THE HOCKEY JERSEY

Backgrounder

As part of their ***hockey for all*** initiative, Scotiabank is proud to present *The Hockey Jersey*. A new hockey story to help more kids see themselves represented in the game and inspire the next generation to feel at home on the ice.

About *The Hockey Jersey*

It's the day of the first hockey game and Kareema is about to take a big step into the locker room and into the world of hockey.

Overwhelmed and unsure of what's ahead, Kareema enters the changeroom and meets her new teammates — a group of young players who are also wondering if they will fit in with the team and find their place in the game.

When their coach arrives with a bag full of brand new uniforms and hands each player their jersey, Kareema and her teammates will discover something special while they get ready for the game.

As they take to the ice in their new uniforms, ready to play for the first time, Kareema will realize something unique and powerful about the game of hockey as her biggest fans cheer on.

Where to Buy

Purchase the book online and in-store at Indigo

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Find *The Hockey Jersey* at your local independent bookshops on the map at **shoplocal.bookmanager.com/isbn/9781552674840**

Where to Read *The Hockey Jersey* for Free

A digital eBook is available to download at no cost at **scotiabank.com/thehockeyjersey**

or on Rakuten kobo, amazon kindle, Books, Google

The Hockey Jersey x Hockey 4 Youth

100% of net proceeds from sales of the book will be donated to Hockey 4 Youth

About Hockey 4 Youth

Hockey 4 Youth Foundation fosters social inclusion for newcomer and high-priority youth through free ice hockey and off-ice life skills programs that focus on technology, entrepreneurship, arts, community giving, and healthy active living. Since 2015, Hockey 4 Youth has worked with kids from 36 countries of origin outside of Canada. The foundation offers programming in major Canadian cities including Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa, with expansion plans for Hamilton, Vancouver and Edmonton. To date, Hockey 4 Youth has provided exposure to the sport for hundreds of youth.

About the Author

Jael Richardson is the author of *The Stone Thrower: A Daughter's Lesson, A Father's Life* which was adapted into a children's book in 2016. Her debut novel, *Gutter Child*, was an instant bestseller and a finalist for the 2021 Amazon First Novel Award. Her most recent children's book, *Because You Are*, was released in August 2022. Richardson holds an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Guelph and lives in Brampton, Ontario where she founded and serves as the Executive Director for the Festival of Literary Diversity (FOLD). Jael created *The Hockey Jersey* in collaboration with Toronto-based hockey player Eva Perron.

About the Illustrator

Chelsea Charles is an illustrator who resides in Brampton, Ontario, and has received her BAA in Illustration at Sheridan College. She creates her illustrations through a combination of digital and traditional mediums. It's been her dream job to illustrate children's books. She's built a career from illustrating everything from sports stars and actors, to political concepts. In her spare time, she enjoys listening to music, being a nuisance to her cat Charcoal and dog Stokley, and daydreams about travelling to Japan.

The Hockey Jersey Endorsements

David Amber
Sportsnet Host

P.K. Subban
ESPN host and former NHL player

Brendan Shanahan
President & Alternate Governor, Toronto Maple Leafs

Natalie Spooner
Hockey player and 3x Olympian

Cassie Campbell-Pascall
Sportsnet and ESPN host, former hockey player and Olympian

Akim Aliu
Hockey player and co-founder of the Hockey Diversity Alliance

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For our media kit and visual assets, please see *The Hockey Jersey* media kit

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