

0.0 Acknowledge the Achievements of Paralympian's - Melissa Perrine and Sam Tait

Reference: 102
Report Author: Mayor
Authoriser: General Manager
Link to Community
Strategic Plan:

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Mayoral Minute is to acknowledge the achievements of local Paralympian's Melissa Perrine and Sam Tait at the recent Winter Olympics held in PyeongChang, Korea.

RECOMMENDATION

1. **THAT the Council acknowledge the achievements of local residents and Paralympian's Melissa Perrine and Sam Tait at the recent PyeongChang Winter Olympics.**
2. **THAT the Council congratulate Alpine Skier, Melissa Perrine on her outstanding result in winning bronze medals in both the Women's Para-Super-Combined and the Women's Giant Slalom Vision-Impaired Class.**

REPORT

2005 Wingecarribee Shire Young Citizen of the Year and Welby resident Melissa Perrine was born with numerous eye conditions which has caused her sight to slowly deteriorate over the years. Melissa is a visually impaired skier and competed in her first competition in 2009. She was named a member of the 2018 Australian Paralympic Winter team on the eve of her 30th birthday. These were her third Paralympic Winter Games competing in all five Para-alpine skiing events and the first games to be awarded a medal placing.

Melissa took out bronze in the women's Giant Slalom and the following day, was again rewarded for all her hard work with another bronze medal in the Women's Para-Super-Combined.

Melissa was rewarded for her persistence, hard work and contribution to the Australian medal tally of one gold and three bronze by having the honour of flag bearer and leading the Australian Team at the closing ceremony.

At PyeongChang, fellow team member para-alpine skier Sam Tait made his Paralympic debut in the Slalom and Super-G disciplines.

A former Chevalier College student, in 2013 Sam was involved in a motorbike accident, leaving him a paraplegic. In 2014, he took up sit-skiing and became a member of the Australian Para-alpine skiing development squad. Sam was delighted to be included as part

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of the 2018 squad and he gained vital experience during these games. He continues to train for selection for the 2022 Winter Paralympics.

It is a true achievement to represent your Country at this high level and I wish to congratulate both Melissa and Sam. Their commitment, dedication and tenacity to their chosen sport are an inspiration to all Australians.



Clr Ken Halstead
Mayor

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments to this report.