

## 2012 Alberta Volleyball Hall of Fame Award

### Category: Athlete

### Inductee: Christy Hansen (nee: Torgerson)

Since the beginning of her volleyball career in 1989, Christy Hansen has been an exceptionally driven and talented athlete. More importantly, Christy has been recognized by many as the ultimate teammate and an inspirational leader for the sport of volleyball.

Christy's career began at Sir Winston Churchill High School in Calgary, AB, where she played for the Junior and Senior volleyball teams. Quickly realizing her love of the sport, Christy also joined the Dinnie Volleyball Club and played through her Midget, Juvenile and Junior years. Not surprisingly, Christy's talent and athleticism were recognized immediately and earning her a position on the Team Alberta Midget Provincial Team for the summer of 1990. Christy continued with Team Alberta through to 1993, when she was an integral part of securing a silver medal at the Canada Games. Shortly afterward, Christy was recruited by the University of Calgary in 1992/93 where she began her illustrious post-secondary career.

Christy continued to excel in the sport of volleyball in 1993 and was selected to Team Canada spending three seasons with the Senior National Team. She returned to the CIS for the 1995/1996 season, where Christy joined the University of Alberta Pandas. She remained with the Pandas for two seasons, before heading to Spain to play professionally for the Hotel Cantur in 1997/1998. Fortunately for the Pandas, Christy returned to play two more seasons as the starting setter, and was able to win a National Championship during her time at the University of Alberta.

As a reward for all of her hard work, Christy was named a 2<sup>nd</sup> team CIAU All Canadian and recognized as a CIAU Tournament All Star in 1998/1999. The next season, Christy was named a 1<sup>st</sup> team CIAU All Canadian and recognized as the CIAU Tournament MVP.

Christy was recognized for much more than her talent. In her first two years with the Pandas, Christy was the ultimate team player, accepting her supporting role with the team and finding every opportunity to push her team to excel. In her starting role, Christy helped lead the team to two Championships by continuously exhibiting hard work, perseverance and a fierce competitive spirit. She was an excellent role model who proved her determination and commitment to the team on many occasions; once even playing an entire match through a dislocated shoulder. Her experiences with different teams and players across Canada and across the world developed an unmatched intensity on the volleyball court, and this intensity drove Christy to become a true leader. Christy motivated her teammates with her inspirational words, dedication, and relentless pursuit of excellence.

