

## Manitoba Student Honored with International Award

Arlington, Va., February 7, 2025 - Matthew Jolicoeur of Manitoba, Canada, received the 2025 Yes I Can Award for School and Community Activities from the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). Matthew will be honored this March along with other Yes I Can recipients at the CEC Convention and Expo in Baltimore, Maryland.

The Yes I Can Awards celebrate and honor the achievements of children and youth with exceptionalities while increasing public awareness of the abilities and aspirations of students with disabilities.

Matt has been a student in the Cooperative Education program at Windsor Park Collegiate for the past five years. He is enthusiastic about athletics and has been active in school sports and athletics within the community.

Matt's favorite sport is basketball, and he has been a member of the league team for Special Olympics Basketball in Winnipeg for several years. His involvement with (and love for) basketball helped provide an opportunity for him to showcase his talents to the world. Matt was cast in a role in a major motion picture, *Champions*, which was released in 2023.

He's also represented Team Manitoba in track and field in the National Games in Niagara Falls, where he placed 9th in the nation in the 200m.

"Matt is someone whose optimism and determination have enabled him to realize his potential as an excellent athlete as well as an exceptional young man," write his nominators.

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The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to high-quality education that is inclusive and equitable for individuals with disabilities. Learn more about CEC at <https://exceptionalchildren.org/>.