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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2017 ONTARIO LACROSSE HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES ANNOUNCED

ST. CATHARINES, ON – July 1st, 2017 – The Ontario Lacrosse Association announces the newest members of the Ontario Lacrosse Hall of Fame and Museum, located in St. Catharines, Ontario. Established in 1997 and celebrating its 20th class of inductees, the Ontario Lacrosse Hall of Fame recognizes the achievements of those individuals who have made a notable impact to the sport of lacrosse in Ontario as players, builders, veterans, special contributors and/or charter members. The Class of 2017 Inductees are Jamie Batley (Peterborough), Paul Day (Grimsby/Peterborough), Roy Ledoux (Cornwall), Scott McMichael** (Brooklin), Ken Montour (Ohsweken) and Bert Russell (Brampton). The induction of these six individuals brings the total number of Ontario Lacrosse Hall of Fame members to 298. The 2017 Ontario Lacrosse Hall of Fame Induction Dinner will formally recognize these six people in front of friends and family on Saturday, November 11th at 6:30 PM at Marriott Gateway on the Falls Hotel (6755 Fallsview Blvd., Niagara Falls, ON).

Jamie “Bats” Batley – Peterborough – Player Category (Box, Men’s Field)

As a player, Jamie Batley was known as an exceptional playmaker and goal scorer; a truly lethal combination. Over his career, Jamie won his share of individual awards and citations, as well as several team awards. Jamie was the Ontario Lacrosse Association’s Junior “A” scoring leader in 1987, tallying 55 goals and 112 assists. The following year, he recorded 68 goals and 66 assists, and was awarded both the Junior “A” Most Valuable Player Award and Peterborough Junior Athlete of the Year.

Jamie became a member of the 1990 Canadian Men’s Field National Team which competed in Australia, and an All American Award winner at University of Maryland, Baltimore County Division 1 in 1993 as one of only six UMBC players to score ten or more points in a single game (1993 season, UMBC at Ohio State: 5 goals and 5 assists). Following his UMBC graduation, Jamie participated as a member of the Six Nations Chiefs, winning Mann Cup championships in 1995 and 1996.

Upon his retirement from playing in 2004, Jamie joined the coaching staff of the Major Series Lacrosse Peterborough Lakers, where he added an additional five Mann Cup championships over his 10-year tenure. Jamie continues to be involved in lacrosse in Peterborough as a “good sports citizen.”

Paul Day – Grimsby/Peterborough – Builder Category (Box)

Originally from Peterborough, Paul Day grew up playing minor lacrosse with the encouragement of his father Phillip (himself an accomplished lacrosse devotee). Through one year of Junior “B” and six years of Junior “A”, Paul emerged with two Minto Cup championships as team captain of the Peterborough Maulers.

Paul retired from playing after the 1997 season as a member of the Niagara Falls Gamblers, and shifted his focus to building and coaching championship teams; a passion that began in 1993 when he joined the St. Catharines Junior “A” Athletics. Paul has also spent time with the St. Regis Braves and Brampton Excelsiors of Major Series Lacrosse, and is currently the General Manager of the Peterborough Lakers franchise. In addition to his involvement with amateur lacrosse in Ontario, Paul has been a member of the Rochester Knighthawks coaching staff for 18 seasons, having won National Lacrosse League Champions Cups in 2007, 2012, 2013 and 2014. At the national team level, Paul has won three World Championships with Team Canada (2007, 2011 and 2015).

In addition to his coaching and managing duties, Paul continues to teach lacrosse at schools and clinics within Niagara. Recently, Paul began an instructional partnership that has connected him to associations in California, where he travels to share his love of the game as his schedule permits.

Roy (Leroy) Ledoux – Cornwall – Builder Category (Box)

In his 46th season as a member of the lacrosse community, Roy Ledoux’s impact on the lacrosse community in Eastern Ontario is unmatched. Roy began playing in the Cornwall Minor Lacrosse Association in 1965, and rapidly developed a passion for the game. By 1970, Roy was involved as a referee and house league coach, and by his third season, he had joined the competitive coaching ranks.

Roy coached the Cornwall Celtics Juvenile team to a bronze medal in the 1978 National Championships, and established the Cornwall Flames Senior “B” Team in 1981. Although the team was short-lived, Roy learned from his involvement and rededicated his efforts to reviving the Cornwall Minor Lacrosse program. First as a coach, and then as a team manager, fundraising coordinator, association president and finally as Zone 5 Director, Roy oversaw the resurgence of the Cornwall Celtics and an expansion to eight associations within Zone 5.

