

= Dawson Creek Rage =

The Dawson Creek Rage ( aka DC Rage ) were a Tier II Junior A ice hockey team , based out of Dawson Creek , British Columbia . Formed in 2010 , they played in the North American Hockey League 's West Division for two seasons . Their 2010 ? 11 season included a six @-@ game win streak , though they ended the season fifth in a six team division with 24 wins in 58 games . The 2011 ? 12 season included an 11 @-@ game homestand in which they only won 2 games , and a last place finish ( in their division ) with only 12 wins overall . With losing records in both seasons , the team did not make the playoffs in either season . Despite attracting better than average attendance for a NAHL team , high travelling and operating costs resulted in the team ceasing operations in April 2012 .

The Rage played in the 4 @, @ 500 seat EnCana Events Centre where their first win came on September 24 , 2010 , against the Alaska Avalanche . Their final home game was a loss to the Wenatchee Wild in March 2012 . The team 's name and symbol was intended to represent an outward expression of passion and internal desire to dominate other teams . The Rage players , all aged between 15 and 20 years old in accordance with league rules , were active with charities and within the community . Prior to the team 's formation , the ownership group attempted to establish the team in the British Columbia Hockey League but were refused with the league citing the lack of a competitive base for a northern division . The group also attempted to establish the team in the Alberta Junior Hockey League but that league was not interested in expanding or re @-@ locating teams at that time . Another unsuccessful attempt at moving the team to either of those league was made before their dissolution .

= = Formation = =

Dawson Creek was last home to a Junior A hockey team in the 1980s when the Dawson Creek Kodiaks of the Peace @-@ Cariboo Junior Hockey League spent time at the equivalent level . While the Kodiaks ended operations in 1990 , a new Junior A team was proposed in 2006 by Global Spectrum , the contracted management company responsible for operating the city 's new South Peace Community Multiplex which included the EnCana Events Centre , capable of hosting ice hockey events with a seating capacity of 4 @, @ 500 people . The objective was to create an anchor tenant which could help fill the Multiplex 's schedule with several dozen home games per year . The company recruited several Dawson Creek @-@ based businessmen to form a non @-@ profit society ( eventually named the DC Rage Society ) that would fund the start @-@ up of the team . To add credibility to their application , Dawson Creek resident Rob Bremner , who was the head coach of the Junior A @-@ level Vernon Vipers when they won the 1996 Royal Bank Cup , was appointed the General Manager of the team and tasked with recruiting potential players .

The group first approached the British Columbia Hockey League with the intention of creating a new franchise for the 2007 ? 08 season , which came with a \$ 400 @, @ 000 expansion franchise fee . While the Multiplex arena was well over the BCHL 's minimum requirement of a 1 @, @ 500 @-@ seat arena , the Society estimated the franchise would need an average attendance of 1 @, @ 200 @-@ 1 @, @ 500 tickets sold to cover operational costs . At the same time , the group pursued entry into the Alberta Junior Hockey League , which had a \$ 250 @, @ 000 franchise fee , even though AJHL communicated they had no intention of expanding until at least 2011 . As the BCHL also communicated they were not interested in expansion at that time , the group additionally pursued relocation of an existing team to Dawson Creek . However , at a late @-@ 2006 meeting , the BCHL board of governors voted to not accept the Dawson Creek application as a potential site for a team , citing delays with the construction of the Multiplex arena and a question over compensation for the expenses of visiting teams . On appeal , the BCHL reversed this decision two months later and actively considered both Dawson Creek and Wenatchee , Washington , as possible sites for a requested relocation of the Williams Lake TimberWolves . The BCHL noted two concerns with a Dawson Creek team : the cost and time of travel required ( at the time the league 's most northerly team was the Prince George Spruce Kings ) to reach the city and the lack of a rival

team . To address these concerns , the Society attempted to initiate a Fort St. John team , as well , who would be a rival to Dawson Creek and enable a northern division within the BCHL .

At their 2007 meeting , the BCHL board of governors rejected moving the Williams Lake TimberWolves to Dawson Creek , but then voted to allow the move if the Burnaby Express ( who was also seeking relocation ) moved to Fort St. John . However , the Society was not able to recruit sufficient support in Fort St. John to form an ownership group and the Burnaby Express re @-@ arranged its management and ownership so that it could stay in Burnaby . The Williams Lake TimberWolves , after one year of dormancy , relocated to Wenatchee , Washington . Efforts at relocating an Alberta Junior Hockey League team were also unsuccessful as no team expressed interest in moving at that time .

