

Ottawa athlete Benjamin Kendrick was awarded the 2018 Team Investors Group Amateur Athletes Fund Bursary

OTTAWA (July 31, 2018) – AthletesCAN and Investors Group are pleased to announce that judo national team member **Benjamin Kendrick** has been awarded a \$5,000 Team Investors Group Amateur Athletes Fund bursary.



Photo: International Judo Federation

In keeping with their commitment to amateur sport in Canada, Investors Group established a bursary fund for Canada's top high performance athletes. A national leader in delivering personalized financial solutions to Canadians, Investors Group annually awards twenty \$5,000 bursaries to assist Canada's elite amateur athletes with the costs of training and competition. Selection criteria includes: athletic achievement, financial need and community involvement.

Since its inception in 2000, the Team Investors Group Amateur Athletes Fund has provided \$1.9 million to Canadian athletes. AthletesCAN administers the bursary on behalf of Investors Group.

"Investors Group is proud to support our nation's elite athletes with these bursaries," says Trevor Krahn, Director, Sponsorship and Community Engagement for Investors Group. "Athletes at this level are often living on a tight budget and juggling the demands of work and school with training and competition. We are pleased to be able to give some financial piece of mind to these committed individuals so they can better focus their efforts on their sport."

"AthletesCAN is proud to partner with Investors Group, one of Canada's leading corporate contributors of direct funding to our country's top high performance athletes," says Ashley LaBrie, Executive Director, AthletesCAN. "For the last 19 years, the Team Investors Group Amateur Athletes Fund has recognized the athletic accomplishments, financial need and community involvement of Canadian athletes. These bursaries continue to provide athletes with the financial confidence to focus on their pursuit of excellence as athletes, and as people. On behalf of Canadian athletes, AthletesCAN applauds Investors Group for their continued leadership and support where it is needed most."

Benjamin's recent sport accomplishments include earning a gold medal at the 2018 U21 National Championships, a gold medal at the 2018 National Championships, and 7th place at the 2018 Men's Pan American Cup in Lima. Additionally, Benjamin is a two-time U18 Pan American Gold Medalist in 2016 and 2017, as well as an eight-time national champion.

"Being selected as a recipient of the \$5,000 bursary from the Team Investors Group Amateur Athletes Fund means a lot to me as an amateur athlete," says Benjamin. "It is a good feeling to have the financial support of a company like Investors Group and an organization like AthletesCAN. Unfortunately, not all of my training and competition costs are funded by Judo Canada and this financial support will help pay for costs that I am required to pay on my own," he adds. "I play a mentorship role for younger athletes including judokas and this bursary will enable me to free up some additional time to speak to athletes in the community."

Congratulations to this year's recipients who will continue to leave their mark on the Canadian sport landscape and inspire the next generation of champions across the country.

The 2018 Team Investors Group Amateur Athletes Fund bursary recipients are:

Alex Boisvert-Lacroix (Sherbrooke, Québec) – Speed Skating
Bailey Bram (Ste. Anne, Manitoba) – Hockey
Laura Brown (Vancouver, British Columbia) – Cycling
Jaimee Bull (North Bay, Ontario) – Water Ski

Jane Channell (North Vancouver, British Columbia) – Skeleton
Monika Eggens (Pitt Meadows, British Columbia) – Water Polo
Annie Guglia (Montréal, Québec) – Skateboard (Street)
Tyler Henschel (Sherwood Park, Alberta) – Diving
Philippe Marquis (Québec City, Québec) – Freestyle Skiing (Moguls)
Brittany Kasil (Guelph, Ontario) – Rugby
Benjamin Kendrick (Ottawa, Ontario) – Judo
Andréanne Langlois (Trois Rivières, Québec) – Kayak (Sprint)
Simon Langlois-Gauthier (Gatineau, Québec) – Para-Karate
Emma Lunder (Canmore, Alberta) – Biathlon
Heather McLean (Winnipeg, Manitoba) – Speed Skating
Jackson Payne (Calgary, Alberta) – Artistic Gymnastics
Jacqueline Simoneau (Saint-Laurent, Québec) – Artistic Swimming
Christy Spurrell (Maple Ridge, British Columbia) – Sport Climbing
Michael Tayler (Ottawa, Ontario) – Kayak (Slalom)
Toshihide Uchiage (Richmond, British Columbia) – Karate

A special thanks to our selection committee members Greg Edgelow (Wrestling), Andrew Haley (Swimming), Mercedes Nicoll (Snowboard), and Bo Hedges (Wheelchair Basketball).

About Investors Group

Founded in 1926, Investors Group is a national leader in delivering personalized financial solutions to Canadians through a network of Consultants located across Canada. In addition to an exclusive family of mutual funds and other investment vehicles, Investors Group offers a wide range of insurance, securities, mortgage and other financial services. Investors Group has \$88 billion in assets under management as of June 30, 2018 and is a member of the IGM Financial Inc. (TSX: IGM) group of companies. IGM Financial is one of Canada's premier financial services companies with over \$159 billion in total assets under management as of June 30, 2018.

About AthletesCAN

AthletesCAN, the association of Canada's national team athletes, is the only fully independent and most inclusive athlete organization in the country and the first organization of its kind in the world. As the voice of Canadian national team athletes, AthletesCAN ensures an athlete centered sport system by developing athlete leaders who influence sport policy and, as role models, inspire a strong sport culture.

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