

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 8, 2016

#caledonproud

Sign the Caledon flag to wish local athletes good luck in Rio



Show your spirit, Caledon! Stop by a Caledon recreation centre to write well-wishes on a Town flag for local athletes competing in this summer's Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Caledon's own Andrew Yorke, Ashley Lawrence and Tess

Routliffe are off to Rio next month. Flags for them are at Caledon Community Complex, Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness, and Mayfield Recreation Complex.

Andrew Yorke (Triathlon) – sign his flag at Caledon Community Complex

Andrew Yorke, 27, is a triathlete. Rio is his first Olympic Games. He grew up playing soccer and basketball and riding his mountain bike on the local pathways near Caledon East. Yorke met Olympic coach Barrie Shepley after the 2000 Olympic Games where Canadian Simon Whitfield won gold. He became an active member of C3's local Triathlon and Running Program and got started in the annual Caledon C3 Kids of Steel Triathlon. He is a Humberview High School and McMaster University graduate where he ran track and cross country. He was on the National Junior Team for Canada, the under 23 National Team for Canada and in 2014 was the top Canadian at the Commonwealth Games. Last year, he was the Canadian National Champion and was the top Canadian at the Pan American Games. He ended the two year Olympic qualifying period as the top-ranked Canadian triathlete and is focused on going for a medal at the Rio Olympic Games in August.

Ashley Lawrence (Women's Soccer) – sign her flag at Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness



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Ashley Lawrence, 21, is a Mayfield High School grad who has loved soccer from a very early age. She represented Canada on the U17 and U20 national soccer teams. For the last three years, she has played collegiate soccer for West Virginia University where she has won numerous awards for her soccer talents. Eighteen months ago she caught the eye of the national team and, after a few trial competitions, was added to the starting lineup. The Women's Olympic Soccer Team are defending Bronze medalists from the London Olympic Games.

Tess Routliffe (Para Swimming) – sign her flag at Mayfield Recreation Complex

Tess Routliffe, 17, is a member of Canada's Paralympic Swim team. This Caledon resident competed at the 2014 Pan Pacific Para-swimming Championships and made it to the finals in six individual events at age 16. In 2015, Routliffe won four gold medals and one silver at the 2015 Toronto Parapan Am Games. She took gold in the 50-m freestyle, 100-m freestyle, 100-m breaststroke and 100-m backstroke, with the silver in the 200-m.

The Rio Paralympic Games begin Sept 7-18 and will be the largest games in history.

Recreation Centre locations

Caledon Community Complex, 6215 Old Church Rd, Caledon East
Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness, 14111 Hwy 50, Bolton
Mayfield Recreation Complex, 12087 Bramalea Rd, Caledon

Please note that the flag for Ashley Lawrence (Women's Soccer) at the Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness will be leaving on Monday, July 18.

The flag for Andrew Yorke (Triathlon) at Caledon Community Complex will be leaving on Thursday, July 28.

The flag for Tess Routliffe (Para Swimming) at Mayfield Recreation Complex will also be leaving on Thursday, July 28.

Photo captions: (L) Andrew Yorke's flag is ready for well-wishers at Caledon Community Complex; (R) The flags have already been at the Mayor's Seniors Forum, which took place last month at the Caledon Community Complex.

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