Over the next year , still seeking a league , the US @-@ based North American Hockey League , which was looking to expand , was approached as a possibility . In an April 2009 announcement , they accepted the Dawson Creek franchise , which would be the only Canadian team in the league and the first since the Fernie Ghostriders left the league in 2004 to become a Junior B team . The ownership group agreed to pay the \$ 400 @,@ 000 franchise fee with the team entering the league for the 2010 ? 11 season with 31 home games to be played in the Multiplex each season . The local government , the City of Dawson Creek , agreed to contribute \$ 675 @,@ 000 over 3 years to help establish the team as a reliable tenant for the Multiplex which was operating at a loss due to the lack of events . The team , now known as the Dawson Creek Rage , selected Scott Robinson , a former BCHL coach of the year , to lead the new team as its general manager and head coach . To recruit and evaluate potential players ( aged 15 ? 20 ) , they held Spring 2010 try @-@ out camps in Princeton , Abbotsford and Dawson Creek which attracted about 200 players .

= = Team history = =

= = = 2010 ? 11 season = = =

With the roster filled , the team debuted at a late @-@ August 2010 exhibition tournament , Face Off Fever 2 , where Dawson Creek hosted the Prince George Spruce Kings and Quesnel Millionaires of the BCHL and the Grande Prairie Storm of the AJHL . The NAHL 2010 ? 11 season began at the Showcase Tournament , held Minneapolis in mid @-@ September . The Rage lost their first game 3 ? 0 to the St. Louis Bandits on September 15 , but the next day won their second game , in an overtime shoot @-@ out , 2 ? 1 against the Alexandria Blizzard . The team emerged from the tournament with a 1 @-@ 2 @-@ 1 record . Returning to Dawson Creek , the Rage held their home @-@ opener in a three @-@ game series against the Alaska Avalanche , losing the first and third games but winning their September 24 game . The Rage also lost two of three games the next weekend against the Kenai River Brown Bears . On their Alaska road trip , they lost three straight to the Avalanche and won three straight against the Brown Bears . In California , the Rage lost both games in a two @-@ game series against the Fresno Monsters and in Washington the Rage lost two of three against the Wenatchee Wild .

Back in Dawson Creek in November , the Rage split a three @-@ game series against the Monsters , 1 @-@ 1 @-@ 1 , and won both games against the Chicago Hitmen . Following another 6 @-@ game road trip to Alaska , the Rage continued into December winning approximately one @-@ in @-@ three games , with an 11 @-@ 22 @-@ 2 record near the mid @-@ season break , when they traded their 20 @-@ year @-@ old captain , Blaine Bokenfohr , to the Merritt Centennials in exchange for future considerations . Scott Fellnermayr became the new captain of the Rage , and would remain the captain for the remainder of the season and the next . In January , the Rage split two @-@ game series against the Wild and split another in Chicago . The team put together a six @-@ game winning streak in January ? February , winning games against the Brown Bears and the Avalanche before splitting a two @-@ game series with the Monsters . On their next road trip , they lost their two games against the Wild and won the next three against the Monsters . The season ended in early March with Rage in fifth place with a 24 @-@ 31 @-@ 3 record , in the six @-@

team West division .

Despite the losing record , attendance at the home games averaged over 1 @, @ 000 people , the tenth highest attendance in the 26 @-@ team league . They sent two players to the league 's Top Prospects Tournament : goalie Andrew Walsh and the team 's top scorer Dakota Mason . The team gave Scott Fellnermayr their most valuable player award and named goalie Edward Dyson their rookie of the year .

In the off @-@ season , with numerous players reaching the league 's age limit , the team held open camps in Kelowna and Dawson Creek in April ? May 2011 which attracted about 150 potential players . Dakota Mason requested a trade and was sent to the Brooks Bandits for Mitch Chagnon . In pre @-@ season play , the Rage played the Grande Prairie Storm in Peace River , Alberta , in an exhibition fundraiser game called the Tiggo Cup Challenge , with proceeds going towards the North Peace Navigators Junior " B " hockey team . In early September , they split a two @-@ game exhibition series with the Prince George Spruce Kings . In finalizing the roster , the team kept rookie Luke Ripley and veteran Rage defenseman Evan Ripley , allowing the brothers to play on the same team .

