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## Surrey Athlete and Campbell River Coaches Inducted into Special Olympics BC Hall of Fame

Special Olympics BC is pleased and honoured to announce this year's inductees to the Hall of Fame. Athlete Marc Theriault of Surrey along with coaches Maureen Brinson and Harvey Hunter of Campbell River were inducted into the Special Olympics BC Hall of Fame at the Provincial Workshop.

### Hall of Fame, Athlete Category

Marc Theriault has been a Special Olympics athlete for more than a dozen years participating in 10-pin bowling, curling, figure skating, soccer, and softball. He is the first athlete in Special Olympics BC history to win gold medals at four World Games in three different sports.

In 1999, Marc won gold with the Kelowna Grizzlies softball team at the World Games in North Carolina. In 2001, Marc won gold in the men's singles figure skating at the World Games in Alaska. Then in 2005, Marc won gold at the World Games, this time in the pairs' figure skating event with partner Alexandra Magee. More recently Marc competed with the Surrey Vipers soccer team in 2007 at the World Games in Shanghai, winning gold. Marc is an extraordinary athlete and teammate who will be competing, and going for gold in the men's singles figure skating in 2009, at the World Games in Idaho.

In a tearful acceptance speech in front of a standing ovation, Marc's message was powerful: "Special Olympics has changed my life—thank you!"

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Marc Theriault with Lois McNary, Special Olympics BC Vice-President (left to right); Karen Theriault, Marc's mom; and Sharon Bollenbach, Special Olympics Canada Vice-President

Harvey Hunter and Maureen Brinson (centre) with Dan Howe, President and CEO, Special Olympics BC (left); and Mike Campbell, Chair, Special Olympics BC Board of Directors (right).



# HOW TO REACH US

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## Hall of Fame, Builder (Local) Category

As two of the founding members of Special Olympics in Campbell River, Maureen Brinson and Harvey Hunter have been coaching Special Olympics athletes since 1983 and 1985, respectively. They are strong supporters of athletes of all ability levels creating environments where athletes can achieve personal bests. They have coached and supported athletes in snowshoeing and swimming from the local level right up through provincial and national games to international competitions.

Beyond coaching, this dynamic duo are key organizers of the Howie Meeker Golf Tournament and other local fundraising initiatives. Special Olympics BC President and CEO, Dan Howe sums up their commitment: "Maureen and Harvey are invaluable leaders to Special Olympics BC."

At the Hall of Fame presentation Maureen and Harvey were clearly moved by the recognition. "I have been coaching for 25 years all because of the athletes. They are an inspiration to me," Maureen relayed to the audience. Harvey was equally as moved: "It is such an honour to work with Special Olympics athletes. From acceptance to generosity, they teach me as much, if not more, than what I teach them!"

## Special Olympics BC Board of Directors

Mike Campbell, host of Canada's #1 financial show *MoneyTalks*, has been elected for a second term as Chair of the Board of Directors of Special Olympics BC. Mike has been active with Special Olympics BC since 2003 during which time he has played a very active role in searching out new sources of revenue for the association.

### Other members of the Board

#### Executive:

Past-Chair Michael Coyle, Replay Resorts  
Vice-Chair Pam Keith, Dueck Auto Group  
Secretary Jim Kerr, James D. Kerr Enterprises  
Treasurer John Sims, Ernst and Young

#### Also elected to the Board of Directors:

Peter Barnes, Silver Wheaton Corp.  
Grenville Finch-Noyes, Jones Brown Inc.  
Ted Hirst, Genuity Capital Markets  
Doug Holtby, Arbutus Road Investments  
Peter Kalbfleisch, Blake, Cassels & Graydon  
Rick Lucy, Abbotsford Police Department  
Colin MacKinnon, BCAA  
Cathy Priestner-Allinger, VANOC  
Mark Schiefner, ScotiaMcLeod  
Murray Shapiro, Retired Lawyer  
Patty Wheeldon, Leadership Council Chair

Leaving the Board this year were John Dustan, Jeff Stipek, Glen Wyse, and Chris Zimmerman. These individuals have all made a significant impact on the association and have given generously of their time and skills. We are very pleased to say that all have indicated that they will continue their support and involvement with Special Olympics BC, just in a different capacity.

## SOBC – Vancouver makes noise at the Chinese New Year Parade



Special Olympics BC was once again thrilled this year to participate in the Chinatown Chinese New Year Parade as part of a continued friendship established last year with the Dr. Sun Yat Sen Chinese Classical Garden in Vancouver. As "Friends of the Garden", SOBC marched in the Chinese New Year Parade alongside volunteers and staff from the Garden, handing out Special Olympics BC information, making a lot of noise and shouting "Gung Hay Fat Choy" along the route! The brave group of volunteers, athletes, and parents/caregivers braved rain and sleet for a few hours, but were rewarded with warm smiles and greetings from the crowd and some hot chocolate at the end! Special Olympics BC would like to extend a thank you to Constance Barnes and all our friends from the Dr. Sun Yat Sen Chinese Classical Garden for the fantastic opportunity.

# HART TO HEART CROQUET TOURNAMENT SUPPORTERS Set New Record!



HART TO HEART FOUNDATION

The Hart to Heart Croquet Tournament, held on September 12, raised close to \$74,000 for Special Olympics BC setting a new record! The day opened on a cheerful note as committee members served up omelettes to 112 participants. After breakfast, 28 teams of four headed onto the lawns for a morning of friendly competition. Following a delicious BBQ lunch and more croquet, participants enjoyed a five-star dinner served by the Hart House, and stayed late into the evening dancing to live music while bidding on incredible live and silent auction items. The event featured three live bands - Gary Comeau and The Voodoo Allstars, Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne, and Angela Kelman and the Polyester Philharmonic. DJ services were provided by Brian Jackman, with sound provided by Rob Esch. Magician Rod Boss was also on hand to provide additional entertainment.

Scotiabank volunteers ran the raffle this year, and successfully raised enough to get the maximum \$6,000 match from Scotiabank!

For many in attendance, the after-dinner speech given by Special Olympics athlete Matthew Williams was the highlight of the event. Matthew regaled the audience with stories that highlighted the fact

that sponsors, donors, participants, and volunteers of the Hart to Heart Croquet Tournament truly enriches the lives of Special Olympics athletes through their support.

The Hart to Heart Croquet Tournament started 21 years ago, with a small group of dedicated volunteers (many of whom still sit on the organizing committee) and a field of teams from local businesses. Back in the early days, they set a target that they weren't sure they would ever reach—to raise \$1,000,000 to support charity. Now that they proudly say that they have reached that goal the committee has decided it's time to retire their croquet mallets.

On behalf of Matthew Williams and the 3,500 athletes involved in Special Olympics programs across BC, we would like to extend a sincere thank you to the many sponsors, donors, participants, and volunteers who contributed to the success of this incredible event over the years. We would also like to extend a special thank you to Paul and Carol Smolen, owners of the Hart House Restaurant, and their entire staff, for all their hard work and superb service.



## Corporate Sponsors



### Hart to Heart Croquet Tournament Directors

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Paul Smolen (Chair) | The Hart House on Deer Lake              |
| Brad Alden          | Burnaby NOW                              |
| Joan Hess           | Consultant                               |
| George Kawaguchi    | McKesson                                 |
| Robert Moncur       | City of Burnaby                          |
| Gary Morrey         | Morrey Auto Group                        |
| Dirk Ottevangens    | Hemlock Printers                         |
| Jack Oyhenart       | Aegis Mortgage Services                  |
| Greg Watkin         | Canadian Securities Registration Systems |
| Dave Wood           | Sheldan Wood Creative Associates         |
| Nelson Young        | Wellington West Capital Inc.             |

### Event Sponsors & Contributors

- City of Burnaby
- Hilton Vancouver Metrotown
- McKesson Corporation
- Northwest Artist Canvas
- Okanagan Spring Brewery
- Staff of Canadian Securities Registration Systems
- Sumac Ridge
- Wellington West

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS BC AND ELECTRONIC ARTS CANADA HOST Youth Sports Day

The cheering coming from the EA Sports Complex could be heard across Burnaby - well, metaphorically, at least. On Saturday September 20, 2008, 25 EA Canada employees and SOBC volunteers led teams of Special Olympics athletes in a day of fun-filled sport activities at the world-renowned Electronic Arts complex, a state-of-the-art sports facility and "dream destination" for video game players of all ages.

Electronic Arts Canada partnered with Special Olympics BC to present "Youth Sports Day," a sporting event for children with intellectual disabilities. Over thirty participants, aged 5 to 12 years, enjoyed learning and practicing some of the foundation skills for basketball, soccer, softball, and track and field.

The purpose of Youth Sports Day was to introduce the participants, their caregivers, and families to Special Olympics BC and the newly launched Active Start and FUNdamentals programs, which are now available in a number of communities across BC.

Youth Sports Day received so many positive responses that organizers have already begun the preparations for 2009, which will be larger, with more participants, and the addition of a tradeshow-style opportunity for families and new volunteers. A special thank you goes to all of the EA Fusion Division staff for the amazing volunteer support. Thanks also to the SOBC volunteers - their continued commitment helped make the event a success.

For information on the 2009 Youth Sports Day, or details regarding Active Start or FUNdamentals, please contact Shawn Fevens at Provincial Office (604-737-3055 / [sfevens@specialolympics.bc.ca](mailto:sfevens@specialolympics.bc.ca)).



ALL PHOTOS: KENT PATERSON

## Active Start and FUNdamentals Programs Catching On!

PHOTO COURTESY OF BENJAMIN LUK



2008 saw the launch of the Active Start and FUNdamentals programs throughout BC. The amazing programs offer children between the ages of 2 and 10 years, with intellectual disabilities, the opportunity to learn basic movement and sport skills in a fun and positive environment. These programs are starting to catch on around the province, with Active Start programs now running in 11 communities, and the FUNdamentals programs operating in 5 new communities.

And it's not just catching on in BC! The excitement for the Active Start and FUNdamentals programs are also starting to gain momentum around the country with the provinces of Alberta, Newfoundland, and Nova Scotia all starting programs in 2009.

Parents, Caregivers, and Special Olympics BC Locals all agree that the programs are making a major difference in the lives of the children who are participating.

For information on starting an Active Start and FUNdamentals program in your community or how to become involved in your area, please contact Shawn Fevens at Provincial Office (604-737-3055 / [sfevens@specialolympics.bc.ca](mailto:sfevens@specialolympics.bc.ca)).

PHOTO COURTESY OF BENJAMIN LUK



PHOTO COURTESY OF KENT PATERSON

# Canada Cup Strikes Back!

KENT PATERSON



The Special Olympics Friendship Division has been grateful to be a part of the Canada Cup Women's Fastpitch Tournament held at Softball City in Surrey for the past eleven years. This event brings together women's teams from around the world—Olympic teams, as well as teams of young Olympic hopefuls—all on the same fields as our Special Olympics athletes. This is the only event in North America that hosts Olympic and Special Olympics athletes together, showcasing the similarities, not the differences, of these athletes.

