

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2017 Manitoba Aboriginal Volunteer Awards

The Manitoba Aboriginal Sports & Recreation Council (MASRC) recognizes excellence by Aboriginal Volunteers for their personal commitment to development and dedication *to sport*.

Each year, up to one Aboriginal male and one Aboriginal female volunteer will be selected to receive the Manitoba Aboriginal Volunteer Award. They will be selected from nominations detailing: the activity the volunteer undertook, their impact on an individual person or group receiving help, perseverance in facing challenges or obstacles, and a summary indicating why they should receive the award.

This year the award will go to individuals who have volunteered in their communities for many years and were extremely busy in 2017.

The Manitoba Aboriginal Sports & Recreation Council is pleased to announce the recipients of the

2017 MANITOBA ABORIGINAL VOLUNTEER of the YEAR AWARDS:

Volunteer Award – Female Winona Morrison Peguis First Nation (York Factory First Nation)

Winona Morrison, also known as “Big Mama” in the community of Peguis First Nation, demonstrates the true nature of a volunteer. With her passion for her children and the youth in the community, Winona goes above and beyond in order to create opportunities for youth in sport. With wrestling being her sport of choice, she has worked hard along with the wrestling coach to build up the program in the community. In 2017, Winona was selected to represent Manitoba and the sport of wrestling as the sport manager for the 2017 NAIG. She promotes the sport to the youth and makes sure forms and finances are in order leading up to competitions. Winona also played a major role in hosting the wrestling tournament in Peguis this season. Currently, Winona is representing Team East as the sport manager for wrestling for the Manitoba Games and continues to encourage participation in order to grow the sport of wrestling in the province.

Volunteer Award - Male Mike Taylor St. Theresa Point First Nation

Hailing from St. Theresa Point First Nation, Mike is dedicated to help the youth of the community to the best of his ability. In 2017, Mike demonstrated his selflessness by helping the community of Wasagamack First Nation and its fire evacuees by offering comfort and shelter, and assisting with transportation and cooking. He continuously seeks opportunities in sport for the youth in his community including helping the cross country teams in attending competitions and by working closely with the Manitoba Aboriginal Sports and Recreation Council to bring in clinics in sports like basketball, dragon boat, and paddling. Mike continues to provide leadership in his community and without his welcoming presence and positive attitude, the youth would not have these positive life experiences.

For more information on the volunteers, please email:

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