



Female Apprentice Coach Program & Women in Coaching

Alberta Basketball Hoops Hangout

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Female Apprentice Coach Program

- What is it
 - 2020-2021 is the inaugural year
 - 18 former student athletes awarded this position
 - Funded by USPORTS in partnership with Sport Canada
 - Aimed to do the following:
 - Increase the opportunities for young women to have access to coaching experiences
 - To support females in their pursuit of professional development opportunities
 - To provide USPORT head coaches who hold advanced training, and opportunity to mentor



Female Apprentice Coach Program

- How I was afforded the opportunity
 - Status as an assistant coach with the University of Calgary
 - Application process for myself, head coach Damian Jennings, and the Athletic Director at University of Calgary
- Opportunities within the program
 - With respect to how COVID-19 has shaped the last 10 months
 - Professional Development
 - Canada Basketball Virtual Coaching Clinics
 - Mentorship Opportunities
 - Overall Exposure



Female Apprentice Coach Program

- Where I dream this program goes for those that follow...
 - With respect to COVID-19 at the financial impact it has had on our industry, at minimum
 - Maintain the program
 - In dreaming for those that will follow the inaugural year
 - A more focused and rigorous agenda in terms of immersing the recipients into their specific coaching world
 - Allow the program to be a pipeline approach for identified females so they are supported within the program, and beyond.



Women in Coaching

- My Experience
 - Began coaching in 2008 while I was a SA at Portland State University
 - Kept coaching through my Division 1 / Undergrad & through my USPORTS / Master's at TWU
 - What Pat Lee did for me (Assistant coach, UFV Women's Basketball)
 - Moved to Alberta
 - Club and USPORTS experiences
 - Summer 2020; left the corporate world to pursue coaching full time



Women in Coaching

- Other possible experiences for Women in Coaching
 - Helping with previous teams; Youth level → USPORTS level
 - Coaching a child's team
- Current Reality & Possible Challenges
 - Very few full time, fully funded, coaching positions in Canada
 - Even fewer full time assistant, fully funded, coaching positions in Canada
 - Time
 - Maternal Pressures outside of Sport



Women in Coaching

- Current Reality & Endless Opportunities
 - Canada is seeing a rise in the number of youth, male and female, playing basketball
 - Toronto Raptors
 - There is a need for females
 - Surge of female hires in North America over the last 5 years
 - Male and Female Wiring
 - Experiential and Professional Development Opportunities
 - Female Apprentice Coach Program
 - Sport Canada: Enhanced Female Mentorship Program
 - Black Canadian Coaches Association (BCCA)





Women in Coaching

- Encouragement
 - The words from Karla Karch that will forever pave the way in my decision making & my 'Dinner with Damian'
 - When life takes you away from the game
 - Resources to stay up to speed
 - Getting back into coaching
 - Picking up where you left off versus picking up where the game currently is
 - What Steph Curry has done for the game of basketball
 - Humbly accepting what you don't know versus narrowing in on what you do
 - Say YES



Questions, ABCD

- Agree, Build, Challenge, (go) Deeper
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