



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**WinSport launches new adaptive multi-sports program
to benefit Calgarians with or without physical disabilities**

CALGARY, Alta. – WinSport has launched an exciting new program to help introduce Calgarians with and without physical disabilities to adapted wheelchair sport opportunities.

The free nine-week program, which begins Saturday, April 6, encourages people of all ages to try a variety of wheelchair sports. Each week, participants will be introduced to a different wheelchair sport by expert coaches from local and provincial sport organizations in each respective sport.

With sport organizations leading the sessions, participants are provided the best experience possible. Participants who register are encouraged to invite family members, friends, or teammates.

The program, which takes place at WinSport's Markin MacPhail Performance Training Centre, is made possible through funding received from the Calgary Flames Foundation along with additional grants.

"This new program focused on adapted physical activities is an excellent way to provide opportunities for people with physical disabilities to not only learn and participate in sports, but to make friends and share their love for sport with people without physical disabilities," says Trevor Dickson, manager of sport development.

"Including people with and without physical disabilities in the program breaks down barriers and allows people of all abilities to participate in para sports. This is important in building friendships while strengthening our sport culture for not only WinSport, but the entire city."

The wheelchair sports included in the program, which runs from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., are tennis (April 6), curling (April 14), sledge hockey on rollers (April 27), basketball (May 4), rugby (May 11), hand cycling (May 25), fencing (June 1), athletics (June 8) and Aussie rules football (June 15).

Participants can pre-register by emailing Jackson Sinclair (Team Lead of the Performance Training Centre) at jsinclair@winsport.ca or by calling 403-202-6528. Drop-ins are also available between 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Guest Services desk in the Markin MacPhail Centre.

About WinSport

The Calgary Olympic Development Association, which operates as WinSport, is a not-for-profit community-based organization that owns and operates Canada Olympic Park. Our vision is to be a world-leading centre for athletic development. We inspire human potential through the spirit of sport by introducing people to winter and mountain sports, helping them develop their skills and thereby igniting a passion for sport and lifelong learning. WinSport does not receive any direct government funding for our operations and we support our purpose by building on the legacy of the 1988 Winter Olympic Games and by delivering exceptional value and experiences to our guests. For more information on WinSport please visit www.winsport.ca.

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