



# OPPORTUNITIES FOR ELITE HOCKEY IN BC HOCKEY

## 1.0 BACKGROUND

As there are no opportunities to play elite (AA, AAA) hockey within the Hockey North Branch players must move to British Columbia or other branches to pursue their hockey goals. Generally, Hockey Canada does not encourage the free movement (does not include the relocation of a family) of players between branches but will consider a request under justified circumstances. There is an informal agreement between presidents of BC Hockey and Hockey North to allow a limited number of elite northern players, to transfer to British Columbia under the following criteria:

- Player's ages 15-16 years are eligible at the Midget Division if they are selected to play at the AAA level (only).
- Player's age 17 years are eligible at Junior Division.

## 2.0 THE PROCESS

The "application to transfer" process involves the following steps:

- A written application must be submitted to Barry Petrachenko, Executive Director of BC Hockey by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

BC Hockey  
6671 Oldfield Road  
Saanichton, BC  
V8M 2A1

Phone: 250.652.2978  
Fax: 250.652.4536  
Email: [bpetrachenko@bchockey.net](mailto:bpetrachenko@bchockey.net)

- The application should, among other relevant information, include:
  - A short profile (resume) of the player including relevant personal information and hockey experience
  - The reason (to pursue elite hockey opportunities) and the rationale (no opportunities in NWT) for the application
  - Reference to the informal transfer agreement between two branches
  - A letter of support for the local MHA and President, Hockey North
  - A letter of support from an identified potential host team in British Columbia and the potential host association would be very helpful.
- BC Hockey must file an appeal with Hockey Canada by July 15<sup>th</sup> for the appeal to be considered by August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The application must include a cheque for \$50.00 to cover the appeal fee.
- The cheque should be made payable and issued to BC Hockey

- Hockey Canada will deal with the appeal within a very short time frame. A response will usually be provided to BC Hockey within 7 days of Hockey Canada receiving the appeal.
- BC Hockey (Barry Petrachenko) will notify the appellant of the Hockey Canada decision within 2 (two) days of receiving the decision Hockey Canada decision.
- If Hockey Canada approves the transfer, the player may pursue opportunities in British Columbia subject to BC Hockey policies.
- The requirement to associate with a particular BC Hockey region by July 1 is waived pending the Hockey Canada decision.

### 3.0 GENERAL

- Hockey Canada's National Appeals Committee meets regularly to consider appeals. The informal agreement between Hockey North and BC Hockey is understood at the national level and it provides and opportunity for elite players from the North to play "AAA" hockey.
- Players are strongly encouraged to:
  - Make contact with prospective BC Hockey teams to confirm interest by a potential host team and association.
  - Make contact with prospective teams as early as possible so that BC Hockey administrative requirements may be addressed in an efficient and timely manner.

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Gary Vivian, President  
Hockey North

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Date

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Wilf Liefke, President  
BC Hockey

July 19, 2012

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Date