

CANADA'S PARALYMPIC TEAM, BY THE NUMBERS

128 ATHLETES AND GUIDES WILL COMPETE IN 18 EVENTS AT THE TOKYO 2020 PARALYMPIC GAMES

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With the 2020 Summer Games in the rear view mirror, Canada now has another delegation of 128 athletes in Tokyo, this time competing in the 2020 Paralympic Games.

From Aug. 24 to Sept. 5, Team Canada's athletes will compete in 18 events, including wheelchair basketball, Para swimming, Para athletics and wheelchair rugby.

The team is made of a mix of rookies and Olympic veterans, including 26 previous medalists. Like the Tokyo 2020 Summer Games team, it's comprised mostly of women, with 71 female and female-identifying athletes



Clifford Skarstedt photo

Family and friends hold a send-off party for Paralympian Cody Caldwell before he left to represent Canada in wheelchair rugby at the Games in Tokyo - his second Paralympic Games after Canada placed 4th at the 2016 Summer Games in Rio de Janeiro.

and 57 male and male-identifying athletes.

"Canada's Paralympians are absolute stars," said Stephanie Dixon, chef de mission for the

Tokyo 2020 Canadian Paralympic Team. "They are among the best athletes in the world, and I can't wait for their incredible hard work, talent, dedication,

and perseverance to be celebrated across Canada."

Here's a breakdown of the team representing Canada at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games:

- Of the 128 athletes and guides, 42 come from Ontario, 28 from Quebec, 21 from British Columbia, 20 from Alberta, seven from Saskatchewan, four from New Brunswick and one each from Prince Edward Island, Yukon, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland & Labrador and Manitoba, plus one overseas athlete.

- Canada's youngest athlete, Para swimmer Nicholas Bennett, is 17. Its most senior, competing in wheelchair fencing, is Ruth Sylvie Morel, 64.

- Three Paralympians are competing in sports making their debut at the Games this year. Olivia Meier will become the first Canadian Paralympian to compete Para badminton. Jessica Tuomela and Lyne Tremblay will both make their Para-

lympic debuts, competing in the new sports Para triathlon, and shooting Para sport, respectively.

- 55 athletes will make their Paralympic debuts, while 73 already have Paralympic experience, including 68 who competed in the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

- 26 athletes are already Paralympic medallists, including Brent Lakatos, who is competing in Para athletics and holds seven medals, and Aurelie Rivard, who is competing in Para swimming and holds five medals.

- Among athletes who already have Paralympic experience, Karen Van Nest and Patrice Simard will make their sixth appearances at the Games, competing in Para archery and wheelchair rugby. Another six athletes will make their fifth appearances at the Games, including Lakatos, Lauren Barwick, Cindy Ouellet, Patrick Anderson, Fabien Lavoie and Mike Whitehead.

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