

Kolton Dixon

I would like to start things off by saying how excited I am to be on board with Kevin, as a part of K2. I was born and raised in Red Deer, AB where I also grew up playing minor hockey. With such a strong passion for hockey growing up, it made being at the rink extremely easy. As most young kids, my passion for hockey was split with a handful of school sports that I also thoroughly enjoyed. At the end of the day, it did not matter to me if I was in the rink or on the court, I just had a passion for team sports and the people associated with them. Like thousands of other kids, I grew up and decided to pursue hockey as my main sport of choice. With many lessons learned along the way, I was fortunate enough to play at a competitive level my whole hockey career.

As I moved on throughout minor hockey, I found myself playing Bantam AAA my second year as a 14-year-old, also known as your draft year in the Western Hockey League. I was not drafted after that season; however, I had the opportunity to attend numerous AJHL and WHL training and selection camps. For me, that is when the decision-making process became real and somewhat difficult with little to no previous family or self knowledge on the paths that can be pursued. I chose to attend the Chilliwack Bruins rookie camp, followed by an invite to their main camp. This choice was made simply because I had family out that way, not necessarily because it was the best choice for my career. Having said that, I was placed on their protected player list following camp that year. A few years later blessed with the opportunity to sign a WHL Contract with the Victoria Royals who had purchased and relocated the Chilliwack Bruins. In my last two years of Midget, our team went on to win the Telus Cup National Championship. Being a part of a championship team taught me so many valuable lessons on how to have personal success in a team atmosphere as well as what it takes for a team to succeed. Winning opened a lot of doors for our team and its players, including myself looking for an opportunity to move on.

I started my Western Hockey League career off with the Victoria Royals. In my first season, I was sent down to the Okotoks Oilers in the AJHL for a 13-game stint. This was a bit of a blow to my ego but maintaining a good attitude and recognizing my hunger and desire to play in the WHL, I put my head down and worked hard to get back to where I ultimately wanted to be. Just after Christmas, I was recalled to Victoria where I finished the year and started my next season. Early in my second season I was traded to the Red Deer Rebels. I was ecstatic and blessed with the opportunity to come home and play for the team I grew up idolizing. After spending over a year and a half in Red Deer, I was then traded to the Saskatoon Blades where I went on to finish out my WHL career. Being traded offered many challenges but also brought about valuable lessons and skills learned and although it may not have felt that way at the time, I look back now as a benefit to my development as a player and person. Not knowing what was next, I was faced with a lot of tough choices to make.

With plans to continue playing the game I love and valuing education, I decided to go to the University of Calgary to start off my post secondary career. It was not long into my first season playing for the Dino's I took a late hit and received a concussion. I worked hard to get back into the lineup but upon returning I suffered a season ending back injury. This was an extremely tough year physically and mentally. I had never really planned anything beyond my junior playing career and aspirations, I thought hockey was always going to be there for me. It was a sudden wake up call to me that there is life outside of sport. I felt the need to experience and explore that aspect of life and try to give myself the best chance for success in the long run. Following my time at the University of Calgary, I went on to the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology Completing my Power and Process Operations Certificate as well as my Instrumentation Engineering Technology Diploma. I had the opportunity to play for the SAIT Trojans while I was there getting an education and that is where my playing days ended.

My Goal with K2 is to help others get on a path and plan for future success, while enduring and enjoying the present. With personal experience and abundant connections in sport, K2 will help others achieve their goals

and aspirations both athletically and academically. I look sincerely forward to meeting and working with the future stars of tomorrow, both in and out of sport.