## **Michael Gilday**

Born in Iqaluit, and raised in Yellowknife, Michael Gilday is a proud product of the North. Michael's skating career began at the tender age of five when he started skating because a friend was doing it. His speed and talent was evident at a young age as he won 15 gold Ulus at the Arctic Winter Games from 2000 to 2004.

Following his graduation from École Sir John Franklin High School in 2005, Michael moved to Calgary to attend university and to train at the Olympic Oval. Michael qualified for the National Short Track Speed Skating team in 2006 and competed on the national team until his retirement from the sport in 2014. During his time

with the national team, Michael competed individually and as a part of the 5000m relay team. Michael's individual accomplishments include nine World Cup podium finishes, including a gold medal in Quebec City during the 2010-2011 season, two top five finishes at the 2013 World Championships, and a 19th place finish in the 1500m race at the Sochi Olympics in 2014. Michael also held the 1000m Short Track World Record from 2007 to 2012.

As part of the National 5000m relay team, Michael has numerous World Cup podium finishes, two World Championship Gold medals, a 6th place finish at the Sochi Olympics, and is a current World Record holder.

"Michael Gilday was and continues to be such an inspiration to young skaters in the north. Throughout his skating career, he stayed humble and always came home to share his experiences and knowledge". ~Kirianne Ashley 17, ex-competitive speed skater turned competitive coach

