



# CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME

## Leanne Stanley



### Summary

Leanne Stanley is a school teacher, a coach, and an athlete. [01] Leanne started out teaching full time in Toronto then did some supply teaching (TOC) in Parry Sound while training for the 2010 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints and then started working with at-risk teenagers. Leanne has been teaching since 2005 for almost 2 decades already from Classroom Teacher, to Department Head, to Student Success Teacher, to Academic Coordinator, to Principal to Education Director, to Executive Director. [02] Leanne began her paddling career in marathon canoe back in 1998. Her paddling evolved to incorporate dragon boat, outrigger, SUP and surfski over the past 25 years, with outrigger canoeing becoming her primary focus since 2005. Leanne has been coaching paddling for over 20 years. Her degree in Kinesiology has provided a solid foundation in the training principles, physiology, and biomechanics of paddling. She has her Health and Physical Education Specialist designation along with a Masters in Educational Leadership and Inclusive Education. Leanne is a teacher by trade and the only thing that eclipses her passion for teaching is her passion for getting people on the water and sharing her love of paddling with others. [03] Leanne was been with the CORA IVF Committee since 2016 as Team Canada has become a major player at IVF World Sprints / Distance events. Leanne has helped to grow Kelowna Paddle Centre (KPC) into a hub of paddling excellence since moving to the area in 2009 and making the move permanent in 2011, with KPC crews sweeping the Men's, Women's, and Mixed categories at the 2017 CORA Distance Championships, as a testament that out of hard work and dedication comes success. Leanne founded The Stanley Edge in 2016 to offer clinics, lessons, camps, and training programs to paddlers in Canada, the USA, and Europe. Leanne is a Hanahou Paddlesports Team Rider, Puakea Designs Team Rider, Puakea Accredited Coach, Silverback Hawaii Team Rider, Quickblade Team Rider, Vaikobi Ambassador, and has also been supported by Oakley and Vitargo. [03] [04] [05] Stanley has now collected 14 medals since her first IVF World Sprints in 2008. [06]

### Early Career

Leanne was born 1981 in Parry Sound ON. [07] Leanne would compile an extensive Education Bio graduating from University of Waterloo with a B.Sc., Honours Kinesiology in 2004, graduating from Nipissing University with a B.Ed., Intermediate / Senior Education in 2005, and graduating from University of British Columbia with a Master of Education (MEd), Educational Leadership and Inclusive Education in 2021. Leanne would compile an extensive Licenses and Certifications Bio including Paddle Canada Advanced Flatwater SUP Instructor, British Columbia Teacher Regulation Board Professional Teaching Certificate, NCCP Competition Development Coach, St. John Ambulance Emergency First Aid - Community Care, and Ontario College of Teachers Teaching Certificate. Leanne would compile an extensive Teaching Bio including Secondary School Teacher in Health & Physical Education, Science, Geography, Special Education and Drama with TDSB from 2005-2009, Student Success Teacher in Mathematics and Sciences with Venture Academy from 2011-2013, Academic Coordinator with Venture Academy from 2013-2014, Principal with Venture Academy from 2014-2015, Education Director with Venture Academy from 2015-2016, Executive Director with Venture Academy from 2016-2017, Resource Teacher and then Inclusive Education Consultant with School District 23: Central Okanagan from 2017-2022, and then Teacher with Comox Valley Schools - School District 71 from 2022-Present.

Leanne started out in marathon canoe in 1998 and since then has competed at the Provincial, Canadian National and USA National levels where she has won numerous individual titles. While at the 2003 USA Nationals for marathon canoe, Leanne had the opportunity to be in an OC6 for the first time. In 2005 when on a teaching placement in Toronto, Leanne joined an outrigger club and fell in love with this kind of paddling as well. Three years later Leanne tried out for Team Canada and got to compete at the 2008 Sacramento IVF World Sprints. Leanne was introduced to dragon boating in university. From then on Leanne helped get the dragon boat festival going in Parry Sound, was recruited for the Premiere Women's National team and went to compete for Team Canada in China, USA, and Prague in the Czech Republic in 2009 where Leanne would take 2 Gold, 1 Silver, and 1 Bronze at the World Dragon Boat Championships as a member of Team Canada. [08] Leanne took a Leave of Absence from her teaching position in Toronto once the school year was done in June 2009 to pursue her paddling more competitively. [09] Leanne packed up her life, loading it into her car with her canoe on top and drove west to train in British Columbia in preparation for the 2010 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints.

