



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 16, 2010

### **GOVERNMENT OF CANADA SHOWS SUPPORT FOR CANADIAN WOMEN'S WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL TEAM PREPARING FOR 2010 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN JULY**

(Ottawa, ON) – The Government of Canada has shown tremendous support for the Senior Canadian Women's Wheelchair Basketball Team that is training in the Nation's Capital this week in final preparation to defend their title at the upcoming World Wheelchair Basketball Championships.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper took advantage of the fact that the Team is in Ottawa to invite them to his office and personally wish them good luck at the upcoming World Championships taking place in Birmingham, England July 7-17, 2010. The three captains of the Sr. Canadian Women's National Team, Janet McLachlan (Vancouver, BC), Tara Feser (St. Albert, AB), and Chantal Benoit (Ottawa, ON) were thrilled to present Prime Minister Stephen Harper with a signed jersey on Monday when they visited Parliament Hill.

The Honourable Gary Lunn, Minister of State for Sport visited the Team on Tuesday at Algonquin College, where they are spending the week training, to offer his support and words of encouragement. He presented them with a special gift – a wooden box containing a Canadian flag from Parliament Hill. Minister Lunn was more than happy to try his hand at wheelchair basketball and impressed the Team by easily navigating his chair toward the basket and sinking a flawless lay-up.

Team Canada is looking for their 5th straight World Championship Title. They are currently spending the week training at Algonquin College in Ottawa, Ontario from June 14-20, 2010. It will be their final training location prior to traveling overseas for the World Championships.

The team will be training at Algonquin's Ron Port Athletic Facility, located on the main campus at 1385 Woodroffe Avenue – Building A, twice daily from 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM and 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM.

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[wheelchairbasketball.ca](http://wheelchairbasketball.ca)

2211 Riverside Drive, Suite B2 Ottawa, Ontario K1H 7X5  
T: 613-260-1296 F: 613-260-1456

Wheelchair Basketball Canada



**Media Availability:** Athletes and coaches will be available for interviews following each practice and can be scheduled by contacting Jody Kingsbury, Communications and Media Relations, Wheelchair Basketball Canada, at 613-851-2337 or by email at [jkingsbury@wheelchairbasketball.ca](mailto:jkingsbury@wheelchairbasketball.ca).

Please visit [wheelchairbasketball.ca](http://wheelchairbasketball.ca) for more information.

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### **About Wheelchair Basketball Canada**

Wheelchair Basketball Canada is the national sports governing body responsible for the organization of wheelchair basketball in Canada. It is a non-profit, charitable organization that is the Canadian member to the International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF). For more information about Wheelchair Basketball Canada, please visit [www.wheelchairbasketball.ca](http://www.wheelchairbasketball.ca).

### **For more information, please contact:**

Jody Kingsbury, Communications & Media Relations  
Wheelchair Basketball Canada  
(613) 260-1296 ext. 204  
[jkingsbury@wheelchairbasketball.ca](mailto:jkingsbury@wheelchairbasketball.ca)

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