



80+ HOCKEY HALL OF FAME

TEMPLE DE LA RENOMMÉE DU HOCKEY 80+

HISTORY

HOW IT ALL STARTED....

In 1997, I received an invitation to register in the Victoria Playmakers Annual Hockey Tournament which honoured (and continues to honour) active hockey players aged 70 and over in the “**KNIGHT**” category and players aged 80 and over in the “**EXEMPLAR**” category. Not having reached the age criteria for either category, I was ineligible to be inducted, but the visualization that some day we could possibly create our own induction ceremony in the National Capital Region gradually came into focus. The seed was sown. A few years later, in May of 2011, we held our very first induction ceremony at the University of Ottawa Sports Complex during our third annual HOCKEYFEST Tournament. We owe our thanks to Ken Morin, the chief coordinator of the Elder Skatesmen league, and his support group, for helping to make this tournament such a success.

Our inaugural induction ceremony in 2011 welcomed five active players aged 80 and over into the “**PLAYER**” category of the newly formed **80+ HOCKEY HALL of FAME/TEMPLE de la RENOMMÉE du HOCKEY 80+**. **Robert “BOB” Russell** and **Gerald “Gerry” Lee** (Geriatric Senior Buzzards), **Robert “Bob” Vezina** and **Joseph “Joe” Maingot** (Elder Skatesmen), and **Thomas “Tom” Hamilton** (Silver Foxes II) proudly walked the red carpet on the ice preceded by two hockey teammates, **Bill Halliday** (Elder Skatesmen) and **Robert Cliche** (Gloucester 98’s) wearing for the occasion their resplendent Royal Canadian Mounted Police uniforms. Our 6th candidate, **Larry McNabb** (Ottawa Old Stars), was inducted at the Ottawa Olde Tymers’ 2011 Christmas party held at the Prescott Hotel in Ottawa.

Each of the above candidates was inducted according to our knighting protocols using a vintage 1930 one-piece wooden hockey stick. A certificate of recognition was presented to each inductee. The ceremony included the participation of tournament team representatives **Jean-Paul Bergeron** (RA Old Stars 60+), **Gary Lambert** (Silver Buzzards 60+), **Ron Sweeney** (Silver Foxes II 60+ and 70+), **Al Foubert** (Grey Owls 60+), **Dave Reeve** (Elder Skatesmen East 60+), Roger Floyd (Elder Skatesmen Centre 60+), **Don Herrick** (Elder Skatesmen West 70+), **Barry Wellar** (Silver Streaks Old Buzzards 70+), and **Maurice “Moe” Marchand** (Les Boys 70+). Following a friendly hockey game, players and guests were invited to a social gathering at the Draft Pub Restaurant. The annual induction ceremony ritual was initiated and the **80+ HOCKEY HALL of FAME/TEMPLE de la RENOMMÉE du HOCKEY 80+** was born.

A plaque bearing the names of the new inductees into the **80+ HOCKEY HALL of FAME/TEMPLE de la RENOMMÉE du HOCKEY 80+** was produced and put into circulation.



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Each inductee receives the plaque for a period of two to three weeks during which time he has an opportunity to personally celebrate his induction with family and friends. The plaque thereafter is on display in the main foyer of the University of Ottawa Sports Complex for all to enjoy.

In 2012, the organizing committee of the **80+ HOCKEY HALL of FAME/TEMPLE de la RENOMMÉE du HOCKEY 80+**, composed of **Mike Etherington** (Gloucester 98's), **Glen McStravick** (Geriatric Silver Buzzards), and **Maurice "Moe" Marchand** (Les Boys 70+) decided to create a **"BUILDER"** category. The goal was to honour individuals, endorsed by their peers, who were actively engaged in the organization and promotion of senior recreational hockey over a period of ten years or more. By 2016, there were a total of sixteen inducted **"BUILDERS"**.

The recognition and credibility of the **80+ HOCKEY HALL of FAME/TEMPLE de la RENOMMÉE du HOCKEY 80+** has rapidly expanded within the Ottawa-Gatineau region and throughout all of Ontario and Quebec. **LES SAGES RIVE-SUD 80+**, of St-Hubert, Quebec (South Shore of Montreal), submitted a request for consideration of inducting all the eligible hockey players within their 80+ division. Accordingly, in the fall of 2015, the **80+ HOCKEY HALL of FAME/TEMPLE de la RENOMMÉE du HOCKEY 80+** was pleased to welcome from the province of Quebec twenty-two new candidates into the **"PLAYER"** category and one new candidate into the **"BUILDER"** category of its 2015 cohort of inductees.

As an indication of its continued growth, the **80+ HOCKEY HALL of FAME/TEMPLE de la RENOMMÉE du HOCKEY 80+** has expanded from six **"PLAYERS"** represented by four supporting teams in 2011 to a total of one hundred **"PLAYERS"** and **"BUILDERS"** represented by seventeen supporting teams in 2016.

| Year | Player Category | Builder Category | Supporting Teams |
|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2011 | 6 | 0 | 4 |
| 2012 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 2013 | 9 | 3 | 8 |
| 2014 | 6 | 2 | 7 |
| 2015 | 33 | 3 | 11 |
| 2016 | 26 | 6 | 17 |
| 2017 | 31 | 4 | 18 |
| 2018 | 52 | 7 | 21 |
| 2019 | 26 | 2 | 16 |



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The popularity of senior recreational hockey throughout Ontario, Quebec, Saskatchewan and indeed throughout all of Canada, continues to expand. The **80+ HOCKEY HALL of FAME/TEMPLE de la RENOMMÉE du HOCKEY 80+** is committed to its mission of reaching out and honouring all eligible candidates for induction from every province and territory in Canada.

The organization's federal incorporation in February 2015, has given credence to its national scope.

Maurice "Moe" Marchand - Founder