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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ONTARIO JUNIOR "A" LACROSSE LEAGUE ANNOUNCES 2019 EXPANSION

TORONTO ON – February 1st, 2018 – The Ontario Junior "A" Lacrosse League (OJALL) announced that it has awarded an expansion team to the city of Oakville and owner Sam Rook. The team, which will begin competition in the 2019 season, will be known as the Oakville Buzz.

"It is my pleasure to report the unanimous vote bringing the Oakville Buzz Lacrosse Club into our league beginning in 2019," said OJALL Commissioner Dean McLeod. "This is a positive addition to Junior "A" lacrosse as the Oakville Minor Lacrosse Association continues, year after year, to produce some of the finest lacrosse players in all of Canada. On behalf of the Junior "A" Board of Governors, I extend a warm welcome to Sam Rook and the entire Buzz organization."

The Oakville Buzz began competition as an expansion team in the Ontario Junior "B" Lacrosse League (OJBLL) in 2001, and has consistently competed as a playoff team since the 2003 season. The franchise found success in 2006 by capturing the Founders Cup Junior "B" Lacrosse Championship of Canada title. "The Buzz are excited to join the OJALL in 2019 and compete in the best junior lacrosse league in the World. We look forward to this great challenge and competing for Minto Cups with the great support of the Oakville Lacrosse community." said Rook.

Throughout the transaction process, OLA VP of Junior to Major Box Lacrosse Jim Bomhof provided advisory services between the league and the Oakville Buzz organization. "This is a very exciting time for junior lacrosse in Ontario," Mr. Bomhof remarked. "The depth of the Oakville Buzz franchise will make for a competitive addition to the Junior "A" Lacrosse League." The Ontario Lacrosse Association's Board of Directors will now convene to finalize and approve the team's transfer of divisions. The Oakville Junior "B" franchise will compete for the last time in the Ontario Junior "B" Lacrosse League beginning in April of this year, in pursuit of its second national championship title.

About the Ontario Lacrosse Association:

Since 1897, the Ontario Lacrosse Association (OLA) has been recognized as the administrative governing body which exists to improve, foster, perpetuate and govern of all levels (youth, junior and senior) and disciplines (box, field and women's field) of lacrosse in the province of Ontario.

In addition to coordinating the operation of the sport, the OLA provides informative resources, technical development programs and additional supplies for those interested in the "fastest game on two feet." For more information, contact the Ontario Lacrosse Association at (416) 426-7066 or email info@ontariolacrosse.com.



Pictured (L to R): OJALL Chairperson Greg O'Connor, Oakville Buzz owner Sam Rook and OJALL Commissioner Dean McLeod

Photo credit: Eva Durie