

The Calgary Sun (Calgary, AB)				Order/Commande
				129177
Date 22.10.2010	Circ. 54947	Page S7	1 / 1	

Chance to play with heroes

Even though he was forced to pull on an Oilers jersey at last year's event, Lanny McDonald was thrilled to help unveil one of the most unique opportunities Calgary beer leaguers will ever have access to.

"Having the chance to rub shoulders with Paul Coffey in the corner or take the puck off of Darryl Sittler is pretty cool," said the retired Flames Hall of Famer before being cut off by Gordie Howe.

"Or getting stitches," added Mr. Hockey of the possibilities the Scotiabank Pro-Am for Alzheimer's will afford its participants.

Launched five years ago in Toronto and expanded last winter in Edmonton, the event for men and women over age 30 has raised more than \$11 million to date for the Gordie and Colleen Howe Fund for Alzheimer's.

Despite losing wife Colleen to Pick's Disease — which is similar to

Alzheimer's — a year-and-a-half ago, Howe has remained the face of a tourney that will hit Calgary March 18-20 at WinSport Canada's new rinks at Canada Olympic Park.

Not only will Howe mingle all weekend long signing autographs and visiting each team's dressing room, he'll be joined by dozens of retired NHLers such as McDonald, Mark Napier, Colin Patterson and several others to be confirmed later.

Each team must raise a minimum of \$25,000 to participate and will play all weekend with the NHL player they select at the opening draft.

"Seeing the success in Toronto and Edmonton — hey the challenge is there — we can do it better," said McDonald of the event that raised \$1.1 million last year in Edmonton.

Those interested in finding out more can do so at scotiabankproam.com

— Eric Francis

