

= Alexandre Burrows =

Alexandre " Alex " Ménard @-@ Burrows (born April 11 , 1981) is a French @-@ Canadian professional ice hockey right winger and an alternate captain for the Vancouver Canucks of the National Hockey League (NHL) . He is known for playing in the style of an agitator and for his ascension to the NHL from being an undrafted player in the ECHL . After a two @-@ year career in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL) , he played in the minor leagues for three seasons . He was signed by the Canucks in 2005 from their American Hockey League (AHL) affiliate , the Manitoba Moose . Burrows established himself as a checking forward with the Canucks in his first three NHL seasons before emerging as a scorer with four consecutive 25 + goal seasons from 2008 ? 09 to 2011 ? 12 .

Before making it to the NHL , Burrows also enjoyed a prolific ball hockey career , competing in national and international tournaments in the summers . In 2005 , he was named the International Ball Hockey Player of the Year . He has also been inducted into the Canadian and International Ball Hockey Hall of Fame .

= = Playing career = =

= = = Junior and minor leagues = = =

Burrows played two seasons in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL) with the Shawinigan Cataractes , beginning in 2000 ? 01 . He recorded 16 goals and 30 points over 63 regular season games , then added three points over 10 post @-@ season games . The following season , he improved to 35 goals and 70 points over 64 games , third in team @-@ scoring , behind Jonathan Bellemare and Jason Pominville . He went on to lead his team in post @-@ season scoring with nine goals and 21 points in 12 games as the Cataractes advanced to the Conference Finals , where they were eliminated in seven games by the Victoriaville Tigres .

Undrafted by a National Hockey League (NHL) club , Burrows went professional in 2002 ? 03 with the Greenville Grrrowl of the ECHL , a third @-@ tier minor league . Late in his professional rookie season , he transferred to the Baton Rouge Kingfish and finished with a combined 32 points in 66 games between the two teams . The following season , in 2003 ? 04 , he returned to the South Division , as he was signed by the Columbia Inferno . Early in the season , he was signed by Columbia 's American Hockey League (AHL) affiliate , the Manitoba Moose , on October 21 , 2003 , having been scouted by Moose general manager Craig Heisinger . He appeared in two AHL games for Manitoba before being sent back down to the ECHL . Shortly after his return , he was suspended for three games and fined an undisclosed amount by the league for abusing officials during a game on October 24 against the Greensboro Generals . Later on in the season , he was named to the 2004 ECHL All @-@ Star Game for the Eastern Conference and recorded one assist . He went on to finish the season with 29 goals and 73 points , second in points among Columbia players to league @-@ scoring champion Tim Smith .

In the subsequent off @-@ season , Burrows was re @-@ signed by the Moose on August 3 , 2004 . He was initially sent back down to the ECHL after a training camp both he and head coach Randy Carlyle described as disappointing . Following an injury to Wade Brookbank , he was recalled on October 29 , 2004 . He scored his first AHL goal with the Moose five days later , a game @-@ winning goal against goaltender David LeNeveu of the Utah Grizzlies in a 2 ? 1 win . He finished the 2004 ? 05 season with Manitoba and posted 26 points over 72 games in a fourth @-@ line role .

= = = Vancouver Canucks = = =

Having worked his way up from the ECHL , Burrows ' energetic play in the minors earned him a two @-@ way contract with the Moose 's NHL affiliate , the Vancouver Canucks , on November 8 , 2005 . He had appeared earlier in the Canucks ' training camp for the 2005 ? 06 season , but was sent

back to the Moose . After recording 30 points in 33 games with the Moose , he was recalled by the Canucks on January 2 , 2006 . Eight days later , Burrows scored his first career NHL goal against Ed Belfour of the Toronto Maple Leafs . He also added an assist as the Canucks won the game 4 ? 3 . Establishing himself on the Canucks roster , he added his first NHL career hat trick on March 27 , 2006 , in a 7 ? 4 win against the Los Angeles Kings . He finished with seven goals and 12 points over 43 games in his NHL rookie campaign . Burrows ' ascension to the NHL has been attributed to his hard @-@ working and abrasive style of play , generating momentum for his team and aggravating opposing players .

Burrows completed his first full campaign with the Canucks the following season in 2006 ? 07 . He contributed primarily on the team 's penalty kill , which ranked first in the league . Burrows ' average shorthanded ice time per game was second among team forwards , behind Ryan Kesler . He struggled to produce offensively , however , and recorded a career @-@ low three goals and nine points in 81 games .

