**Launch of Athletics New Brunswick Hall of Fame**

***6pm Friday, November 22nd @ the New Saint John Field House***

Athletics New Brunswick is very pleased to announce the launch of its Hall of Fame at 6pm on Friday, November 22nd at the New Saint John Field House. The ceremony will see the induction of its first seven Hall of Fame members selected from over 100 years of New Brunswick Track and Field history. They include athletes Joel Bourgeois (Steeplechase), John Corazza (Javelin), Diane Matheson Clement (Sprint), William “Billy” Maynes (400 meters), Andrew (Jack/”Zan”) Miller (High Jump), Hal Merrill (Paralympian – shot put, discus, javelin) and in the Builder Category, LeRoy Washburn.

“This is an initiative whose time has certainly come, if not overdue”, states ANB Board Chair Marc Lalonde. “The history of our sport of Athletics in our Province is very rich with so many great accomplishments by New Brunswickers. It will be a fantastic opportunity to recognize the past achievements of these incredible athletes who have paved the way for our current and future athletes. The initial inductees were chosen by Athletics New Brunswick’s Awards Selection Committee, focusing on provincial athletes who have represented Canada at the Olympic Games or equivalent plus one remarkable individual in Leroy Washburn, in the builder category for his lifetime devotion and accomplishments. Three of our inductees, Joel Bourgeois, Hal Merrill and Giovanni (Jean) Corazza, will be present at the induction ceremony.”

Carol Landry, the ANB vice-chair, who led the organizing of the Hall of Fame ceremony adds, “This will be a memorable event and coincides with the Athletics Canada Semi General Annual Meeting being hosted in Saint John with board members, staff, and our provincial Athletics branches. We expect over 150 attendees and hope that even more will make the effort to attend. For all those involved in the sport of Athletics in our Province, this will be a one-time opportunity to celebrate past achievements and look ahead to our future”.

The invitation to register will open in mid September and all are welcome. The evening will be an active socialization between all guests and distinguished visitors, with refreshments and hors d’oeuvres, as well as, an on-stage panel discussion between our inductees, senior Athletics Canada staff and top-level Canadian athletes, then conclude with an audience Q&A session. “This format will allow us to connect with our past while equally engaging in our future with past Olympians, aspiring Olympians, senior Athletics Canada coaches and administrators” adds Landry. “A perfect mix, notwithstanding the actual induction of our eight Hall of Famers … And of course, perhaps no better setting than doing it in our brand new $28 million New Saint John Indoor Field House.”

For further information, please contact;

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