



## City of Auburn, Maine

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## ARENA MANAGER MOVING UP TO THE NHL

AUBURN, ME. - After 1 year and 8 months in his position as General Manager of Auburn's Norway Savings Bank Arena, Marc Gosselin has been "called up" to the big leagues. In two weeks, Gosselin will leave NSBA for his new position in the front office of the Columbus Blue Jackets, a professional ice hockey team based in Columbus, Ohio.

"Breaking into the NHL has always been a dream of mine," said Gosselin. "This is an opportunity I just couldn't pass up."

Gosselin, who grew up in Lewiston, began his sports business career working for the Lewiston Maineiacs. In the years that followed, he worked for the Portland Pirates, Central Maine Community College, and before coming to Auburn, spent five seasons with the Maine Red Claws, Portland's professional minor league basketball team. He will be working for the Blue Jackets in their Corporate Partnership Department.

In his role as General Manager and Executive Director of Sports Tourism, Marc Gosselin is leaving the Norway Savings Bank Arena in very good shape. According to Acting City Manager Denis D'Auteuil, "Marc has helped put us on the path to marketing Auburn as a sports tourism destination, and we couldn't be more excited about that. We will miss his enthusiasm, creativity and strong leadership, but we wish him the best in this new adventure. We have a very talented team in place and the arena will continue to thrive."

Jason Paquin, the current Assistant General Manager, will serve as Acting GM when Gosselin leaves for Ohio. "Jason is more than ready," said Gosselin. "He has a tremendous work ethic and a real passion for this place."

"I see only bright things ahead for Norway," said Gosselin. "There are so many people who care about it; who are committed to it: the staff here, the people who use the facility, our corporate partners - we are moving in the right direction, with some good momentum." And according to

D'Auteuil, Gosselin is leaving NSBA better and stronger than it was when he was hired in July of 2015. "We are motivated to keep that positive momentum going."

Gosselin, who is excited about the opportunities that lay ahead, is thankful for his time in Auburn. "I'm very appreciative. I don't think this [NHL] opportunity would have crossed my path if it were not for this great position with the City of Auburn. From my staff, to the City Council, Mayor and City Manager - I have felt supported and that has motivated me to strive for success for Norway Savings Bank Arena."

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**The Columbus Blue Jackets** are members of the Metropolitan Division of the Eastern Conference of the National Hockey League (NHL).

The Blue Jackets were founded as an expansion team in 2000. The team qualified for the Stanley Cup playoffs for the first time in 2009.

The Blue Jackets' name and logos were inspired by Ohio's Civil War history. The Blue Jackets play their home games at Nationwide Arena in downtown Columbus, which opened in 2000.