# PRESS RELEASE

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS || Nationwide Arena || 200 W. Nationwide Blvd. || Columbus, OH 43215 || BlueJackets.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: OCTOBER 14, 2021**

## COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS FOUNDATION DONATES $80,000 TO LATVIAN ICE HOCKEY FEDERATION FOR "KIVI'S KIDS" PROGRAM

**Donation is part of money raised by the Matiss Kivlenieks Memorial Fund in honor of late CBJ goaltender**

**COLUMBUS, OHIO –** The Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation announced today that it is donating $80,000 to the Latvian Ice Hockey Federation for its "Kivi's Kids" initiative, which has been established in honor of Blue Jackets goaltender Matiss Kivlenieks, who passed away last July. The money will be used to fund clinics and provide equipment for young goaltenders in his native Latvia.

The CBJ Foundation established the **Matiss Kivlenieks Memorial Fund** to support youth hockey initiatives in central Ohio and Latvia. The organization and McConnell family pledged $80,000 to match every donation made to the fund in Matiss' memory. To date, over $100,000 has been raised.

The Blue Jackets will remember Matiss with a ceremony prior to tonight's season-opening game vs. the Arizona Coyotes at Nationwide Arena. In addition, all CBJ Foundation fundraising activities – 50/50 Raffle, auction and merchandise sales including official warm up pucks and special "Kivi" hats and t-shirts – will benefit the fund. For more information or to make a contribution, individuals may visit www.BlueJackets.com/Kivi.

Fans may purchase single-game tickets, including to tonight's season-opener, at BlueJackets.com and Ticketmaster.com. Tickets are also available at the Big Lots Box Office at Nationwide Arena, OhioHealth Chiller Ice Rinks and The Blue Line, the club's Official Team Store, located at Nationwide Arena and Polaris Fashion Place.

Full and partial season tickets for the Blue Jackets' 2021-22 campaign are also currently available for purchase. Information on all ticketing options can be obtained by calling (800) NHL-COLS or by visiting www.BlueJackets.com.

**- CBJ -**

Contact: Lindy Noel, Corporate Communication Specialist – (614) 246-4310 or lnoel@bluejackets.com