In 2008 six teams attended—the Calgary Mustangs, Coquitlam Tigers, Kelowna Grizzlies, Langley Storm, North Island Eagles, and Surrey Mariners—all vying to be the winners of the Canada Cup Friendship division. The competition was tough, with some surprises throughout the playoff round, but in the end the Surrey Mariners beat the North Island Eagles in the White Division, and the Kelowna Grizzlies defeated the Coquitlam Tigers in the Red Division.

Special Olympics wishes to thank the Canada Cup committee for their continued support of our athletes and coaches and look forward to this year's event.

## COACH PROFILE

### Ian Olive

**Local:** Kelowna  
**Years Involved:** Eleven  
**Role:** Softball Coach



After eleven years of service, Ian Olive's dedication to his athletes is still an integral part of his life. Ian joined Special Olympics after watching his common-law wife, Mary coach 10-pin bowling. Growing up as a competitive fastball player, it was an easy decision for him to start coaching softball for Special Olympics, especially since some of his teammates agreed to coach as well. Instead of leaving the sport he loved altogether—once deciding to stop competing himself—he learned to love the sport through a different role.

Currently, Ian is one of the coaches for the Kelowna Grizzlies softball team. In 1997 he coached his team locally, then watched his team progress through the Special Olympics competition cycle all the way to the 1999 World Games in Raleigh, North Carolina. Ian attended the Games as a supporter but realized he really wanted to be coaching the team. He decided it was time to get his coaching certification so that he wouldn't have to miss out next time his team travelled to a competition.

Ian has had many competitive opportunities in his coaching career. He has attended two National Games—in 2002 he attended Nationals in Prince Albert with his team, and in 2006 he was asked to assist with the Penticton team that attended the National Games in Brandon, Manitoba. His team has also attended every Canada Cup event since Special Olympics' inclusion in the event eleven years ago.

His fellow volunteers think very highly of him. Julie McIntyre says that "Ian takes softball seriously. He is a strong coach who sets high standards for athletes and is the first to commend their play. Ian sets goals and expectations with his athletes and they strive to achieve under his ever watchful eye. At the same time, he is first in line to crack a joke and make the athletes feel like they are a team. Ian is a committed coach!"

"Rewarding" is the one word that Ian uses to describe his experiences with Special Olympics. He has been very humbled by what his athletes have achieved. Seeing his athletes gain confidence and mature, and for some of the athletes, seeing them actually run the drills and know the routine, has been extremely fulfilling for Ian. By learning the comfort zones of each of his athletes Ian has gained the respect of each of his fourteen individual players, and they have taught him many things, one of which is patience.

Special Olympics BC would like to thank Ian. Your time and dedication have been greatly appreciated!

# 2009

## Special Olympics World Winter Games - Team Canada

Team Canada returned from the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games on Valentine's Day and it wasn't because of chocolate that the planes were much heavier than when they left. The team finished the Games with a total of 102 medals—40 gold, 33 silver, and 29 bronze. This count put the Canadians into second place in overall standings, just behind the Americans who had a team four times the size of Team Canada!

It was quite a journey for team members from their initial selection after National Games through to the World Games. In July, all members of the Team Canada training squad, along with the training coaches, travelled to Mississauga, Ontario for a full team training camp. Athletes and coaches from across the country had the opportunity to meet all of the team members—the only time they met as a team before they departed for the Games. During the weekend, athletes were put through fitness tests, had sport-specific sessions with their new peers and coaches, and participated in several sessions covering topics like nutrition, mental training, sports injuries, and media training. A number of team bonding exercises were held, and by the end of the weekend the Team Canada Training Squad was like a big family.

Over the following months, training squad members travelled to their sport-specific training camps to undergo further fitness testing and have one-on-one coaching attention with Games volunteers. These camps were a great opportunity for social networking and team bonding, ensuring that the team attending the Games was unified and ready to compete.

Overall, the year-long training process that Team Canada embarked upon was truly beneficial. The athletes were completely prepared to compete and represented Canada with great pride.

Congratulations to all Team Canada members for a job well done!

To see the members of Team Canada and their results (including the sixteen athletes from BC) please check out [www.teamcanada2009.ca](http://www.teamcanada2009.ca).

## THANK YOU!

### Grants and Foundations Update

Special Olympics BC thanks the following individuals and organizations for their generous grants to assist us in supporting BC's Special Olympics athletes.

- **The Highbury Foundation** for their contribution to the Active Start and FUNdamentals program equipment.
- **The Kaatza Foundation** for their donation in support of the 2009 Special Olympics BC Summer Games.
- **2010 Legacies Now** for their support of Active Start and FUNdamentals.
- **Milan & Maureen Ilich Foundation** for their donation in support of the 2009 Special Olympics BC Summer Games.
- **The Province of British Columbia** for their financial assistance towards Special Olympics BC programs and the Healthier Athlete program.
- **The RBC Foundation** for their donation in support of the Healthier Athletes Program.

Special Olympics BC would also like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their support of our ongoing programs.

- **Friends of Karen Champion and Larry Straith** in celebration of their marriage
- **Knights of Columbus**
- **Ladies Auxiliary to New Westminster Aerie #20 Fraternal Order of Eagles**
- **Philanthropy Preceptorship Fund**
- **Royal Purple of Canada**
- **Stadnyk Foundation**
- **Ted Hirst**
- **The Honorable Order of the Blue Goose**
- **Trinity Lodge No.98**

### In-Kind Gifts

Special Olympics BC would like to thank the following companies for their in-kind gifts.

- **EA Sports** for providing the venue and volunteers for Youth Sports Day.
- **Garry Robertson Music** for donating their sound equipment for various fundraising events.
- **Hemlock Printers, Offcuts for Charity** and **Dick Kouwenhoven** for generous provision of our printing requirements.
- **STAPLES Business Depot** for supplying us with our stationery needs.

If you have new, or like-new office machines, furniture, or supplies you would like to donate, please contact Josh Pasnak at Provincial Office (604-737-3180 / [jpasnak@specialolympics.bc.ca](mailto:jpasnak@specialolympics.bc.ca)).



*Athletes and volunteers from SOBC – Delta were on hand to receive a cheque for \$8,780 from Safeway in Delta as part of the 'Safeway We Care' program. Thanks, Safeway!*

# Athlete Leadership Conference a Great Success!

Special Olympics BC hosted the 2008 Athlete Leadership Conference (ALC) in Richmond this year from October 24–26. The weekend was gorgeous, but the athletes and their coaches were hard at work indoors Saturday and Sunday gaining new leadership skills.



*Athlete Speakers Bureau Two participants pose for a photo after a great weekend.*

The conference began on Friday afternoon with athletes and coaches arriving from seven BC regions. Once all athletes and coaches had checked in on Saturday morning, everyone boarded yellow school buses to McNair Secondary School where the sessions took place.

Athlete Speakers' Bureau (ASB) Level One and Athlete Speakers' Bureau (ASB) Level Two generated lots of noise as they practiced their speaking techniques. The crew in "Athletes as Program Mentors" had a ball as they learnt how to assist a sport program practice. In the "Athlete Representative Workshop" twelve athletes and their mentors put their

minds to learning the responsibilities of the position. The athletes in "Athlete Congress" brainstormed all day Saturday, and brought some brilliant ideas to their discussions.

After a hard day of working and learning on Saturday, everyone returned to the hotel for the SOBC Athlete Awards Dinner. Although Marinka Van Hage was unable to make it to the conference to accept her Athletic Achievement Award in person, the announcement of her award brought a warm round of cheers and applause from the coaches and athletes in the room. This was followed by the presentation of the Spirit of Sport Award to Tanya McIntosh. Tanya walked up to the podium with a beaming smile to accept her award from Patty Wheeldon, who presented the award on behalf of the Leadership Council. Following the awards presentation, everyone enjoyed the entertainment that featured our very own athletes! They sang karaoke songs ranging from Grease to Shania Twain accompanied by a lot of dancing.

SOBC would like to thank the facilitators that led the athletes in their leadership courses: Pam Sywulich for ASB Level One, Heather Hamilton-Wright for ASB Level Two, Jim LaCroix for Athletes as Program Mentors, Krista Herbert and Anita Hui for Athlete Representative Program, and Patty Wheeldon for Athlete Congress. SOBC would also like to thank all the Locals that sent athletes and coaches to the conference. Most of all, thank you to all the athletes and coaches who were in attendance for their dedication and determination!

SOBC hopes to host more athletes and coaches in 2009 for another packed weekend of brainstorming and learning! For more information, please contact Denise Yuen at Provincial Office (604-737-3125 / dyuen@specialolympics.bc.ca).

## Congratulations to SOBC Volunteers

Congratulations to SOBC volunteers who received and will receive five-, ten-, fifteen-, twenty-, or 25-year service pins in 2008 and 2009. Here is a list of the 25-year pin recipients.

### 2008

- Maureen Brinson, Campbell River
- Earl Collins, Chilliwack
- George Barber, Fort St John
- Judy Barber, Fort St John
- Edith Cobb, Kamloops
- Cherald Tutt, Kelowna
- Pam Sywulich, Vancouver
- Flo-Elle Watson, Victoria
- Jon Wolbers, Williams Lake

### 2009

- Greg Veale, Kamloops
- Donna Desmarais, Vernon
- Diane McPherson, Salmon Arm
- Joseph Laitar, Surrey
- Bruce Wheatley, Surrey
- Shaheen Khatami, Richmond
- Barb Van Zoeren, Port Alberni
- Gerry Johnston, Port Alberni
- Sylvia Taylor, Nanaimo
- Joanne Raybeck, Nanaimo
- Colin MacKinnon, Board of Directors
- Murray Shapiro, Board of Directors

*If you did not get your service pin last year or feel you are missing your service pin from a recent year, please do not hesitate to contact Denise Yuen at Provincial Office (604-737-3125 / dyuen@specialolympics.bc.ca). We attempt to verify your years of service each year through the Local Executive and if we do not receive confirmation we cannot be sure you require a pin.*



# 3rd ANNUAL RALLY FOR CHAMPIONS ANOTHER SUCCESS



MCL Motor Cars teamed up with Special Olympics BC once again and challenged driving enthusiasts to rev up their engines in support of a wonderful cause. On the morning of June 21, vehicles took off on a full-day adventure in the third annual Rally for Champions.

The race began in Burnaby. From there, teams followed map directions leading them through the Fraser Valley to the Twilight Drive-In for a fabulous lunch. Once drivers and navigators had refuelled their energy, they set off back to Vancouver for a reception at MCL Motor Cars. The driving component of this event was a TDS (time/distance/speed) rally. As such, participants were judged on accuracy, with points deducted for arriving early or late to checkpoints.

Congratulations to the winners of the third annual MCL Motor Cars Rally for Champions, Justina Lee and Paul Haym!

Thank you to the sponsors and supporters of this event: MCL Motor Cars, as well as Aston Martin, Bentley, Jaguar, Land Rover, Porsche, AllWest Insurance, NUVO magazine, The Province, and Team 1040 for making this day possible. Thank you also to the West Coast Rally Association for their assistance in organizing the rally.



