



News Release

Basketball High Performance Camp includes Athletes from Three Territories

March 18, 2011 (Yellowknife) - Basketball NWT along with Basketball Nunavut and Basketball Yukon have organized the first ever "All Territory Men's High Performance Basketball Program and Team Tournament". The program will bring together 14 athletes and three coaches from each territory this coming April 11-16, 2011 in Yellowknife, NWT.

The goal of the program is to provide up to 42 of the best high school basketball players in all three territories with a week of personal development both on and off the court. The camp is part of a Pan-Territorial basketball player development initiative that is designed to help promote participation, excellence, capacity and collaborative interaction for and between each Territory. The program will include a series of structured games within a round robin tournament format, skill development session, and academic / life skill sessions.

The Technical Director of the program is former Canadian Olympic and professional player Greg Francis. Coach Francis is the current Men's Basketball Head Coach at the University of Alberta and the Head Coach of Canada Basketball Junior Men's National Team. Each territory will also be sending three additional coaches to participate in the camp. The program will help identify, develop and expand the pool of talented athletes and coaches within each territory. Approximately one half of the athletes participating in the program will be First Nation and Inuit athletes.

"We are excited to be participating in the 2011 All Territory Camp", said Tim Brady President of Basketball Yukon. We see this as a tremendous development opportunity for Territorial athletes and coaches. All of the territorial athletes and coaches will be learning from a tremendous coach in Greg Francis who will be the camps head clinician. We are also excited to be offering a Life Skills component. Great things happen when you collaborate and we think this will be a great camp.

A typical day at the camp will see all athletes and coaches engaged in a morning basketball skill and concept session from 8:30am to noon. Each afternoon, the players and coaches will participate in a Life Skills program that will focus on Nutrition, Career Choices, Conflict Resolution, Stress and Stress Reduction, Decision Making Skills and Leadership. Each evening the players will compete against each other on one of four teams.

"We are excited to be able to offer this first ever high performance All Territory camp in Yellowknife" said Damien Healy, President of Basketball NWT. For the past four years, we have worked collaboratively with Basketball Nunavut and Basketball Yukon to organize and provide high performance training and competitive team opportunities for territorial basketball athletes. We believe this will be a tremendous opportunity to further develop our athletes and coaches in a collaborative way."

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