



The Canadian Disability Hall of Fame

2019 Inductees

Bradley Bowden (Athlete)

Ontarian Bradley Bowden is one of the few Paralympic athletes to win Paralympic gold in both the summer and winter Games. A force for Team Canada in para ice hockey, he has competed in four Winter Paralympic Games, capturing gold in Torino 2006, coming fourth in Vancouver 2010, and winning bronze in Sochi 2014 and silver in PyeongChang 2018. He also played wheelchair basketball at the Athens 2004 Paralympic Games, where Canada won gold. When off the ice, Bradley, who lives with sacral agenesis, gives back to the community through his work for "All Sports All People," a non-profit that creates inclusive sports programs in and around Simcoe County.

Brian MacPherson (Builder)

Brian has demonstrated a life-long commitment to enriching the lives of Canadians with disabilities through sport. Both as a volunteer and in his various professional roles, he has consistently sought to ensure that inclusive and accessible programs exist for anyone who wants to participate in sport. Since 2011, Brian has served as CEO of Commonwealth Games Canada. Previously, he spent 8 years as CEO of the Canadian Paralympic Committee. The list of sport-themed events, programs and services Brian has helped create or advance on behalf of people with disabilities includes the Soldier On Program, Rolling Rampage on the Hill, Parasport Equipment Fund and Paralympic Sport Schools Program.

Richard "Bear" Peter (Athlete)

Richard has been using a wheelchair since age four, when he was injured in a bus accident. His friends know him by the nickname "Bear," which reflects not only his physique and competitive nature, but also the size of his heart. At 15, he took up wheelchair basketball and went to play professionally for 18 years, retiring in 2012. His athletic accomplishments include Paralympic gold medals in 2000 and 2004, Paralympic silver in 2008 and a third Paralympic gold in 2012. Peter is recognized for his leadership skills on and off the court. A member of the Cowichan tribe in British Columbia, he focuses on giving back to his community and mentoring youth with disabilities.

Tracy Schmitt (Achiever)

Tracy was born a four-way amputee, but she's never let that prevent her from achieving the many high-level goals she's set for herself. Unstoppable Tracy, as she's known, has climbed mountains in Nepal, captained tall ships in the Atlantic Ocean, dived on wrecks in the St. Lawrence River and won a bronze medal in alpine downhill para skiing at the Ontario ParaSport Games. She's also worked in corporate leadership roles, served as a board member on the AODA Transportation Standards Committee and was manager of planning and integration for the 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games in Toronto. Tracy also regularly devotes time to humanitarian causes and volunteer work in support of people with disabilities.

