

MEDIA RELEASE

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Artistic Gymnasts to Western Canadian Championships

Eight artistic gymnasts from Kelowna will be travelling to Western Canadian Championships and competing for Team BC after qualifying in Surrey, BC.

Four women's artistic athletes qualified to Team BC, two women's artistic athletes will be travelling as independents and two men's artistic athletes qualified to Team BC, which is a record for Okanagan Gymnastics Centre.

Cody Briggs, 17, qualified in the National Open category in the Men's competition. Briggs finished 4th over all in his category and took home a silver medal on the rings and a bronze medal on the vault.

Kolten Marino, 10, will be competing in the Men's High Performance Argo category after finishing 8th overall.

Sugar Tiner, 15, qualified in top spot in the Women's Provincial 5 Open category. After just missing to qualify last season, she proved her position this year finishing with 1st over all and on uneven bars and taking a silver medal on vault. Kelly Atamanchuk also competed in the Provincial 5 Open category and after a consistent competition earned herself 6th overall which is the also the first alternate to travel to these championships.

Alison Watters, 13, competed in the Provincial 5 Novice category and qualified to her first Western Canadian Championships as well after taking home two silver medals on the uneven bars and floor exercise.

In the Women's National Novice category, Makinli Handley, 12, and Adele Lefevre, 11, qualified to Team BC. Handley finished in second place overall with a second silver medal on the uneven bars and a gold medal on the floor exercise. Lefevre finished in third position over all with a second bronze medal on the uneven bars.

Two other athletes will have the chance to travel to this competition as well, Nicole Pavia, 9, and Muriel Stroda, 9. These two young ladies compete in the National Pre-Novice Aspire category which is a national stream developmental category. Athletes in this category have the opportunity to compete as independent athletes and represent their club to gain valuable competition experience at the higher level competitions.

Western Canadian Championships will take place at the beginning of May in Regina, Saskatchewan.

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