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# COACHES & MANAGER NAMED FOR 2017 NAIG MACRAE, SIMON, & MAY TO LEAD ABORIGINAL NB WRESTLING TEAM



**OCTOBER 17, 2016**

**FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK**

Lutte New Brunswick Wrestling and Aboriginal Sport & Recreation New Brunswick have announced the team staff who will be leading the provinces aboriginal wrestlers at the 2017 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) in Toronto, Ontario. Following a call for applicants, the organizations have named Tom MacRae of Fredericton as the Head Coach, James Simons of Richibucto as the Apprentice Coach, and Jennie May of New Maryland as the Team Manager.

MacRae, who currently serves as LNBW's Executive Director, will bring his professional and educational experience to the men's and women's NB Aboriginal Wrestling Teams. As a coach, Tom has served as the Youth Coach of the Black Bears Wrestling Club for the past four years, and as an Assistant Coach at the University of New Brunswick for the previous year. He also has a Bachelor of Recreation & Sport Studies, and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree at the University of New Brunswick where he is investigating the developmental pathways for high performance athletes in combative sports within Canada.

Simons will join the program as the Apprentice Coach. Simons previously competed for Kent Wrestling Club, where he wrestled at various tournaments throughout Canada and the United States. He is an alumni of the 2016 NAIG, where he competed for New Brunswick in wrestling. Outside of wrestling, Simons completed the First Nations Teacher Education Program at the University of New Brunswick, and obtained his Bachelor of Education. He has since become a teacher, and is furthering his studies in his field.

May will serve as the team's Manager. May is a former wrestler for the University of New Brunswick, and is Draw Master in New Brunswick. She has volunteered at various Canadian Championships, and also serves as LNBW's Secretary-Treasurer. Her wealth of experience in management will be a great addition to the 2017 program.

Any aboriginal athletes living in New Brunswick who are interested in trying out for the men's and women's NB Aboriginal Teams are asked to contact Tom MacRae at [exec@lutenbwrestling.com](mailto:exec@lutenbwrestling.com). More details on the team's first talent identification event will be shared shortly on the LNBW Facebook page.