



**Kimberly Summers named Canada's Flag-Bearer for Opening Ceremony of Deaflympics**  
*One of the Women's Volleyball team veteran will carry the Canadian Flag in Turkey*

Montreal, July 17th, 2017 - Kimberly Summers will lead Team Canada into the Samsun 19 Mayıs Stadium at the Opening Ceremony of the Deaflympic Summer Games on Tuesday night (July 18th) in Samsun, Turkey.

Summers represented the Deaf Women's Volleyball squad at the Deaflympics (Rome 2001 and Bulgaria 2013), World Deaf Volleyball Championships (Argentina 2008) and Pan American Games (Venezuela 2007 and Brazil 2010). The team won gold at the 2007 Pan American Games.

Summers was also the Canadian Deaf Sports Association (CDSA) female athlete of the year in 2009 and leader of the year in 2013. It is only fitting that she will carry the Maple Leaf during the Opening Ceremony.

"We are very proud that Kimberly is our flag-bearer. She has been involved in the Volleyball program for several years, and participated in three Deaflympics", said Mark Kusiak, CDSA President. "Over the years she has shown that she is an exceptional leader, who supports her teammates and everyone else on Team Canada. Go Canada Go!"

Summers, 35, started playing volleyball when she was eight and hasn't stopped since. She is recognized for her valuable skills as a player and leader both on and off the court. She currently lives in Brantford, Ont. with her husband and three children.

Summers and the Women's Volleyball team will begin their medal conquest on July 19th by playing their first game against Russia.

[Live broadcast](#) and [results](#) will be available on the Deaflympics 2017 website. The Deaflympics 2017 App also can be downloaded for free on [Apple Store](#) and [Google Play](#) to get results in real-time.

**About the Deaflympics:** The Summer and Winter Deaflympics occur every four years alternating just like the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Deaflympics are sanctioned by the **International Committee of Sports for the Deaf** and are recognized by the International Olympic Committee. The 2017 Deaflympics are hosted in Samsun, which is the biggest city and economic capital of the Black Sea region.

**About CDSA:** CDSA is a non-profit organization aiming to support the development of practice of sports within the Deaf community and Deaf youth, in order to ensure a quality Canadian representation in international competitions.