WARWICK PATTERSON/FORMLAPHOTO.COM

## SOBC- Golden Cross Country Skiers make a start... and cross the Finish line!

After a three year hiatus, the Golden Local has rallied and once again begun offering sports programs on behalf of Special Olympics BC. Led by Ned Johnston as the Local Coordinator, the Executive Board consists of 8 strong members, several of whom attended the August Provincial workshop in order to glean all they could from sessions and other attendees.

Coaches also attended courses so they were ready to offer bowling and cross-country skiing. They are looking to start bocce, snowshoeing and swimming in the future.

Their hard work paid off as they hit the ground skiing in September with news coverage, fundraising and the start of new programs.

On February 22nd four dedicated coaches and four new, very keen athletes joined in the community cross country ski race...everyone skied the 1 km race and we aren't sure if it was the hot bowl of chilli at the end of the race or the medals around their necks that had them all smiling.



Back – coach Yolanda, Dawson, coach Ned  
Middle – Alex, Shelley, Victoria, coach Diane  
Front – Headcoach Vicky

## Nakusp – New to Region One

A warm welcome goes out to the community of Nakusp which is located at the foot of the Selkirk Mountains in the West Kootenays. Nakusp will become the 55th Local. Seven eager volunteers have come together to form their local committee and start their journey to creating programs and securing coaches for a start date of September 2009.

Rome was not built in a day, nor will Special Olympics BC – Nakusp.

Potential coaches are being approached and training offered, media has been contacted, and brainstorming for fundraising is in high gear. Alpine skiing, bocce, powerlifting and swimming are being looked at as potential sports.

Watch for more news as this community comes to support our organization.



# ATHLETE PROFILE

## Greg Eveneshen

**Local:** Prince George  
**Years involved:** Eleven  
**Sports:** 10-Pin Bowling, Soccer, Swimming, and Track and Field



Greg has been a very driven Special Olympics athlete since he was 9 years old. He started swimming eleven years ago, included soccer into his training eight years ago, then added 10-pin bowling and track and field three years ago as well. Greg is certainly a busy athlete!

Greg's coaches all agree that he is a pleasure to coach and is a fantastically hard worker! His drive and dedication have given him the distinction of being assistant captain of his soccer team and earned him a place in swimming with the "Elite Group." While he is relatively new to the sports of 10-pin bowling and track and field, he is working hard at improving his performance while having a blast! Greg is currently concentrating on training with the Prince George Vikings soccer team that qualified for the 2009 SOBC Summer Games in Abbotsford.

Greg is also known to be the one who always brings a smile to practice and makes everyone laugh with his great sense of humour—you can count on Greg to cheer you up. He deeply cares about his teammates and the volunteers in Prince George. Greg is always positive, not only about his own successes, but also for the success of those around him.

Thank you Greg, for being such a dedicated athlete and a role model to your peers!

## North Shore Athlete Gets Hole in One

by Mark Hood

Golf is a game of moments played over a lifetime.

The frustrations can haunt you, dogging every shot, until suddenly in the blink of an eye something extraordinary happens to erase them.

On Saturday, June 21, North Vancouver's William Skuse was playing the par-3 course at Murdo Fraser Park with his parents when he fulfilled every golfer's fantasy. On the 83-yard 8th hole, his tee shot landed on the green, hopped once, and rolled into the cup: a hole in one.

"I had tears in my eyes. I was so happy," said William.

"We couldn't believe it," said William's mother Gerry Skuse.

A Special Olympian [sic] with Down's syndrome [sic], William took up golf two years ago and regularly practices and plays with 14 other athletes at the North Shore's Takaya Driving Range, Gleneagles and Northlands.

"It gets us out in the fresh air, keeps us healthy and it's lots of fun," said Geoff Skuse, the golfer's dad.

"We try to get out once a week," adds Gerry. "It's something the three of us can do together." Steered by volunteers Joan Carlile, Leon Brandolini and Bev Baldwin, the Special Olympic golfers also receive one on one instruction from Takaya's Jeri O'Hara and members of the Gleneagles Golf Club. Through the efforts of these dedicated instructors and coaches, the North Shore is a better place to live.

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PAUL MCGRATH

Christopher, 6, and Timothy Skuse, 7, were golfing with their uncle, William Skuse, when he got a hole in one at Murdo Fraser Pitch & Putt.

## motionball- Six Degrees of Separation

Six Degrees of Separation 2009 took place on Saturday, February 7th at the Commodore Ballroom in Vancouver. Guests were treated to a fantastic night which included a silent auction, live date auction, DJ show, and much more!

motionball is a charitable organization that is mandated to introduce a new generation of supporters, sponsors and volunteers to the Special Olympics movement through integrated sporting and social events. Since its first event in 2002, motionball has raised over one million dollars for Special Olympics Canada through their series of annual events.

The name "Six Degrees of Separation" was inspired by the simple idea that everyone will know everyone at the engagement through six relationships. The purpose for this event is to connect friends of all ages in an amazing venue for a great cause. Proceeds benefit the Special Olympics BC Foundation.

Congratulations to the organizing committee for putting on an outstanding event!



## New Programs in Coquitlam

By Emily Furness

SOBC - Coquitlam is excited to announce that two new programs started this fall - basketball and FUNDamentals. The basketball training runs once a week with fifteen athletes lead by head coach Greg Bodin and other committed volunteers. FUNDamentals, a youth program to follow Active Start, is also having success with seven kids and program leaders Amanda Ackerman, Emily Furness, and Cynthia Zenti.



# ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS



## The Final Fore Golf Tournament - Presented by Goldcorp



The 2008 Final Fore Golf Tournament, presented by Goldcorp, raised over \$68,000 for Special Olympics BC! Set at the beautiful Swan-e-set Bay Resort & Country Club in the Lower Mainland, participants had the option of playing in either the Final Fore Fun or the Elite side.

The Final Fore Golf Tournament is actually two tournaments in one. The Final Fore Fun is

a five-person scramble format with fun games and prizes, a relaxed atmosphere, and access for players of all abilities. The Elite side gives golfers the chance to feel like a PGA Tour player! Teams play their own ball, and each group is furnished with a forecaddie, official tournament scorecards, and leader boards.

Participants at the 2008 event had a choice of

great tee gifts and competed for the chance to win prizes that ranged from Northern Feather duvets and golf clubs, to five-night stays at Club Intrawest in Palm Desert.

Special Olympics BC would like to thank the following committee members and sponsors for their support.

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The 2009 Final Fore Golf Tournament will be held September 21, 2009. If you would like to be involved please contact Christina Larson: 604-737-3073 / clarson@specialolympics.bc.ca

# Special Olympics BC ANNUAL PROVINCIAL WORKSHOP



ALL PHOTOS: KENT PATERSON

While the weather was a little uninviting outside this year, it didn't dampen the mood of the two hundred SOBC coaches and volunteers who attended the Provincial Workshop from August 8 to 10. As always, there was a lot of learning, discussing, networking, and fun that was had!

New this year, the SOBC Trade Show held on Friday afternoon greeted our coaches and volunteers after they arrived. The trade show featured information from various exciting programs, sponsors, and events including bocce, the Law Enforcement Torch Run, SOI Healthy Athletes, Active Start, the Families Program, the 'Be a Fan' campaign, and the Coaches Association of British Columbia.

After a day of travelling, on Friday evening everyone sat down to enjoy a fabulous meal for our Volunteer Appreciation Evening. Following dinner, the presentation of this year's Howard Carter, President's, and the first ever Grassroots Coach awards were made to the recipients. To make the night extra special, SOBC inducted three individuals into the Hall of Fame. There was also a silent auction and chance auction



thanks to generous donations from SOBC Locals. All proceeds were used to fund the Provincial Workshop.

Saturday began with an inspiring keynote address from SOBC President and CEO, Dan Howe. He presented SOBC's goal of having the healthiest Special Olympics athletes in Canada by 2014. Prompted by the presentation and their new pedometers, the Provincial Workshop attendees were motivated to walk a few extra steps every day. After a full day of incredible sessions presented by guest speakers, Leadership Council members, and staff, everyone gathered for another delicious meal and were given a preview to the night by SOBC staff—a very unusual dance presentation.

For Saturday night volunteers were divided into teams, given a choice of two songs and a bag of props, and were required to choreograph a dance of a minimum of sixty seconds in length. When the teams returned from working on their dance routines, they were introduced to the host of So You

Think You Can Dance SOBC, Southern Belle, Phat Deeley (a.k.a. Lois McNary), American cousin of Cat Deeley. The event was full of never-before-seen dance moves, sky high enthusiasm, and lots of laughter. It was a night to remember!

Next year the Provincial Workshop is moving west to Richmond and will be held on the third weekend in October. Save the dates! All volunteers—coaching and non-coaching—are invited to attend two days of invaluable sessions.

Special thanks to our special guests who attended our conference: Jennifer Campbell from Special Olympics Manitoba, Sharon Bollenbach from Special Olympics Canada, and Marnie Carter of the Carter family.

# Golden Executive Members Attend Provincial Workshop

by Sarah Wegelin



KENT PATERSON

Members of the Golden Local pose for a photo at Provincial Workshop.

Seven members of the newly formed Special Olympics BC – Golden Local joined about 160 people from across British Columbia at this year’s Provincial Workshop. Here’s what three of them had to say.

“I took the Special Olympics Competition Sport two-day workshop. It was a hands on learning experience and enabled me to build on my cross-country ski coach training that I took last winter. The components of our course were: ‘Planning a Safe Practice’, ‘Disabilities Associated with SO Athletes’, ‘Emergency Action Planning’, ‘Divisioning for Competitions’, and ‘Modifying Practices for SO Athletes’. It was beneficial to learn from others who have previous SO coaching experience. We were welcomed and encouraged as a new Local and Leslie has been a strong part of that. I’m excited to let the community know about this new opportunity for people with intellectual disabilities. I’m also excited that we have trained and experienced coaches, and with the additional support from SOBC we can offer a great sports program to Golden.”—Yolande de Kleer, Coach

“I found the workshops to be very interesting and informative. My favourite workshop was ‘Turning Difficult Situations into Dialogue’ with Anita Dosaj. That workshop was truly a treat. Not only will I be able to use the information she gave us to benefit my work with SOBC – Golden, but I’ll be able to use it in my personal life and work life as well. I’ve been telling everyone what I learned in that workshop. I hope to see her again next year.”—Sarah Wegelin, PR Coordinator

“We’re so happy to have had the opportunity to attend the workshops. A special thanks to the Columbia Basin Trust and the Golden and District Community Initiatives Program for its support.” —Diane Slater, Fundraising Coordinator and Coach

## AIR MILES for Everyone!



In celebration of Special Olympics month in November, AIR MILES held the ‘AIR MILES reward miles for Everyone’ campaign! This six-week promotion ran from October 20–November 30, 2008.

‘AIR MILES reward miles for Everyone’ was an opportunity for AIR MILES Reward Program members to donate 170 reward miles to Special Olympics Canada. In turn, AIR MILES matched the donation with another 170 reward miles.

