



## **Sylvan Lake Minor Hockey Adding Junior Women's Hockey**

SYLVAN LAKE, AB – The Sylvan Lake Minor Hockey Association (SLMHA) has announced the Central Alberta Amazons are joining the organization, effective July 21, 2025. The Amazons are part of the Alberta Junior Female Hockey League (AJFHL) based out of Penhold, Alberta.

*"We feel this is a good move for both parties in that Sylvan Lake is a strong supporter of Female Hockey and has developed many players in the Minor Hockey program that go on to play Junior Hockey with the Amazon's. The Amazons offer a place for Female players to develop their hockey skills while staying in their home communities. Many of our players continue to work in the area and many graduates of the Amazon's go on to volunteer with Minor Hockey programs and other associations in their own communities."* – **Heather Kirkham, Retired Amazons General Manager**

With the growth of the female game, including the development and success of the PWHL (Professional Women's Hockey League), Sylvan Lake Minor Hockey is hopeful this will continue to grow the game, and opportunities for young women in Central Alberta to continue to play the game they love.

*"This is a natural fit for Sylvan Lake Minor Hockey, not only for where we are today, but for where we want to go in the future. Female hockey has always been a focus for us. We started a U9 female team last year to compliment our U13AA female (Central AB Twins) partnership with Red Deer Minor Hockey. We also have several local girls who play in the West Central Wildcats program. Adding the Amazons to the Minor Hockey family gives our players something to aspire to after their minor hockey careers have completed. We're excited to add them to the fold and we anticipate we will receive lots of volunteer interest to be a part of the team from our community.*

*We are incredibly grateful to have this opportunity and look forward to continuing to build female hockey in Central Alberta!"* – **Dallas Hand, President, SLMHA**

At this time, SLMHA would also like to introduce Carla Erickson as the new Director for the Central Alberta Amazons. Carla has been a staple in female hockey in Central Alberta. She will work alongside current Female Director for SLMHA, Krysta Rush, to continue to build this program into a destination for female hockey in Central Alberta.

*"I see the Amazons being a major player in the growth and development of a strong female program in Central Alberta, and excited to build relationships in this female community."* - **Carla Erickson, Amazons Director, SLMHA**

The Amazons will continue to play in Penhold at the Penhold Regional Multiplex, where current ice agreements are in place for the foreseeable future. Select home games will also be played at the NexSource Centre in Sylvan Lake, when possible.

### ***-Media Inquiries-***

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