

Kinetico Kids of Steel Triathlon will be June 8 at Mayfield

Life is about timing, and Caledon's Andrew Yorke was fortunate.

As he stopped playing soccer in Caledon, the C3 Canadian Cross Training Club was hosting a local Kinetico Kids of Steel Triathlon in town.

Yorke got involved in the C3 club and started doing the smaller local Kids of Steel Races in the region and training with C3 on a regular basis. While at Humberview Secondary School, he ran cross country and continued to improve his overall swim-bike-run skills with the C3 coaching staff.

Yorke made his first major National team in 2006 when he raced at the World Junior Duathlon Championships and finished 10th overall.

In the eight years since his first National Team, Yorke has raced and graduated from McMaster University and has been on Canadian National Junior Triathlon Teams, National under-23 teams and is now on the Senior Elite Team for Canada.

This year Yorke started the season off in Florida with a silver in Clermont, Florida, and a victory in Sarasota, Florida, beating many past Olympians. His next stop was in Auckland, New Zealand, where he was the top Canadian. He recently raced in Yokohama, Japan (just outside Tokyo), where he was top North American, in 15th place overall and ahead of many past Olympic and National Champions.

"Andrew has worked incredibly hard over the past few years and he is now establishing himself as one of the top elite triathletes in the world," commented C3 head coach Barrie Shepley. "Having watched and worked with Andrew since he was 14-years-old, I know what a competitor he is and how dedicated he is to being world-class."

While it is not official yet, Shepley believes that Yorke will get the nod to race in the Commonwealth Games in Scotland in July and the World Championships in Edmonton in August.

"Andrew's ultimate goal is to race next year at the 2015 Pan American Games and in the 2016 Rio Olympic Games," Shepley said. Andrew's parents, Ward and Tracey, live in Caledon East and Yorke is home when he can be to train with his local C3 friends and supporters.

"Without the help of Kinetico, Benson Steel, Royal Containers, Caledon Hills Bike Shop, Cervelo Bikes and the entire C3 organization, I would have no chance of being one of the best in the world," he said. "I am so proud to be from Caledon and I am really pumped to be with my C3 teammates on June 8th for the 14th annual C3 Kinetico Kids of Steel Triathlon."

Yorke, along with Taylor Reid, Sean Bechtel and local Olympians Brittany Webster and Jake Holden will all be at the 14th annual Kids of Steel Race June 8. The 2014 race has been moved to a new location at Mayfield Recreation Complex, due to the closing of the Caledon Central Pool.

For details of the event, to still register, volunteer or to simply come out and meet Yorke and his teammates, go to www.c3online.ca