Special Olympics BC would like to thank AIR MILES for their continued support! For more information about AIR MILES and the programs they run, please visit [www.airmiles.ca](http://www.airmiles.ca).

## Gift Catalogue

The Special Olympics BC gift catalogue offers a variety of gift choices to support our athletes and programs. This is an easy and meaningful way to get involved with Special Olympics BC and allows you to see your donation at work.

We would like to thank the following individuals for their generous donations through the gift catalogue:

*Sponsor an Athlete*

**Eric Steidle**

*Inspire Greatness by Training a Coach*

**Glen Wyse**

*Give the Gift of Proper and Safe Equipment*

**Glen Wyse**

*Uniform a Team and Foster Team Spirit*

**John Sims**

*Draft a Provincial Team Athlete*

**Michael Campbell**

*The Gift for Generations to Come*

*(Endowment Fund)*

**Kerry & Linda Seale**

This is a great way for companies, families, clubs, schools, or any other group of people to work towards a common goal. Get your group together and come up with a creative way to purchase one or many of the gifts outlined in the catalogue.

To find out more or to make a donation through the gift catalogue, please visit [www.specialolympics.bc.ca](http://www.specialolympics.bc.ca) where you can download a PDF version or call 604.737.3078.

## Gould Paper Charity Golf Tournament

This year marked the tenth annual Gould Paper Charity Golf Classic. On September 18, golfers gathered at Redwoods Golf Course in Langley to support Special Olympics.



The weather cooperated and participants enjoyed a great day of golf followed by a delicious BBQ dinner, raffle, and silent auction. This year’s reception featured SOBC – Langley athlete Matthew Williams, who spoke about how Special Olympics has changed his life.

The tournament was made possible by Gould Paper with help from major sponsors NewPage, INX International Inc Co, Presstek Inc., and Boise. Special thanks go to Christine Duda and Tami Lynn Haslam along with the rest of the Gould Paper team who worked tirelessly to make this another fantastic event!

# The Canadian Progress Club's Ongoing Support of Special Olympics BC



*The Special Olympics BC team included Shawn Fevens, Joanne Fevens, Danielle Rana, and Karen Hamilton.*

The Canadian Progress Club of Greater Vancouver has generously and enthusiastically supported Special Olympics BC since 1980. Not only have Progress Club members provided financial support through fundraising activities, but many have also volunteered as coaches or provided support and encouragement to athletes by attending Special Olympics events and competitions.

This year, the Canadian Progress Club raised funds for Special Olympics BC through the Plywood Cup and the Slo-Pitch Tournament. Special Olympics BC greatly appreciates the support of the Canadian Progress Club. For more information on the Canadian Progress Club, please visit [www.progressclubsbc.ca](http://www.progressclubsbc.ca).

## **Plywood Cup**

The eleventh annual Plywood Cup was held on June 7. Teams came out to support this fun event where each team is required to assemble a seaworthy craft in 90 minutes. Every team must accomplish this task using only two sheets of plywood, one eight-foot

piece of two-by-two, and one small roll of duct tape. The only tools provided were a hammer, a hand saw, and a bag of nails. One team member then tests the "seaworthiness" of their creation by paddling it across False Creek.

The crowd cheered as each team's representative ventured into the unknown waters in their boat. Most of the teams made it back dry, but some of them were not so fortunate. As always, the teams and their fans had a great time, and they are already working on blueprints for next year. Thanks to the SOBC team for their valiant effort!

This amazing day ended with a dinner for the teams, sponsors, and members of the Canadian Progress Club at the Pacific Institute for Culinary Arts on Granville Island.

The event was a great success, raising money and awareness for Special Olympics BC and other BC charities. A big thanks to the Canadian Progress Club for hosting this fantastic event!

## **Canadian Progress Club Slo-Pitch Tournament**

The Canadian Progress Club Slo-Pitch Tournament was also a great success! The two-day tournament held on July 19 and 20 was equally as fun to participate in, as it was to watch. Half of the points were awarded based on sportsmanship, a quarter was based on money spent at the concession, and another quarter was based on each team's performance.

A loyal group of teams returned to play in this annual event, bringing in pledges to support Special Olympics BC. As in past years, several corporations made generous donations of prizes, food, and beverages. This amazing event raised money and awareness for SOBC and other BC charities.

Special Olympics BC would like to thank Canadian Progress Club members and their families for the hard work and effort that went into making these two events such great successes! Special thanks are also extended to those who participated in the Plywood Cup and the Slo-Pitch Tournament. We applaud your sportsmanship and dedication!

Attention Event Organizers:

## **Get to Know Competition Protocol**

**IMPORTANT**

### **1. SOBC Calendar of Events**

Special Olympics BC realizes that there are many amazing competitions being held across the province. Provincial Office would like to know about events so that athlete performances can be highlighted and recognized. In order for a local competition to be sanctioned it must be on the 'SOBC Calendar of Events' and SOBC website. Please contact the office with event information including: date, location, whether it is an open or invitational competition, and who the contact person is along with their phone number and email. If an event is not sanctioned and goes ahead you may not be covered by insurance, so please keep the Provincial Office informed.

### **2. Games Management System (GMS)**

Are you in need of technology? Special Olympics BC has a computer-based Games Management System (GMS) that can be used to simplify your results. For more information please contact Lois McNary Provincial Office (604-737-3117 / [lmcnary@specialolympics.bc.ca](mailto:lmcnary@specialolympics.bc.ca)).

### **3. Results Submission**

Provincial Office would like to collect results from events held in each Local. When printing off results for the coaches/teams, please print one more copy and send these results to the Provincial Office.

# Awards Winners



*Tanya (left) receives her award from Leadership Council member, Patty Wheeldon.*

## **SPIRIT OF SPORT AWARD**

Hurrah to Tanya McIntosh of Kelowna for her consistent demonstration of sportsmanship, dedication, and enthusiasm! Tanya has been involved in Special Olympics BC for twenty years, and the last four as part of SOBC – Kelowna. Although she has participated in cross-country skiing, powerlifting, soccer, swimming, and track and field, this past year she just concentrated on cross-country skiing and track and field because of her work commitments. She has competed at all levels of competition from local events to National Games. For the last three years, she has been the registrar for all the athletes in Kelowna and was the driving force in launching Kelowna's first Free the Fuzz event. And last year, Tanya was key in bringing physiotherapists to the Kelowna Track Meet to have them work with SOBC athletes. As a result of their experiences, these physiotherapists have indicated that they would like to return to the Track Meet annually.

Tanya has completed the Athlete Speakers' Bureau Level Two Course and has spoken at a number of schools, businesses, sport organizations, and police detachments. She is very enthusiastic about sharing her experiences and involvement in Special Olympics BC. She is a responsible athlete making sure to attend practice, and when she cannot make it, she ensures her coaches know. She is also dedicated to her training, finding alternatives if she is injured so she does not miss much training time. She holds the utmost respect for her coaches, volunteers, and peers. Thank you, Tanya, for showing us your spirit!

Congratulations to nominees Michael Booth, Bridget Colvin, Barbie Conway, Jerry Cabbage, Stephen Dew, Robert Holland, Graeme Johnstone, Kerry McKenzie, Glenda Melnychuk, and Tamara Palmeter.



*Marinka Van Hage*

## **ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

High five for Marinka Van Hage of Prince George for her outstanding athletic performances! Marinka has been involved in Special Olympics BC for the past eight years. In 2007 she competed at the World Summer Games in Shanghai, China as a 10-pin bowling athlete. This was followed by her performance at the 2008 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games in Quebec City in snowshoeing, which qualified her for the 2009 World Winter Games in Boise, Idaho. Marinka is a multi-sport athlete who also participates in basketball, rhythmic gymnastics, soccer, swimming, and track and field.

Marinka is described as open, enthusiastic, happy, conscientious, and determined—these traits have carried her through her SOBC experiences. She demonstrates great sportsmanship by always being quick to offer praise and congratulate fellow athletes in training and competition. She is more than willing to share her experiences as an athlete and leader. In the past year Marinka presented a heartwarming speech at the Annual Dick Harris/Special Olympic Charity Golf Classic in Prince George and was invited to return this year to participate again. Thank you, Marinka, for your hard work!

Congratulations to nominees Nicholas Chan, Richard Gillis, Alexandra Magee, Peggy Schmitz, and Winnie Whitman.

*...continued on next page*

# Awards Winners

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*Jackie Ross (left) receives her award from long-time SOBC supporter Marine Carter.*

## HOWARD CARTER AWARD

Hip-hip-hooray to Jackie Ross from Prince George! Jackie is the head coach for both 5- and 10-pin bowling in addition to being the Program Coordinator for SOBC – Prince George. Jackie has been a key member of athlete Marinka VanHage's support system and worked hard with her to reach her goal of attending World Games. Her advice to athletes has always been to enjoy the experience and do their best. Jackie has been described by others as kind, gentle, positive, encouraging, and inspirational towards not only the athletes, but also to friends, parents, and volunteers.

Jackie has been involved with Special Olympics BC for the last twenty years and has been instrumental in the development and establishment of many of Special Olympics events in Prince George. More recently she arranged registration and

transportation for the PG teams to attend the Annual Quesnel Gold Pan Bowling Tournament and helped organize and run the Christmas lights tour in Prince George. Jackie is a valued member of her community in Prince George and to Special Olympics BC. When Jackie was presented with this award, she was deeply touched and speechless from the announcement. Thank you for all the effort you've put in, Jackie, and keep up the good work!

Congratulations to nominees Mary Beres, Jaci Gaetz, Randy James, Ellen Martz, Rene Picard, David Samson, Geoff Uttley, and Karen Zawortny.



*Maureen Brinson (left) is presented her award by Mike Campbell, SOBC Board of Director Chair.*

## PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Let's make some noise for Maureen Brinson of Campbell River! Maureen Brinson has been the Local Coordinator of Campbell River for the past twenty-five years and takes an active role in all aspects of the Local. Maureen organizes the Howie Meeker Charity Golf Tournament each year, which raises enough money that the Local is able to offer all programs free of charge to the athletes. Additionally, she is also a coach and has attended every National Games since 1993. She is currently the Local Coordinator and a snowshoe coach, but has been known to step in to help with rhythmic gymnastics, softball, and swimming as well!

Maureen is well respected by the volunteers, parents, and athletes with whom she works. She is motivating, supportive, dedicated, and hard working. She is a good leader for both coaches and athletes and always encourages everyone to do their personal best. Maureen was very surprised to hear her name announced at Provincial Workshop for this award. She accepted this award with a deep appreciation and thanked everyone who is involved. Congratulations Maureen on jobs well done!



*Maureen Brinson with Dr. Hayden.*

There's more news! We are excited to announce that Maureen was also selected as Special Olympics Canada's Female Coach of the Year. And...we also recently found out that Maureen was selected "as one of Special Olympics' 40 Exemplary Coaches from around the world."

Congratulations to nominees Peggy Cagna, Joan Carlile, Sharon Bethell, Marlene Franson, and John Topping.

