

For Immediate Release

Oliver Paipoonge, ON - The Kam River Fighting Walleye are pleased to announce the hiring of Geoff Walker as the team's new head coach. Walker has signed a two-year contract with the club, which runs to the end of the 2023-24 season.

“The Fighting Walleye organization is extremely excited to have a coach of Geoff's calibre and experience leading our dressing room,” said team President Derek Geddes. “After meeting with Geoff it was clear he was the person we wanted to lead our team. His values and vision match ours and we are looking forward to seeing where we can take this team together.”

The 34 year old Charlottetown, PEI product guided the Red Lake Miners to the Bill Salonen Cup Championship in '21-'22. Walker had a successful start to this season as the head coach of pro team Vannas HC in Sweden, prior to accepting the Fighting Walleye coaching position.

“I am very excited about the next chapter of our organization's history with the opportunity to bring in Geoff Walker,” said Kam River General Manager Kevin McCallum. “We need a full-time presence in that seat and the experience to take our program to the next level. I have had the opportunity to get to know Geoff and watch him at work with great success. I know we are getting a coach who demands a lot from his teams and gets results.”

Walker had an impressive 16 year playing career, which included stints in the AHL, ECHL and QMJHL. He led the PEI Rocket (QMJHL) in scoring in 2007-08, and was named to the ECHL All-Star game in 2008-09 while a member of the Ontario Reign.

“I couldn't be more excited to join the Walleye organization,” Walker said. “It's the top club in the SIJHL, on and off the ice in my opinion, and something I have wanted to be a part of for a while now. Kevin and crew run a family oriented club and I've seen it first-hand already when they helped guide me through the logistics of getting from Sweden to Thunder Bay. My two goals in coaching are to develop these young men both on and off the ice, and to win a championship. Our main focus is to be the SIJHL representative in Portage in the spring,” concluded Walker.

The new head coach will make his debut behind the bench on Friday night at NorWest Arena, when Kam River hosts Wisconsin.

