

# investing in the power of dreams

how your support makes a difference



I want to thank everyone at Easter Seals NL, Wheelchair Sports NL, and my family and friends for all their continued support and encouragement.

## Liam's triumph

Reaching for the top

"I felt like a bird!" expressed Liam after he tried sledge hockey for the first time.

Liam was born March 25, 1998 missing a femur in his right leg, known as congenital proximal femoral focal deficiency. He learned to walk independently at 16 months and after several surgeries between 4-5 years old, Liam was fitted with a prosthetic leg and followed mainstream opportunities in his community.

He tried stand-up skating but, feeling frustrated, he turned to Easter Seals NL to see if there was a better fit for him and his great desire to play hockey. Liam tried sledge hockey and immediately felt a sense of freedom he never felt before.

While at Easter Seals Liam found another passion — wheelchair basketball. Liam excels on the basketball court and enjoys the weekly practices at Husky Energy Easter Seals House.

Now, at 16, Liam is among 11 athletes chosen for the 2015 Canadian Senior Men's national Wheelchair Basketball Team. This team will be nominated to the Canadian Parapan American Games, where the team will vie for a top two finish in order to qualify for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games.

"It is truly an honour to be named to the Canada Senior Men's Wheelchair Basketball Team, and have the opportunity to represent Canada on home soil in the upcoming 2015 Parapan American Games and hopefully in the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio. I want to especially thank everyone at Easter Seals NL, Wheelchair Sports NL, and my family and friends for all their continued support and encouragement", says Liam.