

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Nine of Manitoba's Top Skaters Descend on Pierrefonds, Quebec to Compete in the 2017 Skate Canada Challenge

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** - WINNIPEG, MB. Nov. 21, 2016 - Skate Canada Manitoba is sending 9 skaters to Pierrefonds, Quebec to compete in the 2017 Skate Canada Challenge Competition, the skaters will be competing starting Wednesday, November 30 – Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> in Pre-Novice Women, Pre-Novice Men, Novice Women, Junior Women and Senior Women.

Approximately 500 skaters from across Canada will be competing in 16 categories; at the end of the weekend Skate Canada will crown the Pre-Novice Canadian Champion in each of the 4 disciplines (singles {women and men}, ice dance and pairs). Skaters in Novice, Junior and Senior will be vying for a berth to the 2017 Canadian Tire National Skating Championships January 16-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 in Ottawa, Ontario.



**MB 2017 Challenge Skaters**



**Deidre Russell**

Deidre Russell will be attending her 5<sup>th</sup> Skate Canada Challenge Competition representing Manitoba as a Senior Women. She hopes that she is successful in earning one of the spots to compete at the 2017 Canadian Tire National Championships in Ottawa, January 16-22, 2017.

The competition schedule, start orders and live streaming information is available at Skate Canada's website [www.skatecanada.ca](http://www.skatecanada.ca)

#### 2017 Skate Canada Manitoba - Challenge Team

Category	Name	Club	Coach
<b>Pre-Novice Women</b>	Julia Patenaude	Holland Figure Skating Club	Tammy McKay
	Chanel Cabak	Portage Skating Club	Margo Russell
	Emma King	Skate Winnipeg	Margo Russell
<b>Alternate</b>	Annika Duguay	Carberry Figure Skating Club	Tammy McKay
<b>Pre-Novice Men</b>	Yohnatan Elizarov	Skate Winnipeg	Margo Russell
<b>Novice Women</b>	Casey Bertholet	Hartney Figure Skating Club	Tammy McKay
	Andrea Laskovic	Skate Winnipeg	Roni Swischuk
	Danae Russell	Skate Winnipeg	Margo Russell
<b>Junior Women</b>	Lindsey Hopkins	Selkirk Skating Club	Michelle Hume
<b>Senior Women</b>	Deidre Russell	Skate Winnipeg	Margo Russell
<b>Team Leaders</b>	Michelle Magnusson		
	Mary Ellen McDonald		

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For more information – contact Shauna Marling, Executive Director [skate.exec@sportmanitoba.ca](mailto:skate.exec@sportmanitoba.ca) or 204-925-5708 (W), Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. Allan Gordon, Skate Canada Communications Coordinator. He will be the media contact at the event and can be reached onsite at 613.697.1354 or at [agordon@skatecanada.ca](mailto:agordon@skatecanada.ca)