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JOHN YAKABUSKI, M.P.P. - RENFREW-NIPISSING-PEMBROKE

Members Statement - Telus Cup

April 23, 2008

This past Monday evening I had the honour of participating in the opening ceremonies for the Telus Cup in Arnprior. The Telus Cup, as you know, is the National Championship of Triple A Midget Hockey. Over its 30 year history it has hosted over 180 future NHL'ers such as Joe Sakic, Daniele Briere, Danny Heatley and Sidney Crosby. No doubt some of the players competing this week will also be NHL stars of tomorrow.

I must tell you how proud we are to be hosting the Telus Cup in the beautiful Town of Arnprior where the mighty Madawaska meets the majestic Ottawa. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Town of Arnprior for their support of this prestigious event. To event Chair Glenn Arthur and his committee, as well as the over 200 volunteers giving of their time and efforts – congratulations and thank you. You've done a tremendous job. Without those who give so much of themselves events such as this just don't happen.

Our gratitude goes to the title sponsor Telus and the many local businesses and organizations whose generosity and support is so very important. Speaking with Glenn earlier today he mentioned he was overwhelmed by the support of the people of Arnprior and area.

Congratulations and best of luck to all the players and coaches – you're already champions. A special thank you to all the parents. Without the commitment and dedication you give to your children their participation would not be possible.