



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FIVE WINS FOR WINNIPEG ROWING CLUB
AT FIRST REGATTA OF THE SEASON**

Winnipeg MB (June 11, 2012) -- The Winnipeg Rowing Club is pleased to announce wins in five races at the first regatta of the 2012 racing season.

The 35th annual Western Canada Sprints took place on Wascana Lake in Regina on Saturday June 9, and the following WRC crews received first place medals:

- Master Men's Quad – **Eric Johnstone, Ryan Desilets, Vic Bartel, Peter Vilks**
- Master Mixed Double – **Vic Bartel, Sheila Wilson-Kowal**
- Master Women's Single – **Sheila Wilson-Kowal**
- Lightweight Women's Quad – **Brandi Smith, Tracy Taylor, Crystal Evans, LeAnne Petherick**
- Lightweight Women's Single – **Brandi Smith**

A total of 17 athletes from the Winnipeg Rowing Club's Master Competitive Program took part in Saturday's regatta, and enjoyed exciting (and often close!!) races.

At 131 years old, the Winnipeg Rowing Club is one of the oldest sporting organizations 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 from 13 to 86, and the club offers programs for all skill levels.

www.winnipegrowingclub.ca