### Coach-Builder Achievements

While Leanne was teaching in Ontario, she was coaching youths in figure skating, track and field, soccer, badminton, and volleyball. [10] Leanne competes and coaches in 5 different types of paddling including marathon canoe, Stand Up Paddling (SUP), surfski, dragon boat, and outrigger canoe. [11] Leanne was an Assistant Strength and Conditioning Coach with Okanagan Peak Performance from 2012-2016, Athlete Ambassador with Vitargo Inc. from 2014-2019, Va'a Specialist providing technical guidance for ParaCanoe athletes training for National, World Cup, World Championships, and Paralympic events with Canoe Kayak Canada in 2015, Coach with Canadian Outrigger Racing Association from 2016-Present, and Owner / Coach offering Outrigger, V1, Surfski, SUP, Marathon Canoe, and Dragon Boat Clinics with The Stanley Edge from 2016-Present. [12] After relocating to Kelowna in 2011, Leanne worked with a group of Kelowna women to help them compete with the best of the best at 2012 Calgary IVF World Sprints. [13] Leanne helped with the Kelowna Paddle Centre existing junior program for kids and youth. [14]

## **Outrigger Canoeing Achievements**

Leanne has represented Team Canada at International Va'a Federation (IVF) World Sprints / Distance from 2008-2022. [15] At 2008 Sacramento IVF World Sprints, [16] Leanne would race with a Canadian crew that would take Silver in V12 500M Open Women, take Silver in V6 1500M Open Women, take Silver in V6 500M Open Women, and place 4th in V1 500M Open Women. [17] [18] At 2010 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints, [19] Leanne would race with a Canadian crew that would take Gold in V6 1500M Open Women, take Gold in V6 500M Open Women, and take Bronze in V1 500M Open Women. [20] [21] [22] At 2012 Calgary IVF World Sprints, [23] Leanne would race with a Canadian crew that would take Bronze in Open Women V12 500M, take Silver in Open Women V6 500M, take Bronze in Open Women V6 1500M, and place 4th in V1 500M Open Women. [24] At 2016 Australia IVF World Sprints, Leanne would place 4th in V1 Open Women. [26] At 2017 Tahiti IVF World Distance, Leanne would race with a Canadian crew that would place 4th in V6 Open Women, and place 4th in V1 Open Women. At 2018 Tahiti IVF World Sprints, [27] Leanne would race with a Canadian crew that would take Bronze in V6 Elite Women 500M, and take Bronze in V1 500M Open Women. [28] [29] At 2019 Australia IVF World Distance, [30] Leanne would race with a Canadian crew that would place 6th in V6 Open Women, and place 4th in V1 Open Women. [31] At 2022 London IVF World Sprints, Leanne would race with a Canadian crew that would take Bronze in V12 Masters 40+ Women 500M, take Bronze in V1 500M Open Women, take Gold in V1 500M Masters 40+ Women, and take Bronze in V6 500M Elite Women. [32] Leanne has an impressive record of small-boat distance achievements. Leanne was the 2015 Women's SUP Champion as recognized by the Canadian Stand Up Paddleboard Championships. Leanne was in the Top 3 Women OC1 multiple times from 2015-2017 as recognized by Canadian Outrigger Racing Association. Leanne was in the Top 3 Women OC1 six times from 2015-2023 as recognized by Gorge Downwind Championships. Leanne was in the Top 3 Women Surfski multiple times from 2015-2017 as recognized by Canadian Surfski Championships. Just days before the 2017 Tahiti IVF World Distance event, Leanne placed in the top ten at the Tahiti Te Aito 15KM race, the largest V1 race in the world, as a warm-up race for the 2017 Tahiti IVF World Distance V1 race. At the 2017 Maui to Molokai (M2M) 40-kilometre race, Leanne would be in the Top 20. At the 2018 M2M, Leanne would be in the Top 10. At the 2019 M2M, Leanne would be the 7th woman overall to finish in the solo outrigger canoe class and was 3rd in her age group. [33]

## **Pioneering Achievements**

By the time that IVF World Championships had evolved to an even year for Sprints and an odd year for Distance, the CORA IVF Selection Committee had also methodically evolved the registration forms and selection criteria for Club and Elite Crews for Sprints as well as Club Crews for Distance. The selection process for crews for 2018 Tahiti IVF World Sprints resulted in a great showing for Team Canada. The selection process for crews for 2019 Australia IVF World Distance resulted in another great showing for Team Canada. The selection process for crews for 2022 London IVF World Sprints resulted in what may have very well been the best-ever showing for Team Canada. Through-out this 12-year continuous evolution and refinement of the Team Canada selection process and crew development, Leanne has been there as Coach and CORA IVF Committee Member. [34]

