



*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

## ***WRC MEMBER JEFF POWELL INDUCTED TO MANITOBA SPORTS HALL OF FAME***

*November 23, 2015 (Winnipeg MB)* – The Winnipeg Rowing Club is pleased to announce that one of its members has been inducted to the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame. The 36<sup>th</sup> induction ceremony took place earlier this month, and Jeff Powell was one of five athletes honoured.

“It was a tremendous evening and I was incredibly humbled that people in the rowing community who I hold in such high regard would work to nominate me for this honour,” says Powell. “It has brought back many memories of my first days on the water at the Winnipeg Rowing Club and the wonderful memories of the years since.”

Jeff Powell is a true champion for the sport of rowing, and competitive excellence, and the Winnipeg Rowing Club is extremely proud of him.

### **ABOUT JEFF POWELL**

A gifted all round athlete in high school, Jeff Powell led his basketball team to the Manitoba Provincial Basketball Championship, and was named most outstanding player in the Province. But it was the sport of rowing that would ultimately launch him into the international spotlight.

Jeff started rowing at the age of 21 when he joined the Winnipeg Rowing Club. He excelled in sweep and sculling boats at the club and provincial levels, winning national rowing titles in both the Men’s Single and Men’s Pair. His athleticism and determination earned him a spot on Canada’s national men’s rowing team, where he captured Gold Medals at the FISA World Rowing Championships in 2002 and 2003 as part of the Men’s Eight, and competed at the 2004 Olympic Summer Games in Athens.

Jeff was part of the coaching staff with the national women’s program at the 2011 World Rowing Championships, and the 2012 Olympic Games in London. In 2013, upon returning to Winnipeg, he coached the masters’ competitive program at the Winnipeg Rowing Club, helping Winnipeg athletes win ten medals at the 110<sup>th</sup> North West International Rowing Association Championship Regatta.

Today, Jeff Powell is the General Manager of the Canadian Sport Centre Manitoba, an organization that helps elite athletes from Manitoba to achieve their national and international sporting goals.

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*At 134 years old, the Winnipeg Rowing Club is the second oldest sporting organization in Western Canada. It has been in operation since 1881, stopping only twice – during WWI and WWII. A long-time tenant of the banks of the Red River in downtown Winnipeg, the WRC survived the North-West Rebellion of 1885, the General Strike of 1919, the Great Depression of the 1930's, the Great Flood of 1950, and the Flood of the Century in 1997. Over the years the clubhouse has been destroyed by fire, wind, and water, but has always managed to maintain its long and proud tradition. Today, the WRC is a non-profit organization with a rich and successful sporting history, fostering generations of camaraderie and friendships. Members range in age from teenagers right up to the 80's, and the club offers programs for all skill levels. [www.winnipegrowingclub.ca](http://www.winnipegrowingclub.ca)*

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