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# Awards Winners

SOBC

...continued from previous page



*Chris poses with his award and the Surrey swim team.*

## GRASSROOTS COACH AWARD

A big cheer to Chris Doyle of Surrey who is the first-ever recipient of the Grassroots Coach Award! Chris has been the head coach of SOBC – Surrey’s swim program for the last thirteen years. He displays a genuine interest in his athletes, is very committed to maintaining a dialogue with parents and caregivers, and will always solicit input on how to best work with the athletes. He takes the time to understand each athlete’s unique needs so he can best prepare his volunteers to work with each athlete and adapt the program to suit them.

Chris goes the extra mile in making sure his athletes have his support. He’s the coach who will show up at practice even when it was cancelled just to make sure that if athletes do come someone will be there to tell them there is no practice. He’s friends with athletes and volunteers out of the water, but also has their respect when he is coaching them in training or competition. Chris is able to speak with anyone whether they are a parent, caregiver, volunteer, athlete, or just a curious spectator. Thank you, Chris, for the tireless support you’ve given to your program!

Congratulations to nominees Keith Boume, Rod Cowie, Geoff English, Debbie McCooey, Cecily Morgan-Jonker, and Debbie Young.

## Initial Families Workshop

October 25–26, alongside the Athlete Leadership Conference, SOBC held the first “Families Focus Group Workshop”. Donna Willms (Leadership Council member) and Leslie Thornley (SOBC Staff) hosted the workshop to delve into the possibility of creating a “Families Program” in BC. Seven family representatives were in attendance to provide guidance as to where such a venture might lead.

Donna has been involved with Special Olympics since 1997. A resident of Kelowna and mother of two Special Olympic athletes, Donna completed a three-year term with Special Olympics International as a Global Family Leader North America. Her expertise will be key in developing a “Families Program” for SOBC.

The intent of the workshop was to bring together a family representative/caregiver from each Region to begin the process of how to connect families within the Locals as well as between Locals within a Region. Discussion centered around communication and how to reach those who support SOBC athletes on a daily basis. Newsletters, orientation packages, and a fan-out network were all discussed.

In addition, these families received information on the direction of SOBC with the new Healthier Athlete program and had seminars on nutrition and fitness measures testing. Brainstorming ensued around how to reach out to families to embrace these movements.

Provincial Games was also on the table for discussion, working out how families can receive pertinent information so the games experience is enjoyable for all.

The hope is to build a families network that involves families, support workers, caregivers, and agencies that will disseminate timely information, field questions from families, and see a family representative in each Local that can be the “go to” person for families and caregivers in that area.



## Promotion in July

Last July, JYSK stores across the country participated in a ‘Be a Fan’ campaign in support of Special Olympics. JYSK customers had the opportunity to ‘Be a Fan’ of Special Olympics by donating at their local JYSK store. We are excited to announce that the campaign raised over \$10,000 in British Columbia!

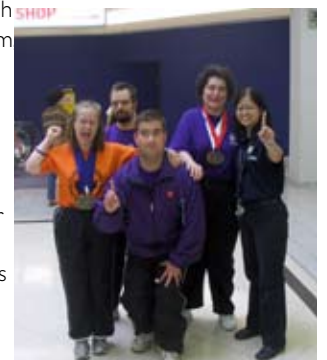
Special Olympics BC athletes and volunteers visited their local stores to participate in the campaign, which ran in all nine BC JYSK locations: Coquitlam, Delta, Kamloops, Kelowna, Nanaimo, Pitt Meadows, Prince George, Richmond, and Surrey.

JYSK has been a national partner of Special Olympics since 2006 when they became the largest Team Canada sponsor for the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Shanghai, China. JYSK is also a proud sponsor of Special Olympics across the globe. Special Olympics is very pleased to continue to partner with JYSK to further develop sport training and competitive opportunities for athletes with intellectual disabilities.

The 2009 Special Olympics Athlete Day will be held Saturday, July 4, 2009 in the same nine BC JYSK locations.



*JYSK in Kelowna celebrates the campaign with local Special Olympics athletes.*





# Provincial Summer Games Coming in July 2009!



DAN RITCHIE

*Rick Lucy holds the torch up high running during the 2008 Lower Mainland Final Leg.*

The City of Abbotsford is gearing up to host the 2009 Provincial Summer Games. Over 1400 athletes and coaches will arrive July 9 for the largest Provincial Games ever to be hosted in BC. The eight official summer sports (5-pin bowling, 10-pin bowling, powerlifting, rhythmic gymnastics, soccer, softball, swimming, and track and field) along with the three new demonstration sports (basketball, bocce, and golf) will be enjoyed over two days of competition.

We are pleased to announce that Rick Lucy, Deputy Chief Constable of the Abbotsford Police Department, has accepted the position of Chair for the

Games Organizing Committee. In 1990, Rick participated as a member of the core group of runners that ran from Calgary to Vancouver for the initial BC Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) for Special Olympics, and has been a supporter and regular participant in the local LETR events ever since. In 2007, Rick was elected to the Special Olympics BC's Board of Directors, as well as a position on the LETR Council. With Rick's knowledge and leadership these Games are sure to be a first-rate event!

Rick has built an amazing Games Organizing Committee who have been hard at work planning for the arrival of the eight regional teams and the Yukon! Accommodation is set, sport venues have been chosen and planning for the Opening Ceremonies is well under way. This promises to be a great sport experience for participants and spectators alike!

### Games Organizing Committee:

- |                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Accommodation             | Kelly Plastow       |
| Food Service              | Michael Dicks       |
| Fundraising               | Paul Esposito Jr.   |
| Logistics                 | Mike Tilbury        |
| Medical                   | Dr. Norman Parkin   |
| Operations (sport)        | Des McKay           |
| Public Relations          | Katherine Jeffcoatt |
| Security                  | Keith Nightingale   |
| Special Events            | Freddy Latham       |
| Transportation            | Ed Davis            |
| Volunteers                | Judy Lewis          |
| School District Liaison   | Kevin Godden        |
| City Liaison              | Mark Taylor         |
| City Liaison              | Rick Daykin         |
| SOBC – Abbotsford Liaison | Ray Salloway        |

SOBC will keep you updated on the progress of the Games through our e-newsletters so stay tuned.

## Quick Note from Princeton

By Gloria Gagnon

Everything is peachy in Princeton. Our first year (2007–08) was a huge success. It was our first time competing in bocce and we are on our way to the Provincial Games. See you in Abbotsford!

*The SOBC – Princeton bocce team takes time between ends for a photo.*



**SAFeway**   
Ingredients for life..

## Safeway Easter Seals & Special Olympics BC Campaign

On March 29th Safeway stores across BC launched the Easter Seals & Special Olympics BC campaign raising money throughout the province through various in store fundraising events. Many stores hosted BBQ's, bake sales and in store raffles to raise money for Special Olympics BC.

Safeway stores hosted our designated SOBC day on Saturday April 25th. SOBC locals worked hard and were able to allocate athletes in almost every store across the province as well as many volunteers. All were out in full force serving cake and chatting with customers while collecting donations and creating awareness about SOBC.

SOBC is proud to be a recipient of the funds raised through this campaign throughout the month of April, and look forward to continuing our relationship with Safeway.



## SOBC – Mission Athlete Is Recognized!

October is the month when the District of Mission recognizes its citizens for their achievements and the difference they make in their community.

This year, **Tony Carter**, an athlete with SOBC – Mission, will be the recipient of the "Against the Odds" award. Tony is involved in 5-pin bowling, floor hockey, soccer, softball, and track and field. He has been an active volunteer at the Canada Day celebration, the Music in the Park fundraising events, and the STAPLES' 'Give a Dollar, Share a Dream' Campaign.

Congratulations to this very deserving athlete!

# Sports Celebrities Festival

Presented by Rogers Video, Silver Wheaton, Genuity Capital Markets, and BCLC benefiting the Canucks for Kids Fund and Special Olympics BC



On November 13th, the 2008 Sports Celebrities Festival, was held at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, for the benefit of two very worthy charities, the Canucks for Kids Fund and Special Olympics BC.

The Sports Celebrities Festival was a magical evening saluting the power of the human spirit. Players, alumni and management from the Vancouver Canucks, and local sports celebrities shared an evening with Vancouver's business elite, and Special Olympics BC athletes. Over 600 guests were in attendance this year.

The evening began with the exclusive launch of the Vancouver Canucks' third jersey. SOBC athletes and volunteers were present to witness this exciting unveiling, in front of numerous local media stations. After the unveiling, guests were given the opportunity to challenge their favourite Canuck in a variety of games, including table hockey and Nintendo Wii skiing! Guests were also given the opportunity to have their photo taken



SPORTS CELEBRITIES  
FESTIVAL  
FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS IN CANADA

next to their favourite Canuck and bid on a variety of exclusive silent auction items.

After a fantastic dinner, Kevin Bieksa took to the stage and introduced SOBC – Langley athlete Matthew Williams. Matthew spoke to the crowd about how Special Olympics has impacted his life. Matthew was a shining example of the dedication and spirit of Special Olympics athletes and received a standing ovation for his moving speech. Finally, to top off the night, guests were treated to a comedy performance by Brent Butt, creator and star of

Canada's #1 comedy, "Corner Gas."

Special Olympics BC would like to thank the evening's volunteers as well as master of ceremonies John Shorthouse, who did a wonderful job for the sixth year in a row!

The Vancouver Canucks have been an invaluable partner to Special Olympics BC, and we are sincerely grateful for their support.





# Sports Celebrities Festival

## SPORTS CELEBRITIES FESTIVAL

FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS IN CANADA

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# Small Steps, Great Strides

On a steamy July 20 morning in 1968 Eunice Kennedy Shriver stepped up to the microphone at Soldier Field in Chicago and convened the first Special Olympics Games. With a crowd of fewer than 100 people dotting the 85,000-seat stadium, about 1,000 athletes from 26 states and Canada marched in the opening ceremonies and followed Shriver as she recited what is still the Special Olympics oath:

Let me win,  
but if I cannot win,  
let me be brave  
in the attempt.

Chicago mayor Richard Daley, who would become a polarizing figure at the convention that August, attended the four-day event and told Shriver, "You know, Eunice, the world will never be the same after this."

While skeptics shook their heads and most of the press ignored the unprecedented competition, Shriver boldly predicted that one million of the world's intellectually challenged would someday compete athletically. She was wrong. Today, three million Special Olympics athletes are training year-round in all 50 states and 181 countries. They run races, toss softballs, lift weights, ski moguls, volley tennis balls and pirouette on skates. Documentaries, Wide World of Sports presentations, after-school TV specials, feature films, cross-aisle congressional teamwork and relentlessly positive global word of mouth have educated the planet about Special Olympics and the capabilities of Special Olympics athletes. Schooling, medical treatment and athletic training have all changed for people with intellectual disabilities as a result of Shriver's vision; more important, so have attitudes and laws.

Ireland rewrote its antidiscrimination statutes after the Special Olympics World Summer Games were held in Dublin in 2003. China once routinely warehoused its intellectually challenged, but at the '07 World Games in Shanghai a crowd of 80,000 cheered as a video on the stadium scoreboard showed the country's president, Hu Jintao, cavorting with a group of Special Olympics athletes. Three decades ago Russia claimed that it had no citizens with intellectual disabilities—it sent a team of 190 to Shanghai.