## **Exemplary Achievements**

Leanne was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes in 2006. Leanne was recognized as an Animas Hero from 2008-2016, sharing her story of living with Diabetes from diagnosis to her struggles finding an insulin regimen that worked for her to becoming a World Champion paddler. [35] Leanne loves educating people about what Type 1 Diabetes is and the advantages of her insulin pump, and inspiring children, teenagers, adults, and parents dealing with Type 1 Diabetes to chase their dreams and not let Diabetes hold them back. When Leanne took a Leave of Absence from teaching in Ontario in June 2009, the first stop on her travels was a trip to Boston to receive the Diabetes Exercise and Sport Association's Athletic Achievement Award. In June 2019, Leanne suffered a mild traumatic brain injury resulting from a car accident. Leanne continues to suffer from Post Concussion Syndrome which has significantly impacted her cognitive abilities, her energy levels thus her training regime, her ability to teach/coach, and every other segment of her life. Though forced to slow down the pace of her life, Leanne has continued to find a way to serve the paddling community through her coaching and Team Canada administration while remaining competitive on the international stage.

## References

Note	Article	Link
[01]	Leanne Stanley Bio	<a href="https://leannestanley.com/about-leanne/">https://leannestanley.com/about-leanne/</a>
[02]	Leanne Stanley Blog	<a href="https://www.connectedinmotion.ca/blog/leanne-stanley/">https://www.connectedinmotion.ca/blog/leanne-stanley/</a>
[03]	Hana Hou Paddlesports Team Rider	<a href="https://hanahoupaddlesports.com/">https://hanahoupaddlesports.com/</a>
[04]	Puakea Designs Team Rider	<a href="https://puakeadesigns.com/">https://puakeadesigns.com/</a>
[05]	Vaikobi Sponsor	<a href="https://www.vaikobi.com/">https://www.vaikobi.com/</a>
[06]	2022 IVF Achievements	<a href="https://www.castanet.net/news/Sports/381562/Podium-positions-for-Kelowna-paddlers-athletes-at-World-Championships">https://www.castanet.net/news/Sports/381562/Podium-positions-for-Kelowna-paddlers-athletes-at-World-Championships</a>
[07]	Leanne Stanley Parry Sound	<a href="https://www.vaikobi.com/pages/leanne-stanley">https://www.vaikobi.com/pages/leanne-stanley</a>
[08]	Leanne Stanley LinkedIn	<a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/leanne-stanley-b2178733/">https://www.linkedin.com/in/leanne-stanley-b2178733/</a>
[09]	2009 Leave of Absence	<a href="https://www.muskokaregion.com/life/local-paddler-continues-quest-to-become-world-champion/article_850f9374-0a75-5fd2-ac7e-4ed35c03d2d6.html">https://www.muskokaregion.com/life/local-paddler-continues-quest-to-become-world-champion/article_850f9374-0a75-5fd2-ac7e-4ed35c03d2d6.html</a>
[10]	The Stanley Edge	<a href="http://www.leannestanley.com">http://www.leannestanley.com</a>
[11]	The Stanley Edge Coaching	<a href="https://leannestanley.com/services/">https://leannestanley.com/services/</a>
[12]	Kelowna Paddle Centre	<a href="http://www.kelownapaddlecentre.ca/">http://www.kelownapaddlecentre.ca/</a>
[13]	KPC Coaching	<a href="https://www.kelownacapnews.com/sports/kelowna-paddler-sets-sights-on-world-gold/">https://www.kelownacapnews.com/sports/kelowna-paddler-sets-sights-on-world-gold/</a>
[14]	KPC Coaching	<a href="https://www.kelownadailycourier.ca/news/article_89cbda7c-679d-11e8-bdfd-5765eb52250f.html">https://www.kelownadailycourier.ca/news/article_89cbda7c-679d-11e8-bdfd-5765eb52250f.html</a>
[15]	2008 California World Sprints Results	<a href="https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/IVF-Race-Results-2008-California.pdf">https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/IVF-Race-Results-2008-California.pdf</a>
[16]	2008 Sacramento IVF World Sprints Blog	<a href="http://teamcanadasacramento.blogspot.com/2008/08/day-5-finals.html">http://teamcanadasacramento.blogspot.com/2008/08/day-5-finals.html</a>
