

Annie was born in Sainte Foy, Québec. She moved to the West Island at a young age and joined the Dollard-des-Ormeaux soccer program. Six-year-old Annie was embarking on a career that would heavily influence the growth of soccer in Canada at every level.

She enrolled at John Abbott in 1984 and graduated with a Health Sciences diploma. Annie's primary extracurricular activity at John Abbott was as a member of the Islanders soccer team from 1984-87. College soccer was in its infancy in the mid-eighties and Annie helped lay the foundation for the John Abbott program which would be a dominant force for the next two decades.

In 1984 and 1985 she was the team captain achieving considerable personal and team success, including Most Valuable Player and Provincial Champions in 1985 and 1986. Annie was named the Islanders Female Athlete of the Year and the McGill University Tournament MVP in 1986.

Annie was a born athlete. She demonstrated this on the pitch as well as on snow as a member of the Islanders ski team. In 1988, she was honoured as the Most Valuable Player of the Concordia University ski team.

Attending Concordia University, Annie's skills and impact on the sport of soccer were recognized once again. She was named an All-Star at the provincial level for four consecutive years (1988-1991) and was the first athlete to be named an All-Canadian for four successive years. The team won the provincial championship in 1988 and a year later Annie was recognized as the university's Female Athlete of the Year.

Annie enjoyed a long career in club soccer and captured several awards, including:

- 1984 First Division Leading Scorer
- 1985 Québec Senior Championship Leading Scorer and Most Valuable Player
- 1989 Québec Federation Team Player Award
- 1995 Québec Senior Player of Excellence

Annie made an important contribution to the development of Canada's national team. She was one of 23 players invited to the inaugural training camp in 1986. The national team coach said of her: *"Annie is the best technical player on the women's side that I have ever seen."*

Through to 1995, she would make 34 appearances with the national team including the FIFA Women's Invitation Tournament in 1988 and the Women's World Cup in 1995. She won two silver medals with the team at the CONCACAF championships in 1991 and 1994. In the 1991 silver-medal match, Annie became the first player to score a hat trick in a game.

It is perhaps not surprising that such a remarkable athlete has been recognized with her induction into the Concordia University Hall of Fame in 2000, the Québec Soccer Hall of Fame in 2006, and the Canadian Soccer Hall of Fame in 2021.



*Annie Caron*