual, as most athletes only get to participate in one CWG if they are lucky.

Yukon's women's team has set very high standards for itself. Most of the girls have been training for this over 12 months. Being the host team they intend to represent the Yukon to the best of their abilities. What they may lack in natural talent they will make-up for with skill, stamina, perseverance and hard work.

## Meet the Team:

Player Name		Number	Position	Shoots	Birthdate
Henkel	Talyce	2	Forward		01/10/1991
Bouchard	Alex	3	Defense	Right	05/08/1992
Kabanak	Kelsey	4	Forward		01/21/1991
Tomlin	Haley	6	Defense		05/06/1991
Boutilier	Jocelyn	7	Forward		
McKay	Michelle	8	Forward		01/07/1991
Burke	Angela	9	Forward	Left	07/13/1992
Trotter	Jessica	10	Forward		01/10/1991
Kaytor	Selena	11	Forward	Right	11/20/1990
Roulston	Shayla	12	Defense	Right	04/18/1993
Ullyett	Coralie	14	Forward		10/19/1990
Rivest	Chantelle	15	Forward		06/18/1992
Lesage	Mallory	16	Defense		14/03/1991
Nugent	Emilie	17	Defense		01/12/1993
Maynes	Ashley	18	Forward		21/07/1990
Merkel	Teneesha	35	Goalie		02/05/1993
Moore	Megan	31	Goalie		09/12/1990

## Meet the staff

### Head coach

Randy Merkel - Whitehorse

### Assistant coach

Ria Von Loewenstein - Whitehorse

### Assistant coach

Dave Nugent - Whitehorse

### Manager

Tanya Astika - Whitehorse

## Team Selection Process

Because of numbers our selection process is limited. Most of the girls were on last years Artic Winter Games team that went to Alaska. After the 2005-2006 season they were given a summer dryland program to follow. In early September an identification camp was held in Whitehorse. The camp was a way for coaches to get re-acquainted with the players and see if any new players were coming out.

The selection camp was held a couple of weeks later. The roster was decided early on because of the need for this team to train as a coherent unit.

The coaching staff was looking for young women of strong character who could handle the rigorous training and the personal sacrifice needed for this team to develop and perform. We have work the girls hard since October sometimes 5 hours per day other times from 6h30 to 22h30. All through the school year. (Remember the average age). This team is working hard on the ice as well as taking care of their nutrition, doing pilates to strengthen core muscles. Running and dryland training are also part of their weekly regiment.

The players took to the challenge with vigor and enthusiasm. It enabled us to take this team's strengths and build a unit that is eager to show what they are capable of.

### “Did you know”

Trivia about the team and staff :

“Yukon’s Northern Avalanche and the Yukon’s Canada winter games team are one and the same.”

“When **Alex Bouchard** first tried to play female hockey she was sent down to the boys team on account that she couldn’t skate well enough to keep up with the girls”

“**Selena Kaytor**, Born in Faro Yukon, Population 400 – has played mixed hockey in smaller rural communities. When her first coach heard she had been selected for the Canada Games he remembers: *“I recall a young girl that was adamant hockey was for boys and she was having no part of it. I am glad she changed her mind and am thrilled to hear that she is playing at such a high level.”* “

“**Émilie Nugent** is the youngest of a family of hockey players Mom, Dad, and her 3 brothers play. She is not related to 70’s rocker Ted.”

“**Talyce Henkel, Ashley Maynes, Jessica Trotter, Haley Tomlin** and **Megan Moore** all come from the little town of Haines Junction, population: 800.”

“ **Coralie Ulyett**’s sister Emma plays midget AAA in New Brunswick she missed the games on account that she is 10 days too old. This is also **Coralie**’s second Canada Games.”

“**Michelle McKay** had to put her basketball dreams on the back burner for these games. She hope to represent the Yukon at the Western games in summer 2007.”

“**Talyce Henkel** is the smallest player on the team at \_\_\_\_ but she is also the strongest.”