



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WinSport brings Sarah Burke Performance Awards back for sixth year**

Calgary, Alta. – Canada’s top freestyle moguls skiers will not only be vying for World Cup medals on Saturday, they’ll be battling for their share of cash as part of WinSport’s Sarah Burke Performance Awards.

WinSport president and CEO Barry Heck announced today that WinSport has renewed its commitment to Canadian winter athletes for the sixth straight season, with the continued presentation of the Awards.

WinSport launched the Sarah Burke Performance Awards in 2012 to honour Burke, one of Canada’s top freestyle skiers and a pioneer in halfpipe skiing. Burke, who lobbied to have her sport included in the 2014 Olympics, succumbed to injuries suffered in a training accident in Utah in January 2012.

For the 2016-17 season, the award will be presented in the amount of \$1,500 to the top Canadian athlete or Canadian team on the podium in any senior World Cup event held at WinSport’s facilities at Canada Olympic Park. This weekend’s freestyle World Cup, hosted by Freestyle Canada, is the only World Cup at WinSport this season.

Since the Sarah Burke Performance Awards were established, WinSport has awarded \$143,000 to Canadian athletes.

Training for Saturday’s FIS Freestyle Ski World Cup runs today, Friday and Saturday morning. Qualifications begin at 9:45 a.m. Saturday, with finals starting at 2:15 p.m.

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**About WinSport**

*WinSport provides world-class sport facilities where Canadian athletes can discover, develop and excel. WinSport owns and operates Canada Olympic Park in Calgary, Alta., the Bill Warren Training Centre located at the Canmore Nordic Centre and the Beckie Scott High Performance Training Centre on Haig Glacier, Alta. A not-for-profit organization, WinSport supports national sport organizations, encourages educational opportunities and subsidizes the operation of unique training and recreational facilities used by the nation's top athletes and the general public. For more information on WinSport please visit [www.winsport.ca](http://www.winsport.ca).*

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