



## CANADIAN CYCLING HALL OF FAME

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### **ROBBI WELDON**

The Canadian Cycling Hall of Fame is excited to welcome four-time dual Paralympian and Paralympic medallist, Robbi Weldon, whose distinguished career is nothing shy of spectacular.

Ever since she was a child growing up in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Robbi was immersed in sports, jumping on a ski hill at the early age of three, which would later propel her to the 2010 Vancouver and 2014 Sochi Paralympic Games. Her love for racing was obviously not just limited to snow sports. In 2010, she attended a Western Canada Development Camp, where she discovered a talent and passion for cycling.

Within that same year, she would become a World Champion at the Para-cycling Road World Championships in the tandem road race, followed by a consecutive rainbow jersey in 2011 in the time trial. Later that year, Robbi would also sweep all four cycling events at the 2011 Parapan American Games alongside her pilot Lyne Bessette and the duo went on to be named Canada's flag bearers for the closing ceremony.

Riding on this momentum, she went on to compete at the London 2012 Paralympic Games, where she and Lyne stood on the tallest step of the podium after winning the women's road race.

After three highly successful years, Robbi and her then pilot, Emilie Roy, suffered a serious crash after being struck by a car during a training camp in 2013, resulting in a broken collarbone, vertebrae, and shoulder blade. What could have seemingly been career-ending injuries didn't deter her from hopping back on her bike. She went on to win silver in the time trial at the 2015 Parapan American Games, before earning her spot on the Paralympic team and heading to her fourth Paralympic Games in Rio in 2016.

Despite the ups and downs of competing with a visual impairment, her motivation remained her children saying, "My children have benefited greatly from my lifestyle of physical activity and being healthy... meeting para-athletes that are competing at an elite level and are so inspirational." Robbi certainly accomplished the goal of inspiring her children, family, friends and the entire sport community through her various accomplishments, determination and dedication over the course of her career.

It is with great pleasure and honour that we welcome Robbi Weldon into the Canadian Cycling Hall of Fame.