



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Three National Sport School alumni set to compete at Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games

Calgary, Alta. – National Sport School (NSS) alumni will be looking to leave their mark on the world stage, with three former student-athletes confirmed to participate in the Tokyo Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Caelie McKay (diving), Haley Daniels (kayaking), and Stefan Daniel (para-triathlon) will all be wearing the Maple Leaf when Japan welcomes the world starting next month. The Olympic Games begin on July 23, while the Paralympic Games open on August 24. A fourth NSS alumni may be added when Canada's water polo team is announced on June 28.

The NSS was first launched in 1994 as a partnership between WinSport and the Calgary Board of Education. The school relocated to Canada Olympic Park in 2011 and has entered into a new partnership with the Palliser School Division for the 2021-22 school year.

The three are among more than 60 NSS alumni to have competed at the Winter or Summer Games, with nearly a dozen of those athletes having participated in the Summer quadrennial.

"Every student-athlete who attends NSS is unique," says NSS principal Rob Jewan, who first joined the school seven years ago. "They bring a variety of strengths and passions to the school which helps to create a culture of excellence. Olympic aspirations, post-secondary goals, engaged citizens, and strong character are all building blocks of our program. Former students have graced Olympic and World Cup podiums, attended Ivy League post-secondary institutions, and become leaders and role models within our communities".

While the school first started with predominantly winter athletes, nearly one-third of currently registered students are summer athletes. For McKay, who attended the NSS from 2014-2016 before moving to Montreal, the school provided the perfect balance between school and sport.

"It's a great opportunity for athletes to have some flexibility instead of having to choose one or the other -- school or sport," says McKay, who has qualified for Tokyo in the 10m synchro dive event and is trying to still qualify for the 10m platform event. "In sport, you only have a certain period of your life that you can do it and perfect it and get to an Olympic level. For school, you can do it for a bit longer and if you have the right management of it, you can do both at the same time."

The NSS is for families of developmental and competitive athletes who wish to excel in high school and sport. The school understands and accommodates the unique needs of student-athletes.

It currently has limited spots available for the 2021-22 school year and is hosting an information session on June 22, 2021, for students and parents to learn more about the benefits of the school.

“With so many extraordinary young people having travelled through NSS we see how they have overcome obstacles, developed resiliency, and grown into upstanding contributing members of society,” says Jewan.

For more information on the NSS or the information session, visit winsport.ca

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About WinSport

WinSport inspires human potential through the spirit of sport. The Calgary Olympic Development Association, operating as WinSport, is a community-based, not-for-profit organization that owns and operates Canada Olympic Park and the Bill Warren Training Centre in Canmore. WinSport also administers legacy funds that support the Olympic Oval. WinSport’s mission is to help people discover the joy and health benefits of sport and physical activity; encourage talented athletes to develop their skills; enable Canada’s high-performance athletes to excel on the world stage; and provide world-class training, facilities and exceptional experiences to our guests. Financial commitments from Canadian governments and business have allowed WinSport to expand its sport and community offering over time; significant investment will be required in the coming years to renew the legacy facilities that have welcomed the world to the Calgary region for more than a generation.

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