

REMARKABLE WOMEN

Honouring Women From Our Vancouver Communities



Photo courtesy Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, V263/NA-3863, photo by Byron Harmon

Vancouver Amazons

Though Vancouver's hockey history is a long one, the achievements of the **Vancouver Amazons**, a women's team from the 1920s, is largely forgotten.

The Banff Winter Carnival was an annual event that hosted an invitational women's hockey tournament and in 1921, the Vancouver Amazons were the first team from the city to participate. Though they were defeated in the final, the rookie Amazons had played well.

Frank Patrick, owner of the Amazons, and of the men's professional team, the Vancouver Millionaires, organized a tournament for the Amazons against the Seattle Vamps and the Victoria Kewpies. The Amazons went undefeated during this tournament and did not allow any goals against on their way to becoming West Coast Women's champions and the first women's team to win an international competition.

The Amazons returned to Banff in 1922 with experience and confidence. The team consisted of captain Phebe Senkler and her sister Norah at defense; forwards Elizabeth Hinds, the first BC woman to score a hat trick; Kathleen Carson; Nan Griffith; and goaltender Amelia Voitkevic. The roster was rounded out by Lorraine Cannon and Mayme Leahy.

In the championship match up, the Amazons once again found themselves facing the Calgary Regents. With the Regents leading 1-0, Kathleen Carson scored late in the third period to send the game into overtime. Kathleen, who had, according to the *Vancouver World*, "a shot like a man's", scored again in the extra frame to give Vancouver the win. The Amazons won the Alpine Cup and became "lady champions of western Canada".