[17]	2008 Sacramento IVF World Sprints CORA	<a href="https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/2008-california/">https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/2008-california/</a>
[18]	2008 Sacramento IVF World Sprints Results	<a href="http://www.ivfiv.org/uploads/2/5/3/8/25381158/race_results_2008.pdf">http://www.ivfiv.org/uploads/2/5/3/8/25381158/race_results_2008.pdf</a>
[19]	2010 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints Results	<a href="http://www.ivfiv.org/2010-new-caledonia.html">http://www.ivfiv.org/2010-new-caledonia.html</a>
[20]	2010 New Caledonia World Sprints Results	<a href="https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/IVF-Race-Results-2010-Noumea.pdf">https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/IVF-Race-Results-2010-Noumea.pdf</a>
[21]	2010 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints Blog	<a href="http://teamcanadanewcaledonia.blogspot.com/2010/">http://teamcanadanewcaledonia.blogspot.com/2010/</a>
[22]	2010 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints CORA	<a href="https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/2010-new-caledonia/">https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/2010-new-caledonia/</a>
[23]	2012 Calgary IVF World Sprints Results	<a href="http://www.ivfiv.org/2012-canada.html">http://www.ivfiv.org/2012-canada.html</a>
[24]	2012 Calgary World Sprints Results	<a href="https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/IVF-Race-Results-2012-Calgary.pdf">https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/IVF-Race-Results-2012-Calgary.pdf</a>
[25]	2013 Queen Liliuokalani	<a href="https://www.qlcanoerace.com/publicdocs/2013-queenliliuokalaniResults.pdf">https://www.qlcanoerace.com/publicdocs/2013-queenliliuokalaniResults.pdf</a>
[26]	2016 Australia IVF World Sprints Results	<a href="http://www.ivfiv.org/uploads/2/5/3/8/25381158/2016_world_sprints_full_results.pdf">http://www.ivfiv.org/uploads/2/5/3/8/25381158/2016_world_sprints_full_results.pdf</a>
[27]	2017 Tahiti World Distance Kialoa Blog	<a href="https://kialoa.com/blogs/talkstory/thoughts-from-the-first-ever-ivf-world-distance-championships-tahiti-june-2017">https://kialoa.com/blogs/talkstory/thoughts-from-the-first-ever-ivf-world-distance-championships-tahiti-june-2017</a>
[28]	2017 Tahiti World Distance Results	<a href="http://www.ivfiv.org/uploads/2/5/3/8/25381158/2017_world_distance_results_updated.pdf">http://www.ivfiv.org/uploads/2/5/3/8/25381158/2017_world_distance_results_updated.pdf</a>
[29]	2018 Tahiti IVF World Sprints Results	<a href="http://www.ivfiv.org/uploads/2/5/3/8/25381158/world_sprints_results_all_days_2018.pdf">http://www.ivfiv.org/uploads/2/5/3/8/25381158/world_sprints_results_all_days_2018.pdf</a>
[30]	2019 Australia World Distance Results	<a href="http://www.ivfiv.org/2019-australia---distance.html">http://www.ivfiv.org/2019-australia---distance.html</a>
[31]	2019 Australia World Distance Results	<a href="http://www.ivfiv.org/uploads/2/5/3/8/25381158/world_distance_2019_results_all_days.pdf">http://www.ivfiv.org/uploads/2/5/3/8/25381158/world_distance_2019_results_all_days.pdf</a>
[32]	2022 London IVF World Sprints Results	<a href="http://www.ivfiv.org/uploads/1/3/7/9/137911945/results_-_all_days.pdf">http://www.ivfiv.org/uploads/1/3/7/9/137911945/results_-_all_days.pdf</a>
[33]	2019 Maui To Molokai	<a href="https://www.kelownanow.com/watercooler/news/news/Kelowna/Kelowna_woman_brings_medal_home_from_iconic_paddling_race_in_Hawaii/">https://www.kelownanow.com/watercooler/news/news/Kelowna/Kelowna_woman_brings_medal_home_from_iconic_paddling_race_in_Hawaii/</a>
[34]	CORA IVF Committee	<a href="https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/cora-ivf-committee/">https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/cora-ivf-committee/</a>
[35]	2006 Diabetes Diagnosis	<a href="https://infotel.ca/newsitem/kelowna-paddler-to-compete-on-world-stage-in-tahiti/it43605">https://infotel.ca/newsitem/kelowna-paddler-to-compete-on-world-stage-in-tahiti/it43605</a>