

Acton Ambassador in CNE competition

Acton Fall Fair Ambassador Robin Dercatch will join fair winners from across Ontario in the 40th annual Ambassador of the Fairs competition at the 2011 Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) in Toronto.

The qualifying rounds will be held Friday, Aug. 19 and Saturday, Aug. 20 with the final set for the Queen Elizabeth Theatre Sunday, Aug. 21 at 2 p.m.

More than 70 contestants, aged 18 to 25, will showcase their knowledge of Ontario agriculture, and be judged on poise, self-confidence and prepared speeches. As Ambassador of the Fairs, the winning competitor participates in a series of official duties during the 18-day run (Aug. 19-Sept. 5) of Canada's largest fair, while at the same time representing their individual fair and community.



ROBIN DERCATCH

-Advertorial-

My dad started coaching lacrosse in the summer of 1996. That was the year when we met the Haynes', Reads, Dances, Hanzelkas and the Murdens. This was also the year I realized when lacrosse was truly in our families' blood because I got to be teammates with my cousins Seth Laidlaw and Jayson Crawford. As we went arena to arena I realized how much I loved the game. My first stick was bigger than me! In the summer of 1999 I played on the Halton Hills Bulldogs Peanut team for Chris Murden, Terry Laidlaw and Don Hanzelka.

In 2000 I played for Kevin Dance but I left the next year to join Joe Condotta's team. We were Ontario champions that year. From 2002 to 2005 I played field and box lacrosse for Kevin Dance. These were some of the most fun years I ever had. Being the only girl on the team I got treated pretty special. We travelled from hotels to campgrounds to cottages together every summer for 4 years. The most memorable year was my very last year of boys field and box lacrosse when we won every single game of the season, every tournament, and won the provincials. We were 42 and 0 and I thought that this would be a good ending note to my box lacrosse career.

So I left all my equipment behind and joined girls field lacrosse. Thanks to all the outstanding coaching I've had over the years I have found great success.

My second year of playing girls field lacrosse I made the U19 Ontario team, as the youngest on the team, being only 13. That year I played for Ontario and got to watch the World Championships and that's when it all hit me. I had a goal for myself. I wanted to represent my own country playing the sport I loved.

The tryout for Team Canada has been a long journey and a lot of hard work. It has been two years of practice and dedication. The very first tryout I went to there were approximately 160 nominated girls who were eligible to make Team Canada. Today there are only 18 of us who will follow our dreams to Germany.

Without the support of my friends and family I wouldn't have made it this far. Everybody has been so helpful, kind and supportive. Thank you to everyone for attending our BBQ and sharing the excitement!

I hope I can bring home a medal! - Casey Lyons



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