



February 1, 2012

ONTARIO BASKETBALL CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Ontario Basketball (OBA) announced Tuesday its celebration of Black History Month throughout the month of February. OBA member clubs, coaches and athletes are asked to join the celebration by sharing stories of leaders throughout the basketball community.

“Black History Month is an important time for OBA members,” said Michael T. Cvitkovic, executive director, Ontario Basketball. “We have countless stories of basketball and leadership success that needs to be shared in order for us to properly showcase the wonderful people of our sport. This is an important educational opportunity for OBA as we look to better promote the mavens within our sport.”

OBA will first feature stories and personal accounts of dedication from prominent OBA members such as Team Ontario coaches, Warren Williams and AnneMarie Ssemanda, as well as athletes, administrators and other stakeholders. The stories will highlight the contributions of members and demonstrate success and adversity within the basketball community.

Stories will appear every Friday on www.basketball.on.ca, and showcased on Facebook, Twitter (@OBANews) and featured in *Time Out*, the OBA newsletter.

OBA is launching an open submission contest seeking personal accounts on the importance of Black History Month from members of the basketball community. The contest will open on February 3 in conjunction with the first prominent member posts. The contest will close February 17 with the winners appearing in the February 24 issue of *Time Out*. Stories should be a maximum of 750 words and may include photos and videos, and can be about a variety of topics that illustrate success within the basketball community. Winners will receive an OBA Nike prize pack.

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About Ontario Basketball:

Ontario Basketball is the sport governing body for basketball in the Province of Ontario. Created more than 70 years ago as the Ontario Amateur Basketball Association, the organization is a not-for-profit association and was incorporated as such in 1977. Ontario Basketball represents the province of Ontario's amateur basketball interests. The membership is made up of athletes, coaches, officials, members clubs, camps, local basketball organizations, groups, leagues and basketball supporters. For more information, visit www.basketball.on.ca.