

# GORDON SINGLETON

INDUCTED 2015



The Canadian Cycling Hall of Fame recognizes exceptional contributions to the sport of Cycling by both Athletes and Builders.

The Canadian Cycling Hall of Fame is pleased to welcome Gordon Singleton as an inductee for 2015 noting his breakthrough performance in 1982 as the first Canadian to secure the gold medal at the World Championship and wear the rainbow jersey.

Gordon Singleton began his amateur cycling career in 1975. In 1978 he participated in the Commonwealth games in Edmonton, Alberta and returned home with a gold and bronze medal. In the years to come, Gordon rose to international stardom, becoming the first cyclist ever to break and hold simultaneously world records in the 200 metres, 500 metres and 1000 metres which he did on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 1980.

In 1980, at the height of his career, Singleton was the #2 ranked track cyclist in the world, and one of the favourites for the gold medals at that year's Olympic Games. However, when the Canadians joined the US-led boycott of the Moscow Olympics, due to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, Singleton was deprived of competing in his second Olympics. In lieu of the Olympics, the Canadian Government set up an opportunity with additional funding for 20 of its top summer athletes to compete in an alternative competition. It was decided to attack all 3 World Records at the sprint

distances.

During a single 24 hour period, Singleton set new world records in three separate events: the 200, 500 and 1000 meters. He was the first, and remains the only, cyclist in history to simultaneously hold records in these three distances.

The following year, 1981, Singleton would take the silver medal in the 200 meters and a fourth in the Kieran at the World Championships. In 1982 he won the Keirin event to become World Champion.

Overall he represented Canada at 6 World Championships achieving 1 gold (1982-Kierin) and 3 silver medals (1979-1000 meter time trial, 1981-1000 meter sprint, 1982-1000 meter sprint).

Throughout his career at home Gordon won a total of 11 Canadian National cycling titles and four silver medals