



Yukon Hockey Players To Compete at U-17 B.C. Cup

By [Whitehorse Star](#) on April 3, 2009

Brad Gustafson's and David Stephens' recent selection to the 2009 Under-17 B.C. Cup belongs on a long list of accomplishments for the two Yukoners this season.

Gustafson, a first-year Midget Mustang, was one of six goalies at the camp, including fellow teammate and goaltender Steven Harlow.

Stephens, on the other hand, began the season playing Midget 'AAA' hockey in Northeast B.C./Yukon Flyers (Fort St John), and was eventually called up in December to the Cariboo Cougars (Prince George) of the B.C. Major Midget League.

The two Yukoners were selected to the team after attending an invitation-only District Under-17 selection camp in Prince George this past weekend.

Two goalies were chosen from across the camp, while 120 players were selected to play in the under 17 B.C. Cup.

The Under 17 B.C. Cup is comprised of the top 16-year-old players that will play in a jamboree styled competition, which this year is being held in Salmon Arm May 1-3.

Other notable Yukoners to be selected to play in this event include Adam Henderson and Neil Chambers (2005), Drew Pettitt (2006) and Chris Whynot (2008).

Gustafson, who signed a contract with the Medicine Hat Tigers of the Western Hockey League earlier in the season, said the list of former Yukoners to qualify for the U-17 B.C. Cup makes it more special.

"I have talked to a lot of those guys about it and they just said it was tons of fun and great exposure, so I am definitely looking forward to going," he said.

Gustafson said Harlow, despite not qualifying for the U-17 B.C. Cup, also had a really good camp.

"(Harlow's) a really good goaltender and I think he has really good potential too," Gustafson said. "It's too bad he didn't the team too. It doesn't always work out the way you want, but he had a really great camp too."

Gustafson said attending the selection camp provided a great opportunity.

"Just the camp itself was really good because you get to see how you rack up against the higher level of players," he said. "I'm really looking forward to heading to Salmon Arm too. It should be a lot of fun."

He said it is nice being able to go with former teammate Stephens, who is a childhood friend and the person responsible for getting Gustafson involved with hockey in the first place.

"We've always been on the same team, so it's really cool that I get to go to Salmon Arm with him," Gustafson said about Stephens. "He's just a super skilled hockey player, who's fast and has a great play making ability."

Gustafson said the two probably won't be on the same team at the U-17 B.C. Cup, but is still happy about Stephens qualifying.

Stephens said he is really excited about the opportunity to play at the U-17 B.C. Cup, adding he wasn't surprised that Gustafson made it.

"He's a pretty good goalie, he's pretty consistent too," he said about Gustafson. "I'm hoping to be on his team, but if not, I hope I get a couple goals on him."