Young Canadian goalkeeper signs with Le Havre AC Academy

September, 2017 (RELEASE) – **Nikola (Niko) Curcija (2001 born)** has committed to an offer presented by French Ligue 2 club, Le Havre AC, to join its famous academy in the U17 program. The tall (6' 5") goalkeeper recently attended a one-week trial after club scouts and coaches saw his play in the most recent ANB Futbol International ID Camp in June, 2017. Even though Niko presently trains and plays with Erin Mills Soccer Club, ANB Futbol Academy Director, Bassam Naim, worked with Le Havre AC and the young player's family to secure an avenue for this Canadian athlete to pursue his professional aspirations. Erin Mills Soccer Club is to be commended for developing his goalkeeping skills to such a high level.

Based on the latest FIFA transfer rules for minors, Niko is fortunate to hold dual citizenship (Canada and Croatia) which allows him to move to Europe to continue his futbol development.





"We are proud to have exposed Niko during the ANB ID Camp where many professional coaches & scouts are invited annually. Le Havre AC has a great reputation in developing young players and it is great to see them select a young Canadian athlete to play in their prestigious academy. We look forward to continued success for Niko," says Academy Director, Bassam Naim.

Niko is eager for the move in October, 2017 saying, "I feel very excited and honoured to have this opportunity with such a great club like Le Havre. I look forward to working even harder and taking my game to the next level."

Additionally, Niko's father, Tony feels privileged to have Le Havre recognize his son's talents, "We're extremely proud of Niko and all his accomplishments. He has trained very hard for this moment. We'd also like to thank ANB Futbol for the wonderful job they've done with the annual ANB Futbol ID Camp."

ANB Futbol's vision is to become Canada's leading soccer development organization. Its mission is to identify Canadian soccer talent, and to maximize the potential of players at any level, through professional coaching and training.

For more information on the programs offered by ANB Academy, check out our website at <u>www.anbfutbol.com</u> or by telephone 905-313-8661 or email <u>info@anbfutbol.com</u>