## Cockburn hopes injury doesn't shelve Pan Am dreams

BY MICHAEL HAYAKAWA

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Karen Cockburn was gearing up for the 2014 world trampoline championships in Daytona Beach, Fla. last weekend.

Unfortunately for the 34-yearold Stouffville resident and threetime Olympic medallist, she did not get that opportunity.

Not after Cockburn incurred a serious left ankle injury during practice in Daytona Beach last week, which forced her to withdraw.

Returning to competition earlier this year after taking two years off following the 2012 Summer Olympics to raise a family, Cockburn flew home to Toronto the morning after the accident and was expected to see a doctor Wednesday.

## FLORIDA FALL

"Right now it's too swollen to determine how serious it is," she said from her Stouffville home Wednesday. "There's no diagnosis or long-term recovery time frame yet."

In recalling the incident, Cockburn said it took place just two days before the competition where in the middle of practising her routine and jumping on what she Area. described as an unstable trampoline, her foot struck a supporting

She then fell onto the floor and landed on her back.

"I knew it was bad because of the pain," she said.

Anticipating she could have surgery by next week, Cockburn does not know at this juncture if her setback will jeopardize her chances to earn a berth on Canada's team for the 2015 Pan American Games that will be held in the Greater Toronto

## **'WOULD BE ON PODIUM'**

Citing fellow Canadian trampolinist Jason Burnett had ACL surgery two weeks ago, Cockburn said his recovery time could take anywhere from six to nine months.

"I know of people who had similar ankle surgery and it could take up to six months," she said.

Currently ranked second in Canada, which would enable her to be on the team, Cockburn said the Canadian Pam Am trampoline team selection event is scheduled to be held in April at a site yet to be determined.

In the days leading up before her untimely accident, Cockburn felt she was right on target to being on the team.

"It's too bad because I was jumping well. My coach (Dave Ross) said I would be on the podium.

"Right now it's frustrating."



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