In 2007 ? 08 , Burrows formed an effective duo with center Ryan Kesler on the third line as defensive forwards , countering opposing teams ' top players while contributing offensively , as well . During the season , he was fined an undisclosed amount by the league after spearing Detroit Red Wings forward Aaron Downey at centre ice during the two teams ' pre @-@ game skate on February 23 , 2008 . He finished the campaign with 12 goals , 31 points and a team @-@ high plus @-@ minus of + 11 . He was voted by Canucks ' fans to receive the team 's Most Exciting Player Award and the Fred J. Hume Award , given to the team 's " unsung hero " as voted by the Canucks Booster Club .

After remaining on the third line with Kesler at the start of the following season , head coach Alain Vigneault separated the two after the All @-@ Star break , placing Burrows on the first line with Daniel and Henrik Sedin , beginning on February 12 , 2009 , during a game against the Phoenix Coyotes . Burrows ' crash @-@ the @-@ net style ? skating hard to the opposing team 's goalmouth for rebounds or tip @-@ ins ? combined well with the Sedins ' cycling plays . Vigneault 's line adjustments were precipitated by a losing streak in January , which Burrows was instrumental in breaking . The Canucks ' home winless streak had extended to eight games , a franchise record , when Burrows broke a 3 ? 3 tie with a shorthanded breakaway goal with 82 seconds remaining in a game against the Carolina Hurricanes . This sparked a resurgence in the Canucks , spearheaded by Burrows , who then immediately followed their record setting home losing streak with a record setting home winning streak , winning their next 10 games at home . Shortly thereafter , the Canucks extended his contract with a four @-@ year , \$ 8 million deal on February 4 , 2009 , quadrupling his \$ 525 @,@ 000 salary . Following a game against the Edmonton Oilers on April 4 , Burrows received a \$ 2 @,@ 500 fine from the league for punching Oilers enforcer Zach Stortini from the bench .

Late in the campaign , he was selected by the Professional Hockey Writers ' Association as the Canucks ' nominee for the Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy , awarded for perseverance , dedication and sportsmanship . Burrows was not shortlisted for the award , however . Prior to the last game of the season , he received his second consecutive Most Exciting Player Award .

Playing in a more offensive role on the first line for the latter part of the season , Burrows finished the 2008 ? 09 campaign with 51 points . His 28 goals broke Andrew Brunette 's mark for the most in a single season by an ECHL alumnus (27 in 2006 ? 07) . In the subsequent first round of the 2009 playoffs , Burrows scored the series @-@ winning goal in overtime to sweep the St. Louis Blues . It was his second goal of the game . The Canucks advanced to meet the Chicago Blackhawks in the second round , who defeated them in six games . Burrows ' level of play was noticeably diminished in the Chicago series and it was revealed afterwards that he required surgery to remove bone chips in his left wrist . He finished the playoffs with three goals and an assist over 10 games .

The following season , Burrows recorded back @-@ to @-@ back hat tricks against the Columbus Blue Jackets and Phoenix Coyotes on January 5 and 7 , 2010 , respectively . It marked the first time an NHL player notched consecutive three @-@ goal games since Ilya Kovalchuk in November 2007 and the first time a Canucks player did so since Petri Skriko in 1986 . With six goals and an assist over two games , Burrows was named the NHL First Star of the Week on January 11 , 2010 .

== = NHL officials controversy = = =

The night of his first star of the week selection , Burrows and the Canucks played a controversial game against the Nashville Predators . With the game tied 2 ? 2 in the third period , Burrows was penalized twice by referee Stéphane Auger ? once for diving and the other for interference . The latter call was deemed questionable by media sources , including TSN and the National Post . The interference penalty along with an additional penalty committed by Henrik Sedin resulted in Nashville 's game @-@ winning , 5 @-@ on @-@ 3 powerplay goal late in the game . With three seconds to go in regulation , Burrows skated by Auger and protested the interference penalty , resulting in an unsportsmanlike minor and a ten @-@ minute misconduct .

