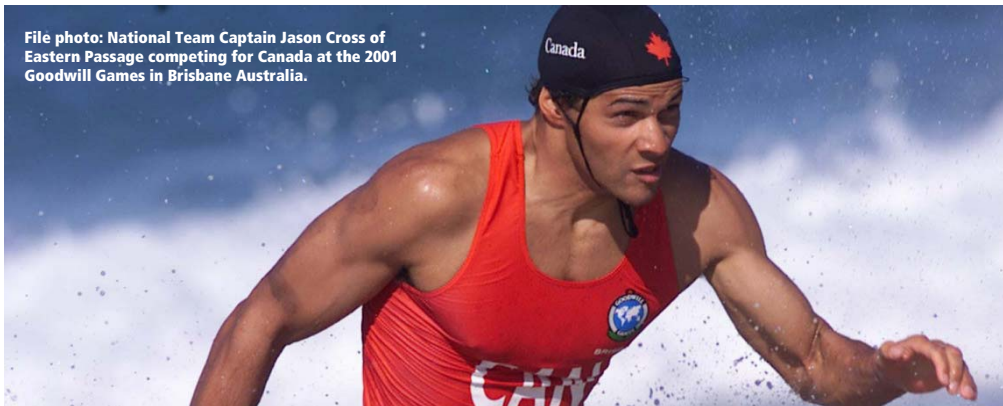




Aqualines

Lifesaving news for Nova Scotians

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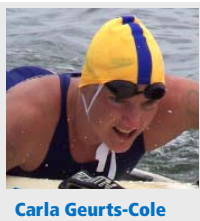
File photo: National Team Captain Jason Cross of Eastern Passage competing for Canada at the 2001 Goodwill Games in Brisbane Australia.

Nova Scotia Lifesavers help Canada at worlds

Three lifesavers with Nova Scotia roots recently helped Canada wrap up a successful showing at Rescue 2006, the world lifesaving championships. Jason Cross, Carla Geurts-Cole, and Alexandra Wilson all boasted very impressive results.

Nova Scotia was also well represented in the officiating ranks with veteran officials Paul D'Eon and Mike Melenchuk making the trip to Australia for world championships. Their experience gained will be invaluable upon their return to Nova Scotia.

One of Canada's most gutsy performances came from Carla Geurts-Cole, who prior to 2005, had never taken part in lifesaving competition. A former Olympic swimmer for the Netherlands, Geurts-Cole became a resident of Canada while studying at the University of New Brunswick and following completion of her degree, she moved to Nova Scotia.



Carla Geurts-Cole

Her start in lifesaving competition came last summer when she took part in the Nova Scotia Surf League where she was named the top rookie competitor. At the 2006 world championships, Geurts-Cole was strong in the pool events winning silver in the 200m Obstacle Swim and helping the 4x50m medley relay team to a 7th place finish. She was also successful in beach events placing 6th in the Surf Race and 4th in the Board Rescue teamed

with Veronique Comtois of Quebec.

For Jason Cross, a resident of Eastern Passage, his 4th trip to the world championship since the national team program started in 2000 was very successful. The current captain of the national lifesaving team who also represented Canada in lifesaving events at the 2001 Goodwill Games prepared for the worlds by training along side some of the world's best in Australia. Combined with Veronique Comtois, John Eddolls and Ryan Ferguson, Cross won silver in the Simulated Emergency Response event. He also placed 13th in his specialty event, the Ironman, and was a part of relay teams that finished 15th in the Beach Relay and 9th in the Taplin Relay.

Competing for Canada in her 2nd world championship, Alexandra Wilson (formerly Konok) also boasted strong showings. The long time competitor — who grew up in and competed out of Halifax but who now resides in California — placed 11th in her specialty event, the Surf Ski Race. Wilson was also part of 8th and 9th place teams in the Beach Relay and Taplin Relay respectively.



Alexandra Wilson

Overall, Canada placed 11th of 27 teams, which tied their best overall showing at the worlds since the inception of the National Team Program in 1999. Canada won 4 medals and placed in the top 8 in 10 events.

Rescue 2006 Canadian National Team Results



Geelong, Australia

Overall National Team Results (top 16 of 27)

1.	AUSTRALIA.....	770
2.	NEW ZEALAND.....	657
3.	SOUTH AFRICA.....	508
4.	ITALY.....	446
5.	GERMANY.....	440
6.	SPAIN.....	437
7.	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.....	434
8.	FRANCE.....	382
9.	NETHERLANDS.....	364
10.	UNITED KINGDOM.....	273
11.	CANADA.....	252
12.	JAPAN.....	228
13.	SWEDEN.....	125
14.	IRELAND.....	114
15.	SWITZERLAND.....	107
16.	BELGIUM.....	88

Canadians placing in the top 8

Women's 200m Obstacle Swim (Pool)		
Geurts-Cole, Carla.....	2:11.67.....	2nd (silver)
Men's 100m Manikin Carry with Fins (Pool)		
Prud'homme, Marc.....	:52.74.....	2nd (silver)
Men's 100m Manikin Tow with Fins (Pool)		
Prud'homme, Marc.....	:55.23.....	2nd (silver)
Women's Line Throw (Pool)		
Comtois, Veronique; Smith, Christie.....	:17.21.....	6th
Women's 4x25m Manikin Relay (Pool)		
Comtois, Veronique; Ellison, Jennifer; Smith, Christie; Share, Teri.....	1:55.99.....	5th
Women's 4x50m Medley Relay (Pool)		
Ellison, Jennifer; Smith, Christie; Geurts-Cole, Carla; Share, Teri.....	1:50.77.....	7th
Simulated Emergency Response (Pool)		
Cross, Jason; Eddolls, John; Ferguson, Ryan; Comtois, Veronique.....	2nd
Women's Surf Race (Beach)		
Geurts-Cole, Carla.....	6th
Women's Board Rescue (Beach)		
Comtois, Veronique; Geurts-Cole, Carla.....	4th
Women's Beach Relay (Beach)		
Comtois, Veronique; Smith, Christie; Geurts-Cole, Carla; Wilson, Alexandra.....	8th



Aqualines

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