



ANDREA SMITH APPOINTED HEAD COACH OF SWIM OTTAWA

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Andrea Smith will become Swim Ottawa's new Head Coach on August 1. Smith has coached with the Club for eight years and her passion for, and rich knowledge of, Swim Ottawa (SWOTT) as both a coach and parent means a smooth transition for the swimmers and Club when she assumes her new role.

Smith will succeed Rick Burton when he retires later this summer after a highly successful coaching career in Ottawa and Alberta.

"We chose Andrea as our next Head Coach because of her passion for Swim Ottawa and her alignment with the core areas where we believe we can continue to improve. We're excited about her plan to strengthen the Club's culture as a fun and vibrant community for swimmers, families and coaches," says John Boyer, the in-coming President of SWOTT'S Board of Directors. "Andrea's on-going commitment to our Club's vision of creating strong swimmer performance through a positive team culture will help SWOTT continue to build on the strong foundation that has been laid over our last two decades."

Like many coaches, Smith began her career as a swimmer. A native of Thunder Bay, she began as a Thunderbolt and eventually became a member of Canada's National Swim Team from 1995-2000. During that time she competed at the Olympics, the Commonwealth Games and the World Championships for her country. Over the past 26 years her passion for coaching and aquatics has led her to continuously broaden her coaching experience from age-group to master's to para swimmers. Recently, Smith led Swim Ottawa's para program to become one of the largest in Ontario.

"What I love about Swim Ottawa is that it reminds me so much of the club where I first fell in love with the sport. It has the same sense of belonging, the same pride in being part of something bigger than yourself, the same commitment to helping every swimmer become the best version of themselves," says Smith. "The values that shaped me as both an athlete and a coach — community, inclusion and excellence — are the very values that define this Club. As SWOTT's next Head Coach I want to create the same unforgettable experiences for the next generation of swimmers."

Swim Ottawa is a thriving not-for-profit swim club focused on swimming excellence in the heart of Ottawa for over 25 years. SWOTT has over 130 competitive age-group swimmers and a highly sought-after pre-competitive program. The Club has a proud history of attracting experienced coaching staff with national and international aquatics experience to deliver high-quality coaching to its swimmers.

For more information contact:

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