= = = 2011 ? 12 season = = =

The Rage began the 2011 ? 12 season with the NAHL 's Showcase Tournament in Michigan where they lost to the Corpus Christi Ice Rays and the Kalamazoo Jr . K @-@ Wings but beat the Michigan Warriors , before ending with a loss to the Coulee Region Chill . They started with a 3 ? 7 record , winning two out of three games against the Minot Minotauros but then losing two games against the Monsters in Fresno and two games against the Bismarck Bobcats in Dawson Creek . Trying to add scoring , they acquired Shawn Mueller from the Chilliwack Chiefs . They fell to 5 @-@ 13 @-@ 1 after splitting a series in Minot , losing in Bismarck , and splitting a series against the Alaska Avalanche back in Dawson Creek . Between mid @-@ November and the mid @-@ season break the team played a 12 @-@ game road trip , spending the first two weekends in Alaska and the next two in Wenatchee and Fresno , and entered the break last in their division with a 7 @-@ 24 @-@ 2 overall record . They acquired defenceman Zach Ovics from the Nanaimo Clippers and goalie Paul Bourbeau from the Kenai River Brown Bears . In a January ? February 11 game homestand , the Rage only won 2 games , falling to 9 @-@ 32 @-@ 3 , as they lost three to the Wild ( all shut outs ) , two each to the Monsters and the Ice Dogs , and split their series against the Avalanche and Brown Bears . The team 's struggles continued , losing two games each to the Monsters and the Ice Dogs . Against the Wild , they lost all three games in their homestand which ended with brawl . They ended the season going 1 ? 2 in both Kenai River and Wenatchee and splitting the series against the Alaska Avalanche , 1 @-@ 1 @-@ 1 . They played their last home game in mid @-@ March losing to the Wenatchee Wild and ending the game with brawl . The Rage ended their season with a road trip , losing both three @-@ game series 2 ? 1 in Kenai River and then Wenatchee . Three players were sent to the NAHL 's Top Prospects Showcase : Scott Fellnermayr , Luke Ripley and Josh Hartley .

= = Dissolution = =

In early 2011 , the Rage along with the Fresno Monsters , Wenatchee Wild , and Alaska Avalanche , all declared dormancy for various reasons , not committing to playing the next season ; the Rage were pursuing entry into the AJHL . As the season was ending , the other teams in the division came out of dormancy ; the Wenatchee team had their BCHL move denied and the Fresno Monsters were able to secure a lease agreement for their arena . The bid by the DC Rage Society to move the team into the AJHL , by purchasing the rights to the St. Albert Steel , failed as the Steel were moved to Whitecourt . While the team was achieving the expected levels of corporate sponsorship and had an average attendance of 1 @, @ 010 people ( 13th best in the league of 28 teams ) , the Rage 's costs ( especially the travel costs ) were higher than expected . In the first week of April 2012 , a final appeal by the DC Rage Society to the City of Dawson Creek to cover

certain fees was denied and the society announced the team was ending operations .

= = Community = =

The Rage were operated by a Dawson Creek @-@ based non @-@ profit group , the DC Rage Society . They obtained over \$ 200 @,@ 000 each year in financial support from the City of Dawson Creek who wanted the team to help fill the schedule of their new 6 @,@ 500 @-@ seat arena . Compared to other NAHL teams , the Rage received above average fan support with over 1 @,@ 000 people attending each game . With few of the players were native to the Peace Region , billet families housed team players while they were in town . The team participated in visits to local elementary schools , hosted meet @-@ and @-@ greets with community members , and fund @-@ raised for the local branch of the Canadian Cancer Society and other charities . Likewise , the community supported the team by fund @-@ raising for pay for general team activities and for a scholarship fund for players going onto university . In August 2011 , the team took over hosting duties ( from the city 's minor hockey association ) of Dawson Creek 's annual week @-@ long hockey camp in which 95 players attended , as well , in the same month , they hosted an open house for Dawson Creek community members meet the team .

= = Uniform = =

In May 2010 , the team unveiled their logo and uniform . Designed by a Dawson Creek resident , it featured predominately orange , black , and silver colours stylized as a warrior helmet . The logo was meant to illustrate the team 's dominance with the burning eyes representing the rage within . Between seasons , they altered the logo by adding the words " Dawson Creek " and " Rage " with the Canadian maple leaf symbol , replacing the longhorn symbol with a plume on the helmet , eliminating the red colouring , and removing the flames .

= = Season Records = =