



## Congratulations Alberta



OTTAWA – Paralympian Zak Madell (pictured below with the ball) scored a spectacular point with two seconds remaining to give Alberta a dramatic 63-62 victory

over Ontario to win the gold medal on Sunday May 05 at the wheelchair rugby national championships.

It was a fitting end to a remarkable game which featured many Canadian national team players who are among the world's best. The crowd stayed on the edge of their seats witnessing the incredible passes, crashing rushes into the end zone, and metal wheelchairs smashing into each other – making a noise that can only be described as a two-car collision in front of your house.

After a two-year hiatus to focus on his studies, Madell showed the speed and strength that made him one of the world's best players back in 2015 and 2016. "It's about time we get a different province winning," said Madell. "It was an incredibly clean game on both sides with few turnovers. I haven't quite processed it yet, but it feels good. It's been a whole team effort throughout the entire tournament and because of that we got the gold." The victory ended a seven-year title run for Ontario. No more than two points separated the two teams for the full 32 minutes.

In the bronze medal game, Quebec grabbed control for the start and sailed to a 65-55 win over the Ontario Lightning. National team veteran Fabien Lavoie was the star scorer for the victors. Like his national team teammates here, he is ultimately preparing for the Parapan Am Games this August in Peru, where a Canadian victory would mean an early berth in the 2020 Paralympic Games.

Information provided by Wheelchair Rugby Canada and more can be found here: [www.Wheelchairrugby.ca](http://www.Wheelchairrugby.ca).

## Access Expo

After three plus decades of meeting the show needs for people with a disability in the GTA, the folks that owned the People in Motion Show chose not to have it this year. So, the community led by Variety Village have founded a new initiative called Access Expo!

Join us for the inaugural Access Expo on Thursday, June 6, 4:00 – 8:00 PM and Friday, June 7, from 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM at Variety Toronto (Variety Village) 3701 Danforth Avenue, Toronto, ON M1N 2G2. [www.accessexpo.ca](http://www.accessexpo.ca)



This event is designed to connect consumers of all abilities, their families and friends, organizations and healthcare

professionals to products and services for any individual interested in accessibility, inclusion, mobility, sport, fitness and healthy living.

The Access Expo is excited to welcome an exciting speaker series to promote inclusive healthy active living opportunities and experiences for people of all ages and abilities.

SPEAKER SCHEDULE: Friday June 7, 2019

- 10:00 JaimeLynn Nowbari – High Five Training
- 11:00 Alf Spencer – Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility
- 12:00 Marianne Kozinets, Anu Banerjee, Kristan Francis of Spinal Cord Injury Ontario
- 1:00 Michelle Haney – Euro-Peds
- 2:00 Chris Power – Power Transitions
- 3:00 Jeff Tiessen – ParaSport Ontario
- 4:00 Karen Stintz – Variety Village/Variety Ontario
- 5:00 Valeria Alvia – World Financial Group

Apart from all the product and service exhibitors there will be a full house of career fair and education agencies along with awards to some outstanding people who have been innovators in accessibility. See you there!

# Accessible Tech Expo

We participated in the first annual Accessible Technology Expo May 30 in Ottawa founded by Independent Living Canada. We appreciated the work Patrick Curran and his team put into the Expo and trust it will be bigger and better next year. Folks in the National Capital Region need to have what is available in their community and outside to better meet their mobility needs. Stay tuned to [www.ilcanada.ca](http://www.ilcanada.ca).

# National AccessAbility Wk

Following the Coalition's Connections Event May 16 at the Living Arts Center in Mississauga, we participated in that city's National AccessAbility Week on June 3 at the Great Hall at the Mississauga Civic Centre. The objective of that event was to showcase accessible bicycles to the community. Jeff Fishbein with Theracare Marketing and this writer managed to spend a day showcasing Trivel and Batec Products. The attendance did not blow us away, but these are all growing events that someday will demand the attention of the consumers we seek for our products.

Accessibility News & Events



National AccessAbility Week Events

Join the City of Mississauga in celebrating National AccessAbility Week. Check out one of the events listed below or visit the Great Hall at Mississauga Civic Centre to learn more about the program and access information to people with disabilities. For accessibility information and event information from various organizations such as Carleton and York University, the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB), and the Canadian Hearing Society (CHS).

June 3-7, 2019

# Industry Changes

It has been an exciting time for companies on the west coast. David and Cathy Elder have followed Darryl and Kim Mackie and sold their stores to National Seating and Mobility who are on an acquisition pace second to none. See more information here: <https://www.nsm-seating.com>

As of April 30, 2019, Motion Calgary and MEDChair Calgary amalgamated losing the MEDChair handle. This amalgamation will see them housed at 4040 Blackfoot Trail SE, Calgary, AB T2G 4E6. Patrick Heffernan is the Regional Manager.

# Wheel Dance

Dr. Iris Kulbatski, Executive Director, WHEEL DANCE let us know that they have a new initiative for kids and youth as per the flyer.



[www.wheeldance.ca](http://www.wheeldance.ca)

[facebook.com/wheeldance](https://facebook.com/wheeldance)

Train and perform at a showcase event in November 2019!

# BATEC

# Models



There are eight Batec models that we are working with: BATEC MINI, BATEC ELECTRIC, BATEC ELECTRIC 2, BATEC SCRAMBLER, BATEC URBAN, BATEC

RAPID, BATEC MANUAL and BATEC HYBRID. We have a compare and choose document on our web site and the international site to compare aspects of the Batec line of products.



All the Batec models have the same anchoring system, same type of structure, and varying power systems with different size wheels. Check out the BATEC MINI, 16" front wheel; BATEC ELECTRIC 20" front wheel; BATEC ELECTRIC 2, 18" front wheel; BATEC SCRAMBLER 19" front wheel (all terrain); BATEC URBAN 20" front wheel;

BATEC RAPID 20" front wheel; BATEC MANUAL 20" wheel; BATEC HYBRID 20" wheel.

All eight (8) Batec models are designed for users with full hand function in their standard configuration. For users without full hand function, we have controls sold under the name **QUAD**. For users who only have functional difficulties in one of their upper limbs, we offer controls sold under the name **HEMI**.

# Bits and Bytes

Access Expo June 7-8 at Variety Village, Toronto, ON;

-  Rehab Equipment Expo (REE) Sept 10 Richmond, BC;
-  Prairie Heart Show September 17 Regina, SK;
-  MEDIChair Show September 19 Saskatoon, SK;
-  Rehacare in Dusseldorf, Germany September 18-21.

*BESPOKE PLUS* is the newsletter of 49 Bespoke Inc., which markets products from around the world designed to better meet the needs of people with a disability. We have grown up in sport, have a social service background, and have adopted an advocacy role in our business practice. Comments are welcome. Have a great Abilities Expo Toronto!