Following the game , Burrows accused Auger of having a personal vendetta against him for a play against the Predators the previous month that had made him look bad . After Burrows had been hit into the boards by Nashville forward Jerred Smithson during a game on December 8 , 2009 , Auger assessed Smithson with a five @-@ minute major and a game misconduct . However , the league later rescinded because it was believed Burrows had embellished injury . Burrows claimed that Auger told him before the January 11 game : " you made me look bad [for calling the Smithson penalty] so I 'm going to get you back tonight . " He went on to tell reporters that Auger " should stay out for the rest of the year making calls like that ... We just blew two points because of his officiating tonight . "

The following day , the NHL fined Burrows US \$ 2 @,@ 500 for publicly criticizing Auger and deemed that his claims " cannot be substantiated . " Later that week , the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) ' s Hockey Night in Canada telecast aired an 11 @-@ minute segment hosted by Ron MacLean and NHL vice @-@ president Colin Campbell reviewing Burrows ' past transgressions , spanning two years . The segment was widely criticized for being biased against Burrows and failing to illustrate both sides of the argument . Burrows ' parents subsequently issued a formal letter of complaint to the CBC , accusing MacLean of " verbal assassination " and for displaying " no journalistic balance . "

The following Saturday after the segment aired , the Canucks refused any interviews with the CBC before , during or after their game against the Chicago Blackhawks , which was broadcast on Hockey Night in Canada . The boycott was ordered by Canucks general manager Mike Gillis after MacLean refused to apologize . CBC and Canucks representatives later agreed in a conference call to " move on " and team players were allowed to resume interviews . MacLean later issued an unofficial apology aimed to clarify the situation .

== = Vancouver Canucks (cont 'd) == =

Later in the 2009 ? 10 season , Burrows left during a game against the Los Angeles Kings after being hit in the throat by a Jarret Stoll slapshot . He was not injured , however , and did not miss any games thereafter . Playing a full season on the Canucks ' top line with the Sedins , he recorded a career @-@ high 35 goals , 32 assists , 67 points and a + 34 rating . His goals total ranked first on the Canucks . Fans voted him as recipient of the team 's Most Exciting Player Award for the third consecutive season .

The Canucks first line struggled to score in the playoffs , however . In 12 games , Burrows scored three goals , two of which were into empty nets , and notched three assists . The Canucks advanced to the second round past the Los Angeles Kings , where they were eliminated by the Chicago Blackhawks for the second consecutive year . It was revealed in the off @-@ season that Burrows was suffering from a shoulder injury , which he later received surgery for .

While Burrows ' offensive numbers increased from playing on the top line , the Sedins ' mutually benefitted from playing with him . Daniel and Henrik had not had a constant linemate on the first line since Anson Carter played with them in 2005 ? 06 . Since then , Vigneault had used a variety of wingers , including Markus Naslund , Taylor Pyatt and Steve Bernier , to fill out the unit . In those years , Daniel and Henrik were point @-@ a @-@ game players ; with Burrows on their line , they

vaulted into top scorers in the league , as Henrik won the Art Ross Trophy as the league 's leading point @-@ getter (Daniel scored at a similar pace , but played less due to an injury) .

Due to rehabilitation from the shoulder surgery , Burrows missed the first ten games of the 2010 ? 11 season . Continuing to play with the Sedins upon his return , he recorded 48 points (26 goals and 22 assists) in 72 games , sixth in team @-@ scoring . Winning the Presidents ' Trophy , the Canucks entered the 2011 playoffs as the first seed in the West and matched up against the Blackhawks for the third consecutive year . With a 3 ? 0 lead in the series , the Canucks lost their next three games , resulting in a game seven . In the deciding game , Burrows scored two goals in a 2 ? 1 overtime win , helping Vancouver eliminate Chicago . After defeating the Nashville Predators and San Jose Sharks in rounds two and three , the Canucks reached the Stanley Cup Finals for the first time in 17 years . Playing the Boston Bruins , Burrows received much attention of the series for allegedly biting opposing forward Patrice Bergeron during a scrum at the end of the first period in Game 1 of the series . While the two players were being held apart by a linesman , Burrows appears to be shown biting down on Bergeron 's finger , while both players were pushing and shoving at one another . The incident was reviewed by the league , but was ruled unsuspendable with " no conclusive evidence that [he] intentionally bit [Bergeron 's] finger . " The following game , Burrows scored his second overtime @-@ winner of the playoffs , part of a three @-@ point effort (two goals and an assist) . Occurring 11 seconds into the extra period , it was the second @-@ fastest goal scored from the start of an overtime game in Stanley Cup Finals history (Montreal Canadiens forward Brian Skrudland scored nine seconds into overtime in Game 2 of the 1986 Stanley Cup Finals against the Calgary Flames) . With two overtime goals in one playoff season , Burrows tied the NHL record , which was held by 28 other players . After leading two @-@ games @-@ to @-@ none in the series , Vancouver went on to lose the Stanley Cup to Boston in seven contests . Burrows finished the post @-@ season with 9 goals and 17 points over 25 games .