Beginning in 2006, Roy dedicated his efforts to the resurrection of the Cornwall Junior “B” lacrosse team and then spearheaded efforts to introduce the Akwesasne Indians to the Junior “A” league from 2009 through 2011. The Indians eventually reclassified to the Junior “B” league, where Roy became the team manager. Under his direction, the Akwesasne Indians won their first franchise Founders Cup championship in 2015. Roy is still actively involved in both the Akwesasne and Cornwall associations, where his continuous connection has translated into a positive lacrosse experience for generations of young players in Eastern Ontario.

Scott “Scotty” McMichael** – Brooklin – Player Category (Box)

The phrases “toughest defender,” “fastest in transition” and “team leader” are often mentioned when former teammates and opponents describe what it was like to play with Scott McMichael. According to Peter Vipond (himself an Ontario Lacrosse Hall of Fame member inducted in 2004), there is little appreciation for how good Scott was playing at both ends of the floor. Despite his prominently defensive role, he averaged at least one point per game throughout his Junior and Senior lacrosse careers.

After winning the Founders Cup as a member of the Scarborough Saints in 1985, Scott joined the Major Series Lacrosse Brooklin Redmen where he was an Assistant Captain of the 1988 and 1990 Mann Cup Championship teams. To those he played with, he was a respected and proud member of the Redmen organization who was characterized by his strong work ethic, leadership abilities and the capacity to bring out the very best in his teammates.

Ken “Monster” Montour – Ohsweken – Player Category (Box, Men’s Field)

Ken’s playing career began in his hometown of Ohsweken as a goaltender of the Six Nations Minor Lacrosse Association. As a box goaltender, Ken was the recipient of the Larry Ruse Award (awarded to the midget goaltender in box lacrosse who posts the best GAA) in 1995, and in the same year, was recognized for his outstanding play as a participant in the Indigenous Games held in St. Paul, Minnesota.

In 1996 and 1999, Ken was a member of the Iroquois Nationals Men’s Field Lacrosse U-19 team which competed in Japan and Australia, respectively. Also in 1999, Ken was named the Ontario Lacrosse Junior “A” League’s Most Valuable Player and was a Tom Longboat Award (an honour bestowed to outstanding First Nations athletes and sportsmen) finalist. Ken was a four-time member of the Canadian University Field Lacrosse Association championship Brock Badgers university men’s field lacrosse team, and was presented with the Ontario University All-Star Award and Championship Game Most Valuable Player Award in 2003.

Ken played his entire Junior “A” and Senior “A” career in Six Nations with the exception of the 2001 and 2002 seasons, where he travelled to the west coast to participate as a member of the Coquitlam Adanacs of the Western Lacrosse Association, who captured the Mann Cup championship in 2001. As a professional player, Ken was a member of the National Lacrosse League’s Buffalo Bandits, where he won the league’s Top Goaltender Award in 2009. An injury sustained during the following season forced Ken into early retirement, though he continues to work as a goaltending coach both in Six Nations and in indigenous reservations throughout the United States and Canada to share his passion for the game.

Bert Russell – Brampton – Veteran Category (Box)

Throughout his illustrious 17-year playing career, Bert Russell consistently finished in the top 5 on his team and top 10 in the league. As a player for the Brampton Junior “A” Excelsiors, Bert’s strongest assets were his outstanding speed and excellent shot. In 1955, Bert was acquired on loan to the Long Branch Monarchs to bolster their quest for the Minto Cup, which they won with his contributions. That same year, Bert was selected as Most Valuable Player by the Brampton Excelsiors.

Aside from two seasons, Bert was an Excelsior from start to finish. By the time he retired from playing, he had won two Minto Cup championships, had been a finalist on three Mann Cup teams and won several Ontario Lacrosse provincial championships beginning in the Midget Minor division and culminating in Major Series.

In addition to lacrosse, Bert was a multisport athlete who was recognized for his proficiency in track and field, football and basketball. Bert continues to stay active on the tennis court and golf course, though he maintains that his passion for lacrosse will never fade.

The Ontario Lacrosse Hall of Fame and Museum is located at Lock 3 of the Welland Canal Parkway in St. Catharines, Ontario. Please contact Chuck Miller (chuck.miller@bell.net) for further information related to the Ontario Lacrosse Hall of Fame and its members.