



TEAM SASKATCHEWAN

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Family Reconciliation Project

Dear Athlete, Parents, Families and Caregivers,

Team Saskatchewan would like to take this opportunity to help the young people in our programs to continue to grow as people and as community members. This Family Reconciliation Project is intended to reconnect and reconcile the disconnection that some of our families have felt in relation to residential schools and the era of the sixties scoop that has affected our communities in a way that has shattered the identity of our youth. Article 13- 1 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states that:

Indigenous peoples have the right to revitalize, use, develop and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures, and to designate and retain their own names for communities, places and persons.

To help our young people to retain and discover their histories and the genealogy of their families the Team Saskatchewan Steering Committee requires that each athlete fill out the Declaration of Aboriginal Ancestry and Family Tree forms with the help of your family and community. This process will help to reconnect our youth with long lost family members but to also show individuals the indirect relationships with others within the community. Through this process we hope that athletes will strengthen the ties they have with their communities, which is the basis for any community to thrive and develop in a meaningful way.

We hope that athletes will reach out to their elders, to other members of the community, to leadership and to their families to help with the completion of the forms. Residential Schools and the colonization of Indigenous peoples has made making some of these connections or realizations difficult. However, we hope that athletes will do their best to connect and create a lasting history and record of their families that they can share with other family members and pass along to future generations helping to reclaim histories.

Please return a copy of your form with an accompanying letter that shares any unknown realizations or positive feedback you have gained from this Family Reconciliation Project. We thank you and hope this experience is a rewarding one for our young people, their families and communities

Mike Tanton, on behalf of

Team Saskatchewan Steering Committee

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