

## 2026 MILANO CORTINA OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES – Athlete Nomination Synopsis and Rationale

Congratulations to the following Athletes who have met criteria for nomination to the Canadian Olympic Committee for the 2026 Milano Cortina Olympic Winter Games based on the Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Selection Criteria (Internal Nomination Procedure).

This Synopsis and Rationale is not a team announcement and is only used to rationalize the Athletes who have met criteria for nomination. The official team announcement for the 2026 Milano Cortina cross-country Olympic team is December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Canada currently has 6 quota spots for females, and 5 for males. One alternate for each gender has been nominated.

### Nomination Rationale – Female:

|                                | Criteria | Criteria Description  | Evidence   |
|--------------------------------|----------|---|--|
| <b>Katherine Stewart-Jones</b> | 5.c.7    | Priority 2: 1 Top 10 AND 1 x Top 12 individual final finish race result at a 2024-25 Season World Cup or 2025 FIS Nordic World Ski Championship               | 4 <sup>th</sup> 20K F Toblach WC<br>7 <sup>th</sup> 15K C Pursuit Toblach WC                 |
| <b>Sonjaa Schmidt</b>          | 5.c.8.b  | Priority 3: Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials – December 12-16, 2025   | 1 <sup>st</sup> - 10 KM Interval Start Classic<br>1 <sup>st</sup> – 10KM Interval Start Free |
| <b>Liliane Gagnon</b>          | 5.c.9    | Priority 4: Athletes meeting Exceptional Circumstances, Injury, Illness   | 41.82 FIS Distance Points from 8 <sup>th</sup> FIS points list 2024/25                       |
| <b>Amelia Wells</b>            | 5.c.10.a | Priority 5: Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials; Next Ranked athlete(s) with total lowest FIS points from the Olympic Trials Distance Ranking List | 30.66 Points earned  |
| <b>Alison Mackie</b>           | 5.c.10.a | SAME AS ABOVE   | 43.62 Points earned  |
| <b>Jasmine Drolet</b>          | 5.c.10.a | SAME AS ABOVE   | 50.19 Points earned  |

**Alternate – Female:**

|                                | Criteria | Criteria Description  | Evidence   |
|--------------------------------|----------|---|--|
| <b>Olivia Bouffard-Nesbitt</b> | 5.c.11   | Priority 6: The winner of the Sprint Free Final, also ranked Top 8 in 1 distance race at Olympic Trials | 1 <sup>st</sup> – Sprint Free Final<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> place in 10 KM Interval Start Classic |

**Nomination Rationale – Male:**

|                        | Criteria | Criteria Description  | Evidence  |
|------------------------|----------|---|---|
| <b>Tom Stephen</b>     | 5.c.8.b  | Priority 3: Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials – December 12-16, 2025   | 1 <sup>st</sup> - 10 KM Interval Start Classic, 13.9 points earned                              |
| <b>Max Hollmann</b>    | 5.c.8.b  | SAME AS ABOVE   | 1 <sup>st</sup> – 10 KM Interval Start Free, 19.62 points earned                                |
| <b>Antoine Cyr</b>     | 5.c.10.a | Priority 5: Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials; Next Ranked athlete(s) with total lowest FIS points from the Olympic Trials Distance Ranking List | 23.54 Points earned   |
| <b>Rémi Drolet</b>     | 5.c.10.a | SAME AS ABOVE   | 30.81 Points earned   |
| <b>Xavier McKeever</b> | 5.c.11   | Priority 6: The winner of the Sprint Free Final, also ranked Top 8 in 1 distance race at Olympic Trials   | 1 <sup>st</sup> – Sprint Free Final<br>5 <sup>th</sup> in both distance races at Olympic Trials |

**Alternate – Male:**

|                       | Criteria | Criteria Description  | Evidence  |
|-----------------------|----------|---|---|
| <b>Graham Ritchie</b> | 5.c.8.b  | Priority 7: The next highest-ranked athlete on the Olympic Trials Distance Ranking list based on FIS Points | 5 <sup>th</sup> – Olympic Trials Distance Ranking List, 36.87 Points earned |

Athlete nominations were made by the Acting High-Performance Director (HPD) and reviewed by the High-Performance Committee (HPC) based on the 2026 Olympic Winter Games Selection Criteria (Internal Nomination Procedure) – Amended Aug 28. The HPC oversaw the nomination process as per the [Nordiq Canada Nomination, Selection and Announcement](#) policy. Members of this committee are:

- Graham Nishikawa (athlete rep – Para)
- Devon Kershaw (athlete rep – Olympic)
- Maria Lundgren (BC)
- Pauline Nadlersmith (MB)
- John Lofranco (Athletics Canada)

Final athlete nominations were approved by Eric de Nys, Acting High-Performance Director: [edenys@nordiqcanada.ca](mailto:edenys@nordiqcanada.ca)

Nomination decisions may be appealed under the Nordiq Canada [Dispute Resolution and Appeals Policy](#). Any dispute must be brought directly to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) to be heard pursuant to the Canadian Sport Dispute Resolution Code. An athlete who wishes to appeal shall file an appeal with the SDRCC within three (3) days of the nomination Synopsis and Rationale being posted to the Nordiq Canada website.