



**John McBride**

John McBride is currently working on policy and planning for Weather Services Directorate in Downsview. Although the process takes a while to bear fruit, John is always pleased to see part of his work actually become AES policy. Much of his expertise stems from his more than 25 years as a meteorologist spent in many locations from the High Arctic (he spent 13 months as OIC at Resolute) to cruising the North Atlantic aboard the aircraft carrier **Bonaventure**, seconded as the official weather officer.

John's meteorological career alone would qualify him as an Atmosphere Person. But the truth is, John lives, breathes, absorbs, digests and observes the atmosphere every day of the year. He is an extremely athletic person practising a wide range of energetic or relaxing sports — scuba diving, Alpine skiing, parachuting, track and field, underwater hockey, golfing, to name a few. Instead of driving a car, John goes everywhere on his 1980 Honda 500 motorcycle. He finds direct contact with wind, rain, hail or sunshine far more invigorating than sitting in the glass bubble of a car. He says he felt a similar proximity to the elements during the several summers he flew as a navigator for the RCAF, sometimes needing to don an oxygen mask to cross the Rockies in a DC3. He felt even closer to the weather as a private pilot.

John's outside activities are so varied and intense, he should by rights call himself a

biosphere person. True, his exposure to the lithosphere has been limited to exploration of a few bat-infested caves in Puerto Rico; but his mastery of the "hydrosphere" is second to none. Always a strong swimmer, a keen sailor and a skilled diver, John, for the past dozen years has been an avid underwater hockey player. Starting with a Toronto team, he rose to become organizer of an Ontario association; took part in national and international tournaments as player, organizer, referee, rulemaker and games commissioner. Finally in 1986, as manager of the men's team in Adelaide, Australia, he shared the victory when Canada won the world cup in underwater hockey.

John describes underwater hockey as a cross between water polo and ice hockey, though it differs from both. He explains that the game is played by whooshing the metal puck with a special wooden stick along the bottom of a swimming pool. A snorkel is worn to enable players to rise close to the surface for quick breaths, but he insists that 80% of underwater hockey is played "deep down" holding one's breath.

It was thrilling to have had the championship game featured on live TV coast-to-coast in Australia and to have spoken on a Dutch radio station in Adelaide. John appreciates the opportunity of making lasting friends on the international sports scene.

To help him with his above-water activities, John has always taken advantage of his meteorological knowledge. He claims that knowing how the forecast will turn out gives him an advantage over the average person who does not take weather into account when planning activities. Having travelled widely and worked in some out of the way places, John claims to have experienced more weather than most people. For instance he recalls his first impressions of "sun dogs" in the Arctic and finding the snow so hard he was unable to make any impressions in the snow with his vehicle or make regular turns on skis. He has spotted a typhoon from a plane in the South Pacific, witnessed waterspouts off the Bahamas and while flying north from Florida

claims to have seen phenomenally spectacular lightning in a huge wall of thunder clouds. His overall impression of Canadian weather and climate is the infinite variety of the seasons, the endless variability, allowing him to indulge in every imaginable outdoor activity. (Next year for a change he is likely to go hang-gliding and perhaps do some more underwater photography in connection with his scuba diving expeditions.)

One of John's eeriest atmospheric experiences was finding himself becalmed for 2 days in the Caribbean with six fellow sailors aboard a sail ship heading from Antigua to Halifax. "For two days the sea was like a mirror, we could not advance under sail. It was the complete doldrums".

Even when he isn't revelling in the atmosphere, John finds plenty to do in his spare time. First he is an active participant in an Ontario prison-visiting program called M2W2. He is both a regular visitor and is on the executive. He claims that it is important for all prison inmates to have an "independent", outside friend. John is also known for frequently giving blood at AES blood donor clinics.

Although this portrait of John McBride deals mainly with his outside interests, John also talks convincingly about job satisfaction. This can mean anything from a nostalgic look back to his days aboard the **Bonaventure** where as a temporary member of the Senior Service he participated in "state receptions" at almost every port of call, to feeling pleased at having the opportunity to help organize bilingual meteorologists-in-training courses for the Université du Québec à Montréal. He also says he greatly enjoyed participating in a DOT management course in transportation, where he was given first-hand knowledge of everything from harbours to subways.

The most satisfying moment of John's career probably came right at the beginning. After graduating in math and physics from McGill University, he had to decide whether to work full-time as an air force navigator or to take up meteorology as a profession. He chose the latter — and has never since regretted his decision.

## WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS – UNDERWATER HOCKEY

### 2018 & 2016 – REPORTING AUSTRALIA ONLY

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- [2018 CMAS World Championships \(Quebec, Canada\)](#)
  - Elite Men: 7th
  - Elite Women: 6th
  - Masters Men: 6th
  - Masters Women: 2<sup>nd</sup>
  
- [2016 CMAS World Championships \(Stellenbosch, South Africa\)](#)
  - Elite Men: 1st
  - Elite Women: 6th
  - Masters Men: 1st
  - Masters Women: 1<sup>st</sup>

Category	Gold Medal	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Fourth Place
<a href="#">2013 CMAS World Championships</a> , Eger, Hungary				
Elite Men	France	New Zealand	<b>Australia</b>	UK
Elite Women	New Zealand	UK		<b>Australia</b>
Men's Masters	<b>Australia</b>	Netherlands		
Women's Masters	<b>Australia</b>	South Africa		
U23 Men		<b>Australia</b>		
U19 Men				<b>Australia</b>
U19 Women				<b>Australia</b>
<a href="#">2011 CMAS World Championships</a> , Coimbra, Portugal				
Men	<b>Australia</b>	South Africa	Columbia	France
Women	United Kingdom	<b>Australia</b>	?	?
<a href="#">2011 Open Youth &amp; Masters Underwater Hockey Tournament</a> July 9-16, 2011 in Dordrecht, The Netherlands				
Masters Men				
Juniors	South Africa	New Zealand	?	<b>Australia</b>
2008 – Durban – South Africa				
Men	France	New Zealand	South Africa	<b>Australia</b>
Women	<b>Australia</b>	South Africa	Netherlands	New Zealand
Masters Men	South Africa	Netherlands	France	United Kingdom
Juniors	Spain	New Zealand	South Africa	Colombia
Junior Women	New Zealand	Colombia	South Africa	Spain
2006 – SHEFFIELD – UK				
Men	New Zealand	Netherlands	France	<b>Australia</b>
Women	<b>Australia</b>	Canada	France	United Kingdom
Mens Masters	USA	South Africa	France	United Kingdom
Womens Masters	USA	United Kingdom	Canada	

Juniors	New Zealand	United Kingdom	France	Canada
Junior Women	New Zealand	United Kingdom	South Africa	
2004 – CHRISTCHURCH – New Zealand				
Men	New Zealand	<b>Australia</b>	France	Netherlands
Women	Netherlands	New Zealand	<b>Australia</b>	South Africa
Masters	USA	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand	United Kingdom
Womens Masters	USA	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand	United Kingdom
Junior Men	New Zealand	United Kingdom	<b>Australia</b>	United Kingdom
Junior Women	New Zealand	United Kingdom	South Africa	
2002 – CALGARY – Canada				
Men	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand	France	Netherlands
Women	<b>Australia</b>	Canada	South Africa	United Kingdom
Masters	USA	South Africa	United Kingdom	Canada
Womens Masters	South Africa	<b>Australia</b>	USA	United Kingdom
Juniors	United Kingdom	USA	Canada	
2000 – HOBART – <b>Australia</b>				
Men	<b>Australia</b>	France	Canada	South Africa
Women	<b>Australia</b>	Canada	South Africa	USA
Masters Mens	<b>Australia</b>	South Africa	New Zealand	USA
Womens Masters	South Africa	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand	United Kingdom
1998 – SAN JOSE – United States				
Men	France	South Africa	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand
Women	South Africa	<b>Australia</b>	USA	Canada
Masters Men	South Africa	United Kingdom	USA	<b>Australia</b>
Womens Masters	South Africa	USA	United Kingdom	
1996 – DURBAN – South Africa				
Mens	<b>Australia</b>	South Africa	New Zealand	Netherlands
Womens	South Africa	<b>Australia</b>	France	New Zealand
Masters Men	South Africa	<b>Australia</b>	United Kingdom	USA
1994 – GRAND COURONNE, ROUEN – France				
Men				

	<b>Australia</b>	South Africa	USA	France
Women	<b>Australia</b>	South Africa	United Kingdom	France
Mens Masters	South Africa	United Kingdom	<b>Australia</b>	France
1992 – WELLINGTON – New Zealand				
Men	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand	South Africa	United Kingdom
Women	South Africa	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand	United Kingdom
Masters Men	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand		
1990 – MONTREAL – Canada				
Men	<b>Australia</b>	United Kingdom	Canada	New Zealand
Women	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand	USA	United Kingdom
1988 – AMERSFOORT – Netherlands				
Men	<b>Australia</b>	Netherlands	Canada	New Zealand
Women	New Zealand	USA	<b>Australia</b>	United Kingdom
1986 – ADELAIDE – <b>Australia</b>				
<b>Men</b>	<b>Canada</b>	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand	Netherlands
Women	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand		
1984 – CHICAGO – United States				
Men	<b>Australia</b>	Netherlands	United Kingdom	USA
Women	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand	USA	Canada
1982 – BRISBANE – <b>Australia</b>				
Men	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand		
Women	<b>Australia</b>	New Zealand	Canada	
1980 – VANCOUVER – Canada				
Men	Netherlands	United Kingdom	<b>Australia</b>	Canada