



## Media Release

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### For Immediate Release

For more information contact: Dana Brown  
Communications Coordinator  
Canada Games Council  
Tel: (613) 526-2320 ext. 2708  
e-mail: [dbrown@canadagames.ca](mailto:dbrown@canadagames.ca)

### Canada Games Council Announces 2011 Roland Michener Award Winners

**(February 16, 2012) Ottawa** – Celebrating the one year anniversary of a record-breaking 2011 Canada Winter Games, the Canada Games Council (CGC) has announced that Robert MacMillan of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island and Whitney Lohnes of Bridgewater, Nova Scotia are the recipients of the 2011 Roland Michener Canada Games Award.

“The Canada Games Council would like to congratulate both Robert and Whitney for exemplifying the ideals of the Roland Michener Award,” says Tom Quinn, Canada Games Council Chairman. “Their performances at the 2011 Canada Winter Games were truly inspiring and we look forward to see their progress toward becoming future international and Olympic champions.”

MacMillan, a member of Team PEI, won a gold medal in boxing at the 2011 Canada Winter Games following an arduous recovery period after fracturing his left ankle only months before the Games. Donning an air boot cast, which allowed him to start doing physical therapy, including swimming for cardio as he could not utilize the running track, MacMillan came to the gym on crutches, where, with the help of a physical therapist, he recovered remarkably well. Involved in the sport since the age of five, MacMillan holds an impressive a record of 34 wins and two losses. A leader both in and out of the boxing ring, MacMillan was appointed valedictorian of the 2011 Colonel Gray High School graduating class.

Lohnes, Team Nova Scotia’s flag bearer at the 2011 Canada Winter Games Closing Ceremonies was awarded a gold medal in Judo following an intense four years of training leading up to the Games in Halifax. An accomplished wrestler as well, Lohnes participated in the 2009 Canada Summer Games in PEI and won the Provincial Wrestling Championships in 2008, 2009, and 2010. Lohnes continues to demonstrate a positive and healthy attitude with dedication on and off the mat; training with the Shidokan Judo Club in Montreal while she pursues her studies at Concordia University.

The Roland Michener Canada Games Award was created in February 1992 to recognize the valuable contribution that the late Right Honourable Roland Michener made to Canada, in particular to sport and physical activity in Canada. The Roland Michener Award is awarded following each edition of the Canada Games to two outstanding Canada Games athletes, one male and one female, who exemplify strong leadership skills on and off the playing field, combined with an ongoing commitment to scholastic and athletic excellence. Each winner also receives a grant worth \$2,000 to help with their training and living expenses.

## **About the Canada Games**

*The Canada Games are Canada's largest multi-sport Games with 36 sports represented. Held once every two years, alternating between winter and summer Games, the Canada Games represent the highest level of national competition for up and coming Provincial and Territorial athletes. The Games have been hosted in every province at least once since their inception in Quebec City during Canada's Centennial in 1967. The Games are proud of their contribution to Canada's sport development system in addition to their lasting legacy of sport facilities, community pride and national unity.*

*The organization of the Canada Games is made possible thanks to the contribution and support of the Government of Canada, provincial/territory governments, the Host Societies, host municipalities and the Canada Games Council.*

*The 2013 Canada Summer Games will take place between August 2<sup>nd</sup> and August 17<sup>th</sup> in Sherbrooke, Quebec while Prince George, British Columbia will host the Canada Winter Games between February 12<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.*