In Egypt, Special Olympics athletes practice snowshoeing on sand in front of the pyramids, and in embattled Iraq and Afghanistan, people who were once locked in dark rooms now kick soccer balls in the light of day. The Special Olympics movement is built upon hundreds of big moments and thousands upon thousands of small ones. In St. Kitts a young boy with intellectual challenges picks up a grapefruit, tosses it toward a stone, and now he's a bocce player. In Turkey a father watches his daughter run a race and, through tears, tells a Special Olympics official, "I never even thought of



my daughter as my daughter before."

Born into wealth and power, the middle child of nine in this country's version of a royal family, Eunice Kennedy Shriver was a good athlete and was frustrated by the dearth of athletic opportunities afforded women in the 1930s and '40s. At the same time, she saw how much worse it was for the intellectually challenged (like her older sister, Rosemary) in a society that rarely educated citizens with such conditions, much less thought about organizing them into athletic competitions. After watching the struggles of her sister and visiting institutions and seeing this enormous amount of human suffering, and at the same time coming from a place where women didn't have equal opportunity in sports, she just couldn't take it anymore."

Eunice began by using funds from the Kennedy Foundation (started by her father, Joseph, and mother, Rose) to create programs for the intellectually disabled. Then she instituted Camp Shriver and helped finance a dozen or so other such camps around the country. At Camp Shriver there were ponies and balloons and clowns and kids running and laughing on the huge expanse of lawn, a place where intellectually challenged boys and girls could have a good time.

One day in 1967 she listened to a plan from the Chicago parks and recreation department to hold a track meet for the city's kids with intellectual disabilities. Anne Burke, then a teacher in the parks system, now an Illinois Supreme Court judge, was the moving force behind the idea. Shriver turned on the Kennedy magic, providing \$25,000 in funding and insisting that people from all over the country be involved. And with the Games in Chicago in '68, the movement was on.

Since then, its emphasis has changed but always with the goal of improving people's lives. In the beginning the Games were based on the model of the modern Olympiad. Allowed to compete was any person, regardless of age, who had a below-average intellectual functioning level (two years or more behind their peers) and significant limitations in the adaptive skill areas needed to live, work and play in the community.

"What Special Olympics is about now," says Tim Shriver (Eunice's son), "is using an event to drive the development of sport, fitness and health programs nationwide."

To an extent, it has been a movement that sells itself. "When people meet individuals with intellectual disabilities," says Peter Wheeler, the chief

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communications officer of Special Olympics, “it invariably makes people change the way they think. We say our program is the best export ever developed. Take it anywhere in the world and it’s accepted, no matter what your philosophy, religion or political background.” There were watershed moments along the way, particularly the passage of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act in 1975 and later the Americans with Disabilities Act—with Harkin as chief sponsor—which together greatly expanded the rights of the disabled. But

always it was Eunice, shoulder to the wheel, cajoling, lobbying, wheedling, quarterbacking, stirring it up.

To say that the lot of people with intellectual disabilities has improved because of Special Olympics would be a gross understatement. Shriver’s movement did nothing less than release an entire population from a prison of ignorance and misunderstanding. It did something else, too—create a cathartic covenant between competitor and fan that is unlike anything else in sport. You watch and what you see is nothing less than a transformation, the passage of someone who has been labeled unfortunate, handicapped, disabled or challenged to something else: athlete.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver knew this could happen. Forty years ago she could see it all. For that, SPORTS ILLUSTRATED recognizes her as one of those revolutionaries who saw opportunity where others saw barriers, someone who started a movement and changed a world.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver is the inaugural recipient of SI’s Sportsman of the Year Legacy Award for a life dedicated to the ideals of sportsmanship.

**Adapted from the feature on Eunice Kennedy Shriver in SPORTS ILLUSTRATED**

The December 8, 2008 edition of Sports Illustrated featured Special Olympics Founder, Eunice Kennedy Shriver in a 12 page, fully illustrated spread. The article by Jack McCallum spoke of the 40 year history of Special Olympics, Shriver’s contribution which led to her Sportsman of the Year Legacy Award, and some insights from SO athletes, coaches, and parents. For the full article “Small Steps, Great Strides” please visit: <http://vault.sportsillustrated.cnn.com/vault/article/magazine/MAG1149366/index.htm>

# SOBC Staff Changes

## Welcome Denise!



Denise Yuen is a graduate of University of British Columbia with a degree in human kinetics and she is currently working towards her graduate diploma in business administration at Simon Fraser University.

Denise’s passions are snowboarding, assisting with tours for Destination Snow, and playing any active sport.

In her role as Manager, Community Development, Denise is responsible for the Athlete Leadership Conference, volunteer management, and travelling to Regions 3, 4 and 7. She is enjoying meeting all of the volunteers and athletes and getting to see more of BC.

## Maternity Leave for Cari!

By the time this newsletter reaches you, Cari Peters and her partner Kevin Henry will be proud parents! Cari started her maternity leave on April 1st and will return to SOBC April 2010! While Cari is away, Shawn Fevens will take on the responsibility of liaising with the Director of Operations for the Provincial Games and all of the generic competitions we are involved in. Lois McNary will take on the coach development portfolio and will assist Shawn in sport development and Denise Yuen will take on the local development for Region Three. Best wishes to Cari, Kevin and their new addition.

## Heather Says ‘Good Bye’ to Provincial Office

Heather Young was Manager of Communications for Special Olympics BC for two years. During this time, Heather was instrumental in bringing the e-newsletter from initial concept to delivery—the different versions go out to hundreds of athletes, coaches, volunteers, sponsors, and VIPs each month. Whether it was supporting awareness efforts in the interior, writing a press release for Team BC, or publishing the paper newsletter, Heather approached her job with enthusiasm.

Heather has resigned her position as staff at Provincial Office and taken on a communications role at WorkSafeBC. We thank Heather for her service on the staff of Special Olympics BC and wish her the best of luck in her new position.

However, Heather has not left Special Olympics BC. As many of you know, she has been a swim coach in Langley since she moved to BC six years ago. More recently she was named Provincial Coach for swimming, which means she will have a technical role at the 2009 SOBC Summer Games. As well, you will continue to see her at weekly training sessions, swim competitions, and coach development seminars.

## World Police & Fire Games Update



From July 31—August 9, the 2009 World Police & Fire Games will be held in BC. The World Police & Fire Games are a spectacular international sporting event, offering police officers, firefighters, customs, and correction officers from around the world an opportunity to showcase their athletic excellence in over 65 sporting events.

The 2009 World Police & Fire Games has committed to creating involvement long after the Games are over. The Law Enforcement Torch Run is proud to be one of the three designated legacy organizations involved in the Games, in addition to Kidsport and the BC Professional Fire Fighters’ Burn Fund. Fundraising events will be held in conjunction with the Games to support these three charities. World Police & Fire Games will also feature Law Enforcement Torch Run members running into the Opening Ceremonies with the Flame of Hope to signify the beginning of the Games.

# SOI Healthy Athletes

The first SOI Healthy Athletes events were held at last year's Region 3 softball qualifier held in Port Coquitlam. Fit Feet and Special Smiles screenings were available to athletes in between games. The volunteer



orthopedist and nine dentists examined teeth and feet, to ensure athletes had no urgent issues that needed tending. In all, one hundred screenings were completed in three hours.

During the 2009 Provincial Games in Abbotsford, SOBC hopes to offer these disciplines along with the Opening Eyes component, and other informative booths. With close to 1,200

athletes expected at the Games, SOBC is looking for more interested volunteers from these medical backgrounds. If you know of an interested practitioner, please contact Leslie Thornley at Provincial Office (250-765-6231 / lthornley@specialolympics.bc.ca).

# Hero For the Day

On June 14, 2008, STAPLES Business Depot held the 7th annual SOBC–Staples Softball tournament. Teams comprising of STAPLES employees and Special Olympics athletes competed in a friendly day-long tournament at the Riverway Sports Complex in Burnaby. Thanks to STAPLES Business Depot and all of the employees who came out and participated in this inspiring day.

Shortly after the tournament, Ted Rivers, General Manager of store #326 Marine Way, reflected on the day:

"If you ever need to wonder why it's important that we support Special Olympics, I want to share the story of Sean with you. He was playing with the team from store #176. The first thing about Sean that inspired me was the smile that never leaves his face while he's playing baseball. He is not as physically coordinated as many of the other athletes playing baseball but he was trying his best and receiving encouragement from everyone. He was up to bat in a tie game with two outs and the bases were loaded. After receiving the first few pitches he connected with a line drive between first and second base. Off he ran to first and driving in the go-ahead runs. Hearing the cheers from his team and his supporters in the stand and seeing that smile on Sean, I realized that he got the chance to be a "hero for the day." This was his moment in the spotlight and you couldn't miss the pride that he showed standing on first—what a moment!"

*Sometimes in the retail business it is difficult to find the "meaning" in what we do. This was a great way to connect the dots.*

# SOBC Merchandise

SOBC has two new styles of jackets available for men and women. To order simply go to [www.specialolympics.bc.ca/merch](http://www.specialolympics.bc.ca/merch), complete the form and fax, mail, or email to SOBC. To order by phone, call 604-737-3078 / 1-888-854-2276.

N.B. Orders can take up to two weeks to fill.



*The black wind jacket is light weight and will fold up for easy packing on trips where the weather might turn chilly (\$30).*

*The lined jackets, available in navy for men and black for women, are perfect for the cooler climates and fit everyone's active lifestyle (\$50).*



# STAPLES Give a Dollar. Share a Dream Campaign

The 2008 STAPLES Give a Dollar. Share a Dream campaign, which ran from November 1–9, was a huge success. Funds raised across Canada for this year's campaign totaled \$377,653. The campaign featured

a new in-store component, "The Wall of Dreams." Every customer who contributed to the campaign had the opportunity to place their name on a postcard, which was placed on a Wall of Dreams in the STAPLES Business Depot location where they donated. SOBC sends a great big thank you to all the STAPLES stores and staff in British Columbia for their amazing efforts! Thanks also goes to the athletes and volunteers who supported the campaign.



# LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

The BC Law Enforcement Torch Run had a fantastic Summer, holding fundraising events and public awareness campaigns across the province.

## Free the Fuzz

There's nothing like breaking your own record! From September 5–6, members of the Kamloops RCMP raised over \$36,000 in their second annual Free the Fuzz event! This smashes their previous record of \$33,000 set in 2007, as the highest grossing Free the Fuzz event ever held in BC.

Free the Fuzz Kamloops 2008 was an amazing team effort involving RCMP members, Wal-Mart staff, CN Police members, SOBC – Kamloops athletes and volunteers, Kamloops Regional Correctional Centre officers, BC Ambulance Service, and many more amazing community partners. The event featured police and ambulance vehicle displays, live dance performances, a silent auction, a raffle, a pancake breakfast courtesy of the Valleyview Overlander Lions Club, and much more!

There were other notable Free the Fuzz events that took place over the summer.

