



***Western Ontario Athletic Association***  
***75<sup>TH</sup> Diamond Jubilee - Saturday July 22, 2017***

***JOHN THOMPSON, member of Host Committee***

***284 Whitmore Drive, Waterloo, On N2K 2N5***

**Phone 519-884-4050 – e-mail: [sstj99@gmail.com](mailto:sstj99@gmail.com)**

**MEDIA RELEASE #2 – For Release Week of Mon. January 9, 2017**

## **Hockey Night in Canada's McFarlane attending WOAA 75th**

The Host Organizing Committee of the Diamond Jubilee 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Western Ontario Athletic Association (WOAA) is pleased to announce that Brian McFarlane, the long-time member of the cast of Hockey Night in Canada, is confirmed as a head-table guest.

Brian McFarlane, a native of New Liskeard Ontario, is known as Canada's foremost hockey historian, a man who has been a player, writer and broadcaster for more than sixty years. As a retired commentator on Hockey Night in Canada, Brian spent a quarter century on the iconic Canadian Saturday night sports program and also worked for CBS and NBC. In addition, he is a prolific author of more than 80 books about hockey. His literary prowess has resulted in his being considered an expert on hockey history and he has compiled several volumes of hockey lore titled "It Happened in Hockey". As well in 1999, he wrote a highly regarded series of books on "The Original Six" hockey clubs.



Brian McFarlane, alumnus  
Hockey Night in Canada

Brian wrote a song that went to #1 in Toronto, "Clear the Track, Here Comes Shack" recognizing Toronto Maple Leafs popular and entertaining player Eddie Shack. In 1995, Brian was inducted into the media section of the Hockey Hall of Fame, and he has also been inducted into five others sports halls of fame.

WOAA president Allan Dickson states *“The WOAA is very pleased to have Brian McFarlane add to the success of our anniversary. Brian’s vast knowledge of hockey will result in his being engaged by many fans in reminiscing about the history and evolution of Canada’s favorite sport.”*

The WOAA milestone anniversary will be celebrated on Saturday July 22, 2017 with golf at the Goderich Sunset Golf Club and dinner at the Goderich (Memorial Arena) Community Centre. The dinner will feature two programs of recognition intended to include all WOAA communities from the “tip of the Bruce” south to Grey, Huron, Perth and Wellington counties.

The WOAA Community Sports Legends program will recognize extraordinary volunteers who have provided significant long-term service to sports programs in hometown WOAA communities. Information for nominating “Community Sports Legends” is available on the WOAA website [www.woaa.on.ca](http://www.woaa.on.ca).

The WOAA Alumni of Excellence program will recognize WOAA alumni who have participated at a high level in hockey, softball and baseball. The current list of WOAA alumni to be recognized is available on the WOAA website [www.woaa.on.ca](http://www.woaa.on.ca)

As well, the 15<sup>th</sup> annual “Jon Bateson Memorial Celebrity Golf Classic” is scheduled for a 10:30 shotgun start. An “early bird” discounted fee of only \$75/golfer (for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary) is available for golfers registered and paid by February 1, 2017.

For questions about the WOAA Diamond Jubilee 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, please contact Linda Espensen, Executive Administrator, at the WOAA office at 519-357-3512 or by email through the website [www.woaa.on.ca](http://www.woaa.on.ca).

-30-

**Media Release provided by John Thompson, 519-884-4050  
sstj99@gmail.com**