

## Winning season continues for Bancroft U-15 Girls Jets



By Nate Smelle

The Bancroft U-15 Girls Jets are having a truly remarkable 2023/2024 season. This amazing group of up and coming hockey stars has been training and growing together as a team since June of last year. Although at the time they had yet to play together as a team, they began their season early with a strict training regiment which included: a virtual shooting clinic led by a NHL trainer; off-ice training and fitness testing; and two on-ice practices a week. The team's success this season clearly shows that their hard work and determination has paid off. First, the Jets were victorious at a tournament in Belleville in January; bringing home a new banner to hang from the rafters at the North Hastings Community Centre. Their next success came when the team completed their regular season play in February with a stunning 19-1-2 record. But the Jets' impressive performance this year didn't stop there. Carrying their winning ways into the post-season, the team finished in first place among the seven teams in a Playdown series. In turn, the Jets earned a spot in the Provincial Championship Tournament, scheduled to take place from April 11 to April 14 in Toronto. The U-15 Girls Jets also recently finished first in the league playoff series with a 5-1-0 record. Having qualified for round two of the playoffs, they will now face off against the Collingwood Lightning and Leaside Wildcats in a four game series to see who will move on to the championships on the weekend of April 6. The Jets' series began on Saturday, March 16 in Collingwood, with the game ending in a 2-2 tie. Both goals were scored by Hope Trotter, with the first assisted by Averi Card and Charlotte Fergusson; and the second assisted by Taylor Coe. The Bancroft U-15 Girls Jets first playoff game on home ice will take place against the Collingwood squad at the North Hastings Community Centre on Saturday, March 23 at 6 p.m. The girls' next home game is scheduled for Friday, March 29 at 7 p.m. against Leaside. The Jets are hoping to see the community will come out to show their support for girls' hockey and these fine young athletes that are representing Bancroft and North Hastings so well.