- Free the Fuzz Trail, with thanks to RCMP Trail.
- Free the Fuzz Kelowna, with thanks to RCMP Kelowna.
- Free the Fuzz Comox Valley, with thanks to RCMP Comox Valley and Canadian Military Police.
- Free the Fuzz Chilliwack, with thanks to Canada Border Service Agency, RCMP Chilliwack, and RCMP PRTC.
- Free the Fuzz South Surrey, with thanks to RCMP Langley, Surrey, and White Rock.
- Free the Fuzz North Shore, with thanks to CN Police.
- Free the Fuzz Langley, with thanks to CN Police.

## Torch Runs

From June 24–27, law enforcement members from throughout the Lower Mainland took to the streets in the 2008 Lower Mainland Final Leg to raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics BC. Participating agencies in the Lower Mainland were the Abbotsford Police Department, Canadian Border Services Agency, CN Police, Delta Police Department, New Westminster Police Services, Port Moody Police Department, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and Vancouver Police Department.

On Sunday August 24, members of the Victoria Police Department joined local Special Olympics athletes, and members of the community in the annual Victoria Law Enforcement Torch Run. Participants started this annual "5km Fun Run" bright and early at Esquimalt Plaza. When the run was complete, everyone was treated to a BBQ by the local Lions Club, and an exciting raffle draw. Special thanks to Constable Lefebvre, Constable Ziegler, and Constable Fluit from the Victoria Police Department for all their hard work organizing the run!

Other recent torch runs include the Campbell River Torch Run and the Abbotsford Police Challenge Run. Special thanks to Colleen Holbrook from RCMP Campbell River, and Kelly Pater from the Abbotsford Police for making these events a great success!

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Free the Fuzz Kamloops



Free the Fuzz Comox Valley



Free the Fuzz Trail



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### Canuel Golf Tournament

On September 11, the annual Chief R.J. Memorial Golf Tournament was held at Newlands Golf & Country Club in Langley, BC. The tournament is in memory of Chief R.J. Canuel, a long-time member of the Vancouver Police Department. Partial proceeds go to benefit the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics BC.

Teams participated in a fun-filled day on the course, including a putting contest with SOBC – Coquitlam athlete Karl Anderson. This year’s event had record-high attendance, and the winning team was from Busters Towing in Vancouver.

Special thanks to Brian and Glenn Canuel for their continued support and dedication toward this fantastic tournament and Special Olympics BC!

### Canadian Final Leg Celebration

The Final Leg is a global run that traverses five continents every two years on its path to the Opening Ceremonies at every Special Olympics World Games. Rain or shine, law enforcement officers pound the pavement all over the world and deliver the message of hope to communities where people with intellectual disabilities continue to fight for acceptance and a chance to excel without barriers.

This past January, law enforcement officers from across Canada travelled to Boise, Idaho to begin the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games Final Leg. En route, runners stopped in Vancouver for a one-day Canadian Final Leg Celebration. Official Final Leg team members joined with local BC Law Enforcement Torch Run members for a 12 km run throughout the heart of Vancouver stopping at Vancouver City Hall, and the Vancouver Police Department. The day ended with a banquet celebrating the Canadian Final Leg members heading off to World Games, and featured some of our very own Team Canada athletes!

Thank you to Versaterra for funding this Vancouver leg, as well as LETR members from the Lower Mainland and the entire Canadian Final Leg Team, who made the trip out to Vancouver. Another big thank you goes to the Canadian Director of the Law Enforcement Torch Run, Paul Manuel, who was instrumental in making this Canadian celebration happen.

If you would like to get involved in the BC Law Enforcement Torch Run, please contact Andrea Coogan at Provincial Office (604-737-3056 / [acoogan@specialolympics.bc.ca](mailto:acoogan@specialolympics.bc.ca)).

DANIEL DE REGT



Official Canadian Final Leg Runners taking a quick photo break before getting back to the 12 K run.

## Langley Athlete, Volunteers, and Parents Win Provincial Weight-Loss Challenge

By Patty Wheeldon and Anne McCook

We decided to participate in the Provincial Weight-Loss Challenge because we wanted to lose weight and get into a fitness routine. Being a team it was also a way to support each other to keep on track. First we opened up the “Langley Team” to anyone in the Local, but only had one family interested in joining so we forged ahead with them.

There were four people on our team, Lee and Dave McCook, the two of us, and our coach, Kate. Once a week Kate led us through cardio and weight training as a group, and then throughout the week we worked out on our own.



The weight-loss winners get their photo taken after a healthy meal together in celebration of their success.

Between us we lost 30 pounds during the six-week competition!

With the prize money, Langley is starting a new fitness program open to all athletes. The new training program started in October. We begin the first week with fitness testing and then each week will do some strength and conditioning workouts. Every six weeks we will repeat the fitness testing to monitor our progress. We would like to see the athletes that are selected to Provincial Games incorporate the fitness night into their training. We are very excited to start the fitness program and promote the Healthier Athlete program in our Local.

## Healthier Athletes Program – Club Fit

As some of you may know, we now have a number of Locals participating in Club Fit, the major part of the new Healthier Athlete Initiative. Club Fit is a fitness program that runs in a Local once per week, incorporating both cardio and strength & conditioning components.

Club Fit involves fitness testing approximately every two months, which has proven to be a great motivating tool for our athletes as we have seen some serious improvements. One athlete in Coquitlam improved his sit-up score from ten to 60 sit-ups in just two months!

Being part of Club Fit gives athletes an opportunity to work on mental skills for sport, such as goal setting and positive self-talk. The program also offers athletes the chance to discuss nutrition with a qualified volunteer and learn about healthy foods and how to make healthy choices every day.

Our goal at Special Olympics BC is to have the athletes become healthier athletes. By participating in Club Fit many athletes are already becoming healthier athletes, making healthier choices and helping us reach our goal.

For more information on Club Fit and the Healthier Athlete Initiative please contact Lois McNary at Provincial Office (604-737-3180 / [lmcnary@specialolympics.bc.ca](mailto:lmcnary@specialolympics.bc.ca)).

**Participating Locals:**  
 Fort St. John  
 Langley  
 Burnaby  
 Coquitlam  
 Dawson Creek  
 Summerland  
 Princeton

**Fitness Programs Not Club Fit:**  
 North Shore  
 Kelowna  
 Penticton  
 Oceanside

**Fitness Testing Only:**  
 Surrey  
 Vancouver  
 Victoria  
 Sunshine Coast

**Programs Interested:**  
 Prince Rupert  
 Vancouver



# New Car Dealers Foundation of BC / Special Olympics Auction Raises

# \$185,000

The 2008 New Car Dealers Auction was bigger and better than ever raising \$185,000 for Special Olympics BC and the New Car Dealers Foundation of BC.



The online auction, which ran from June 2 to 12, featured over two hundred items, including five vehicles that were generously donated by: BC Ford Dealers; BC Pontiac and Chevrolet Dealers and GM Canada; BC Honda Dealers Association; Toyota Canada and the Toyota BC Dealers; and Volkswagen Canada and the BC Volkswagen Dealers. The auction items were solicited or donated by New Car Dealers from communities across British Columbia - from Northern BC to Greater Vancouver, from Vancouver Island to the Kootenay-Rockies.

The 2008 auction remained Special Olympics BC's largest single-event fundraiser supporting the endeavours of Special Olympics athletes in communities across the province. The auction also enables the New Car Dealers Foundation of BC to support a wide range of community initiatives including local charities, sports teams, community events, and scholarships for young people entering the automotive industry.

Planning is underway for the 2009 Auction. If you would like to be involved by making an item donation or cash pledge please contact Christina Larson at Provincial Office (604-737-3073 / clarson@specialolympics.bc.ca).

Special Olympics BC salutes the New Car Dealers Foundation for their many years of heartfelt support helping athletes with intellectual disabilities to win at sport and life.

## THANKS TO OUR VEHICLE DONORS

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|   |   |   |   |   |
| <b>2009 Toyota Matrix FWD Automatic</b>  | <b>2008 Ford Focus SE</b>  | <b>2008 Chevrolet Aveo</b>  | <b>2008 Volkswagen City Golf</b>   | <b>2007 Honda Fit Sport</b>  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| DONATED BY:<br>TOYOTA CANADA AND<br>YOUR TOYOTA BC DEALERS                         | DONATED BY:<br>BC FORD DEALERS   | DONATED BY:<br>BC PONTIAC AND<br>CHEVROLET DEALERS<br>AND GM CANADA                 | DONATED BY:<br>VOLKSWAGEN CANADA AND THE<br>BC VOLKSWAGEN DEALERS                    | DONATED BY:<br>THE BC HONDA DEALERS<br>ASSOCIATION                                   |

## THANKS TO THOSE DEALERS WHO SUPPORTED THE AUCTION WITH A CASH PLEDGE OR BY DONATING AUCTION ITEMS.

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# THE HOWARD CARTER FUND: 20 Years Old!



Howard and Marnie Carter in 1988

Howard Carter is remembered as an exceptional man who was an outstanding member of the automotive community. Upon hearing of Special Olympics in the mid 1980s, he immediately set to work to encourage the automotive community in British Columbia and Canada to get involved. The respect that other dealers had for Howard, and his sheer enthusiasm and dedication, made it hard for other dealers to say no.

In 1985, Howard joined the Board of Directors of Special Olympics Canada. Coincidentally, he was Chair of the Canadian Automobile Dealers Association at this same time, which provided him with a great opportunity to build the relationship between these two bodies. His tireless efforts were recognized in 1988 when he was awarded the Harry "Red" Foster Award for his outstanding dedication and efforts in support of Special Olympics.

In early 1988, Howard was diagnosed with incurable lung cancer, much to the surprise, consternation, and sadness of his family and friends. He wrote a letter to his close friends, of whom he had many, informing them of his diagnosis and thanking them for their friendships throughout his life. Howard's motto was, "Always keep your friendships in good repair."

In response to his letter, two of his close friends approached him and suggested that some sort of fund be created during his lifetime, rather than awaiting his death to make donations in his memory. Howard, as sick as he was, enthusiastically encouraged the creation of an endowment

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## Howard Carter Was a One-of-a-Kind Man by Joe Mitchell

My first involvement with Special Olympics was when Howard Carter asked me to attend a meeting with him and Sherrold Haddad—that was twenty-four years ago. Howard and Sherrold were so enthusiastic about helping Special Olympics athletes, it didn't take them long to get me interested in assisting such a worthy cause. It was their enthusiasm and commitment that got the rest of the New Car Dealers of BC to participate.

Howard has been gone now for twenty years, but he is certainly not forgotten—I think of him every day. He was one of a kind because he always saw the good in every situation. I will continue to support Special Olympics in memory of Howard Carter.

Others have also been inspired, like the Don Wheaton family. Twenty years ago they contributed \$1,000 to be split between the New Car Dealers Auction and the Howard Carter Fund. Since then they have increased their donation by \$1,000 every single year. In 2008, their donation to the Auction and the Howard Carter Fund was \$20,000! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

## Memories of Howard By Marnie Carter

In the 1970s and 1980s, my husband, Howard Carter, became very involved with the BC Provincial Auto Dealers Association. Later he went on to serve on the national board for four years. We met wonderful people from coast to coast and made many lasting friendships with dealers and their families across the nation. When Howard first heard about Special Olympics, through Harry "Red" Foster, he instantly became a fan.

