



Haba Waba North America Partners With COC and Jouez Gagnant for 2016 Water Polo Festival

Montreal, QC: Haba Waba North America is proud to announce its partnership with the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) and Jouez Gagnant (JG). The two organizations will use this opportunity to introduce youth to water polo and other sports at the 2016 Haba Waba water polo festival, from July 6 to 10, 2016.

Creating an Olympic environment is one of the most important goals for Haba Waba North America; "We are focused on water polo obviously, but we recognize that gaining physical literacy is actually the first and most vital step in a young person's development. We want to expose kids to sport in a fun, educational and competitive setting. The involvement of the COC and JG, is meaningful for our event and their partnership with Haba Waba North America encourages us to grow the Festival yearly," explains Dragan Jovanovic, the leader behind the Haba Waba festival and former Olympic coach of the leader of Canadian men's program.

In only its second year in North America, Haba Waba Montreal will bring 350-400 athletes aged 6 to 14 years old to Parc Jean Drapeau. Inspired by the European water polo movement, Haba Waba International attracts 130 teams or 5,000 participants each year. And the Montreal version is already emulating all the qualities of that event; comradery, community and friendly competition.

Don't miss your chance to join the festival at Parc Jean Drapeau, where you could meet the Canadian Olympic Committee Mascot, Komak, share stories with Canadian Olympians and participate in a number of fun activities.

Quote Dragan Jovanovic:

"Haba Waba is about bringing together athletes, making friends for life, seeing and interacting with Olympians and inspiring the next generation. We feel tremendously thankful and honoured to be partnered with the COC and JG." Dragan Jovanovic, President Haba Waba North America.

Quote COC:

"We are excited to be a part of this great event to inspire youth and encourage them to learn about the Olympic Movement in Canada." Sandra Sassine, Olympian, Program Manager, Education, Youth & Community Outreach.

Quote Jouez Gagnant:

"This partnership represents a great opportunity for young athletes to interact with high level athletes who will be present and we are pleased to contribute to this event." Evelyn Dery, Communication Coordinator, Jouez Gagnant Program.

About Haba Waba North America: Haba Waba is the only opportunity for 6 to 14 year-old children to participate in a competitive water sport focusing on play, fun, family and social/educational values. The event takes place July 6-10, 2016 at Parc Jean Drapeau, 1, Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve Montreal, and is run in partnership with the City of Montreal, Tourism Montreal and Water Polo Quebec.