In 2011 ? 12 , Burrows recorded 28 goals and 52 points in 80 contests , helping Vancouver to a second consecutive Presidents ' Trophy . Facing the eighth @-@ seeded Los Angeles Kings in the first round , they were eliminated in five games . Burrows had one goal during the series . The Los Angeles Kings went on to become the 2012 Stanley Cup Champions .

= = International play = =

Following his seventh NHL season , Burrows received his first invite to the Canadian national team for the 2012 IIHF World Championship , held in Finland and Sweden . Burrows ' Vancouver Canucks had been eliminated in the first round of the 2012 playoffs , making him available for selection . At 31 years old , he was the oldest player on the Canadian roster . Making his Team Canada debut against Slovakia in the first game of the tournament , he fell to the ice and hit his head after colliding with two opposing players . After leaving the ice , he was kept out of the contest with concerns that he had sustained a concussion . The following day , Burrows ' agent , Paul Corbeil , told reporters that while he was symptom free , a return to the lineup would not be possible for four @-@ to @-@ five days , as per team protocol in scenarios in which a concussion is suspected . Returning to the lineup a week after the hit , he scored his first career international goal against Finnish goaltender Kari Lehtonen in a 5 ? 3 win . The following contest , he scored a shorthanded goal in an 8 ? 0 win against Kazakhstan to earn player of the game honours for Canada .

= = Ball hockey career = =

Burrows began playing organized ball hockey at the age of 19 . In 2001 , he won his first national championship with the Montreal Red Lites in Burnaby , British Columbia . Burrows went on to win the national championship in every year he played with the Red Lites . He was the tournament scoring leader in 2002 and 2003 and earned All @-@ Star Team honours from 2002 to 2004 . In 2005 , Burrows scored two goals in a 5 ? 2 win against the Toronto Midnight Express in the national final to capture his fifth consecutive Canadian title with the Red Lites . Burrows was named the

Tournament MVP by the Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) . He returned the following year to lead the Red Lites to a sixth consecutive title in 2006 .

Burrows made his first appearance on the international stage in ball hockey when he was named to Canada 's national ball hockey team for the 2003 World Championships in Sierre , Switzerland . He helped Canada beat the Czech Republic 6 ? 1 in the final . Tying for the lead in tournament scoring with five goals and 10 points , Burrows was named the Most Valuable Forward . Two years later , in 2005 , he won his second World Championship in as many appearances with Canada in Pittsburgh , Pennsylvania . He capped the season off by being named the 2005 International Player of the Year by the International Street and Ball Hockey Federation (ISBHF) . The following year , he was voted in a Canadian poll as the country 's greatest ball hockey player ever .

Burrows has credited ball hockey for his fitness and discipline which has carried over to the NHL . Following his first full season with the Canucks in 2006 ? 07 , Burrows retired from his ball hockey career . In 2010 , he was inducted into the CBHA Hall of Fame , along with national teammate and goaltender Michel Perodeau . He is also a member of the ISBHF Hall of Fame .

= = Personal life = =

Burrows was born in Pincourt , Québec , to parents Rodney and Carole . His father emigrated from London , England , at 23 , while his mother , a Québec native , is an elementary school principal . Burrows has two sisters as well ? one older and one younger . He grew up speaking mostly French and attended French schools . His English has a noticeable French accent .

In July 2010 , Burrows married his longtime girlfriend , Nancy Roy . On April 27 , 2011 , Nancy gave birth to the couple 's first child , a girl named Victoria . Alex became a second time father on March 4 , 2013 to a daughter named Lexie . They live in Montreal during the offseason .

Burrows was the closest friend on the Canucks to former teammate Luc Bourdon , who died in a motorcycle accident in May 2009 . In the hockey season following his death , Burrows occasionally celebrated goals with a bow @-@ and @-@ arrow mime , a gesture that Bourdon himself did after scoring during his junior career . He and his wife (girlfriend at the time) remained close to Bourdon 's girlfriend , Charlene Ward .

In the 2009 off @-@ season , Burrows was involved in an assault incident while playing in a summer ice hockey league . Police were called to an arena in Kirkland , Québec , on July 21 after Burrows allegedly struck a goaltender , 19 @-@ year @-@ old Koray Celik , in the face . No arrests , however , were made at the scene .

= = Career statistics = =

= = = Regular season and playoffs = = =

= = = International = = =

= = Awards = =

= = = ECHL = = =

= = = Vancouver Canucks = = =

= = = NHL = = =

== Ball hockey ==