

Town to mark Andrew Yorke Day Sept. 17 to recognize triathlete

Sept. 17 will be Andrew Yorke Day in Caledon.

Town council recently voted to proclaim the day in honour of the local resident who finished fourth in the Triathlon in July in the Commonwealth Games in Scotland.

Yorke is a 24-year-old Caledon East resident who went to school at Humberview Secondary School and is a McMaster University Graduate. The local C3 Canadian Cross Training Club member got his start in the local C3 Kinetico Kids of Steel Race Series a decade ago. Since then, he has made the National Junior Team, National Under 23 Team and was Simon Whitfield's Olympic alternate training partner at the 2012 London Olympic Games.

Over the last 18 months, Yorke has risen to become the top triathlete in Canada. Two days after his individual performance in Scotland, he anchored the Canadian team to a fourth place team finish.

Yorke is now in training for the World Championships, to be held in Edmonton.

"It's fantastic that the community and council are recognizing Andrew's great successes and we all hope that he inspires another young boy or girl to find a sport that they are passionate about and put all their energies into being the best they can be," commented Caledon's Olympic Coach Barrie Shepley.

Yorke's next big goal is to make the 2015 Pan American Games Team, and then the 2016 Rio Olympics.

"I have been so lucky to have the C3, Benson Steel, Kinetico, Royal Containers, James Dick, Caledon Hills Bike Shop, Cervelo Bikes, Nineteen Wetsuits and many local supporters help me on my journey," Yorke said.

Besides the Sept. 17 celebrations, Yorke plans to be in town Sept. 28 to headline the C3 Kinetico Run Festival on the grounds of Caledon Town Hall in Caledon East.

"My personal sponsors have all come together to help donate the resources for a free day of running, race shirt, race medal and snack," he observed.

There will also be the Benson Steel 10k and the Royal Containers 5k runs.

Registration for the races (children do have to pre-register for the free one-mile run so that organizers know how much food and what sizes of T-shirts to have ready) is at www.c3online.ca