



THE HOCKEY JERSEY

Spokespeople



Jael Richardson

Author

“It’s an honour to be a part of such an incredible project. I loved writing the story of these players, and I love how the book allowed me to highlight something that’s unique and special about the game of hockey. I’ve been an athlete my whole life and I love sports, but the way people talk about hockey teams as a kind of family really was, and is, the key to this story. I wanted people to know that not only is there a place for you in this sport, but there’s a home, and a family, rooting you on.

The book was inspired by conversations with a young hockey player who is the same age as the players in the story. I wanted to tell a story that was universal, that applies to everyone, while also paying homage to players who influenced me or shaped hockey as a whole.

As a lifelong athlete and sports mom, there is something really magical about the first game in a new jersey—when you line up together for the first time in the same attire with a common goal. And it’s particularly unique in hockey where you have this change room to assemble in and where you quite literally need one another to get dressed. *The Hockey Jersey* allowed me to showcase the unique stories of Kareema and her teammates while also capturing how hockey unites us all. From the players on the ice to the fans in the stands, I hope everyone sees a bit of themselves somewhere in this story.”



Chelsea Charles

Illustrator

“Growing up, I did not see myself represented in children’s books. Having the opportunity to illustrate *The Hockey Jersey* is not only special to me as a person of colour, but will be special to so many kids who look like me. Being able to transform Jael’s words and beautiful story into illustrations has been a joy, and I hope that readers will find that same joy as they enjoy the book.

I’m proud to showcase more diversity and representation through *The Hockey Jersey* and to give kids a place to see themselves on the page and in the ice rink.”



Moezine (Moe) Hasham

Founder and Executive Director, Hockey 4 Youth Foundation

“Hockey 4 Youth is grateful for partners like Scotiabank for its continued and steadfast commitment in helping to ensure that hockey is accessible to all who want to play it. With *The Hockey Jersey*, Scotiabank is taking the next step to visually and literally create opportunities for BIPOC families and children to feel welcomed into playing Canada’s game, in fiction and in real life, and no matter the colour of their skin.”

For more information, visit
www.scotiabank.com/thehockeyjersey

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