



## **Special Olympics BC to celebrate Eunice Kennedy Shriver Day in Nanaimo**

**Burnaby, BC, Sept. 19, 2011** – Special Olympics BC is inviting members of the Nanaimo community to join us on Saturday, Sept. 24, to celebrate the inspirational spirit and vision of the founder of the life-changing Special Olympics movement.

On Saturday, September 24, people around the world will celebrate Eunice Kennedy Shriver's inspirational spirit and her vision for a more inclusive, respectful world in the second annual EKS Day. Special Olympics programs and communities worldwide will be hosting events full of inclusive sport and play to honour Mrs. Shriver's legacy.

Special Olympics BC will be hosting a **fun, family-friendly event featuring a floor hockey skills contest in Nanaimo**. We hope many community members will come out to celebrate with us and be introduced to the spirit of Special Olympics!

### ***When***

Saturday, September 24  
12 to 1 p.m.

### ***Where***

Randerson Ridge Elementary School  
6021 Nelson Road  
Nanaimo, BC

Guests will be able to meet Special Olympics athletes and try their hand at mini-floor hockey tests such as breakaway drills and accuracy contests. With the help of the Nanaimo RCMP, they can also clock the speed of their shots!

There will be snacks on hand and draw prizes to be won – including an autographed Vancouver Canucks hockey stick!

The Nanaimo Tigers and the Richmond Avalanche, the two Special Olympics BC floor hockey teams that will compete at the 2012 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games, will be on hand for the event. The two teams will be taking part in a Team BC training camp that weekend, and will take time out from their preparations to show their skills and celebrate Special Olympics with the community.

### ***About EKS Day***

Eunice Kennedy Shriver Day is celebrated around the world to honour her life and impact and share her story to inspire new fans. We hope to inspire people of all ages to follow her example and commit themselves to improving the world for people with intellectual disabilities.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver's actions helped open the minds of all people to the gifts and talents of individuals with intellectual disabilities. She believed in their possibilities, and inspired all of us to make a difference. Eunice Kennedy Shriver demonstrated an indomitable spirit in action that one person could make a difference and change the world. Her lasting legacy must be our continued commitment to improve and transform the lives of the 200 million people worldwide with intellectual disabilities who still live with diminished opportunities and social disrespect, and are often neglected and hidden away.

[www.eksday.org](http://www.eksday.org) | [www.eunicekennedyshriver.org](http://www.eunicekennedyshriver.org)

**About Special Olympics BC**

Special Olympics BC is dedicated to providing individuals with intellectual disabilities opportunities to enrich their lives and celebrate personal achievement through positive sport experiences. In 55 communities around the province, we provide year-round training and competitive opportunities in 18 different sports to more than 3,900 athletes of all ages and abilities, thanks to the dedication of over 2,600 volunteers.

[www.specialolympics.bc.ca](http://www.specialolympics.bc.ca)

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