Howard was an entrepreneur and charismatic man who loved people. His genuine interest and feelings for people from every walk of life gave him a special capability to motivate others around him. He was blessed with a keen mind along with a great sense of humour and work ethic. He was involved in many community ventures, sitting on boards of the Vancouver Symphony and Vancouver Aquarium. Twice he was a recipient of the TIME Magazine Quality Dealer Award and in 1982 was named "Vancouver Businessman of the Year." He loved to ski and adored his kids and dogs, and was just a really "good guy."

After his death, I joined the SOBC board of directors for eighteen years and was impressed by this wonderful organization. I am very proud that every year a deserving coach receives the Howard Carter award. I still keep in close touch and know the future will continue to be bright for all of you who are involved with SOBC.

Thanks for your wonderful gift of friendship and for giving us the opportunity to work with you all.

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fund and said that it should be established for Special Olympics BC—an organization with which he was closely connected. Thereafter, Joe Mitchell, Sherrold Haddad, Stuart Clyne, Bill Ireland, Mike Meyer, and Dan Howe met with Howard with plans to start an endowment fund for Special Olympics BC and the creation of a new coaching award. At the date of Howard's death in August 1988, the Fund amounted to over \$81,000.

So began the Howard Carter Fund and the Howard Carter Award. Both of these would be administered by the Board of Directors of Special Olympics BC. Howard was honoured by this tribute, and Special Olympics feels privileged to have had the support and friendship of Howard Carter.

Today, the Howard Carter Fund has grown to over \$600,000. While the principal is not touched by Special Olympics BC, the revenue derived from investments provides much needed funds to offset costs. In building the Howard Carter Fund, it was members of the automotive community and friends of Howard who contributed generously to the fund. As for the Howard Carter Award, it is given annually to recognize the outstanding dedication and contribution of coaches from throughout the province. Twenty coaches have been awarded the Howard Carter Award since its inception. (See page 15 to read about this year's recipient.)

Perhaps the greatest legacy left for Special Olympics BC by Howard is the relationship that has developed with the New Car Dealers of BC. Special Olympics BC is fortunate to have the support of automobile dealers in communities right across the province. Be it assisting with Special Olympics programs in their community; providing vehicles for use at Special Olympics events; encouraging employees to volunteer; creating awareness; contributing to the Howard Carter Fund; or supporting the New Car Dealers Auction, New Car Dealers of BC continue to show their commitment and support to Special Olympics. There is little doubt that Howard would be proud of this relationship.

## Remembering Howard Carter by Ken Graydon

When Howard Carter was president of the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations of Canada (FADA now CADA) in 1985–86, he attended a convention of Ontario dealers at which Red Foster was a guest speaker. Red Foster was the founder and, at that time, the head of one of Canada's most successful advertising agencies—Foster Advertising—and a dynamic speaker with a personal passion for Special Olympics.

Foster's idea of automobile dealers across Canada taking on Special Olympics Canada as their exclusive charity, clicked immediately with Howard. Within months, Howard established a national committee that organized a national golf tournament with players from every provincial dealer association participating. All funds raised were donated to Special Olympics.

In following years, the national tournament grew in status and funds generated. Eventually, it evolved into a series of provincial tournaments, some of which are still held today, with hundreds of thousands of dollars going to provincial Special Olympics organizations.

Three years after the inspirational Red Foster speech, when Howard was fighting terminal cancer, a magnificent evening was held in April 1988 at the Granite Club in Toronto to recognize his untiring efforts and driving leadership in bringing the automobile industry and Special Olympics Canada together. He received the Harry "Red" Foster Award that evening and was very touched to be recognized by many of his colleagues in the auto industry.

Just before his death, the Howard Carter Fund was established to benefit Special Olympics BC. It continues to grow today and is a meaningful tribute to a remarkable man.

## SOBC at BC Summer Games in the Okanagan

Fifteen Special Olympics athletes and four coaches attended the BC Summer Games held in Kelowna from July 24–27, 2008. Four regions were represented and they competed at the track and field venue in five events. The Kelowna heat did not deter the SOBC athletes and several personal bests were realized. With three long days of competition the athletes were treated to fun evenings that included ice

skating, jousting events, sumo wrestling, and more.

Thank you to coaches Marilyn Farquhar (Langley), Randy James (Comox Valley), Pam Kiselback (Coquitlam), and Linda McIntosh (Kelowna). Results may be found on the BC Games society website at [www.bcgames.net/results/results\\_sw.aspx](http://www.bcgames.net/results/results_sw.aspx).

Congratulations to the BC Games athletes!

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| Richard Gillis   | Comox Valley |
| Joe Grubweiser   | Comox Valley |
| Chris Roberge    | Comox Valley |
| Mandy Manzardo   | Coquitlam    |
| Cameron Model    | Coquitlam    |
| Lori Urban       | Coquitlam    |
| Nicole Lowery    | Kelowna      |
| Tanya McIntosh   | Kelowna      |
| Neil Melesko     | Kelowna      |
| Maria Schmitke   | Kelowna      |
| Chris Lawrie     | Langley      |
| Kara Williams    | North Shore  |
| Andrew Chandler  | Surrey       |
| Kallista Olund   | Surrey       |
| Chrystal Bradley | Vancouver    |



DON SIPOS

# FAST FACTS FROM CAMPBELL RIVER

by Lori Holmgren and Maureen Brinson

|                     | Number of Athletes | Age Range of Athletes | Number of Volunteers | Length of Training Program | Program Hours (Weeks x Length of Training) | Volunteer Hours (Volunteers x Program Hours) |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| 5-Pin Bowling       | 40                 | 12–64 yrs. old        | 10                   | 30 wks.                    | 75 hrs.                                    | 750 hrs.                                     |
| 10-Pin Bowling      | 20                 | 11–57 yrs. old        | 4                    | 30 wks.                    | 60 hrs.                                    | 240 hrs.                                     |
| Basketball          | 13                 | 12–49 yrs. old        | 5                    | 16 wks.                    | 32 hrs.                                    | 160 hrs.                                     |
| Bocce               | 24                 | 17–61 yrs. old        | 6                    | 20 wks.                    | 30 hrs.                                    | 180 hrs.                                     |
| Floor Hockey        | 18                 | 12–49 yrs. old        | 5                    | 24 wks.                    | 48 hrs.                                    | 240 hrs.                                     |
| Golf                | 12                 | 12–45 yrs. old        | 3                    | 24 wks.                    | 36 hrs.                                    | 108 hrs.                                     |
| Powerlifting        | 3                  | 20–45 yrs. old        | 3                    | 24 wks.                    | 24 hrs.                                    | 72 hrs.                                      |
| Rhythmic Gymnastics | 10                 | 11–49 yrs. old        | 4                    | 32 wks.                    | 64 hrs.                                    | 256 hrs.                                     |
| Soccer              | 12                 | 11–48 yrs. old        | 6                    | 16 wks.                    | 24 hrs.                                    | 144 hrs.                                     |
| Softball            | 28                 | 12–48 yrs. old        | 8                    | 16 wks.                    | 96 hrs.                                    | 768 hrs.                                     |
| Snowshoeing         | 10                 | 12–49 yrs. old        | 3                    | 20 wks.                    | 30 hrs.                                    | 90 hrs.                                      |
| Swimming            | 35                 | 12–49 yrs. old        | 7                    | 30 wks.                    | 60 hrs.                                    | 420 hrs.                                     |
| Track and Field     | 12                 | 12–49 yrs. old        | 5                    | 16 wks.                    | 24 hrs.                                    | 120 hrs.                                     |
| <b>Totals</b>       |                    |                       |                      |                            | <b>603 hrs.</b>                            | <b>2648 hrs.</b>                             |

Congratulations to Campbell River—they offer 603 hours of sport training throughout the year. Their faithful volunteers, all combined, give 2648 hours of their time in the year. And...these numbers don't include time spent preparing practice plans, driving to practice, picking up uniforms, or at coaches' training, executive meetings or competitions. Well done, Campbell River!

## Prince George 5 pin Bowlers Participate in Quesnel Tournament

On March 14, 2009 the Prince George Special Olympics 5 pin Bowling team took part in the Quesnel Gold Pan 5 pin Tournament.

The athletes, including: Emelie Snyders, Rhonda Daniels, Debbie Bileck, Lance Pattinson, and Leanza Daniel, and coach Rita Dyck had a great day, winning the Gold Pan with the highest pins over average.

Special Olympic athlete Christina Sisson won the Ladies High Pins Over Average, with the help of coach Pam Korum.

## Courtside with Prince George and Quesnel

The Prince George basketball program hosted a small tournament February 27-28, 2009 for a competition between the Quesnel basketball team.

Teams took to the courts on Friday night and Saturday morning. Lunch was served after the game on Saturday, before the Quesnel team travelled back home. With a number of spectators at each game watching the games unfold, a great time was had by all.

Organizers would like to thank the coaches for their support, including: Jim Reid, Paul Raines, Lorne Dunn, Jeff Sampson, Kyle Sampson, Aimee Bachand, Eddie Dunn and Johnnie Dunn for Prince George, and Cyril and Cindy Tobin for Quesnel.

## OKANAGAN SPRING BREWERY'S CONTINUED SUPPORT



One of BC's original craft breweries, Okanagan Spring Brewery has been a fan of Special Olympics BC since 2005. Okanagan Spring Brewery provides beer for the majority of Special Olympics BC's fundraising events including the Hart to Heart Croquet Tournament, the Final Fore Golf Tournament, and the Sports Celebrities Festival. Okanagan Spring Brewery also provides beer for Special Olympics BC's staff and sponsor functions, which includes SOBC's Christmas open house, and VIP receptions at Games.

In September Okanagan Spring Brewery donated over \$12,000 to Special Olympics BC—\$1 for every twelve-pack of bottles sold. SOBC would like to thank Okanagan Spring Brewery for their generous support over the years.

## BC Food & Drug Industry Charity Golf Classic

On August 13, the annual BC Food & Drug Industry Charity Golf Classic was held at Hazelmere Golf and Tennis Club in Surrey. The weather was beautiful, and this year close to 200 golfers participated in the tournament. The event raised funds for Vancouver Community College with \$10,000 going to Special Olympics BC. Thank you to the organizing committee, tournament sponsors, Vancouver Community College, and also to the SOBC athletes and volunteers who came to help spot the hole-in-ones.

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS BC

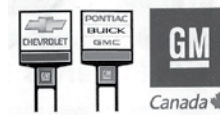
## SPONSOR APPRECIATION

Special Olympics BC is very proud and fortunate to have sponsors. Without the support of these companies, as well as a host of others, Special Olympics BC would not be able to provide the quality sport programs we do. Please support those who support us!

### EVENTS



SPORTS CELEBRITIES  
FESTIVAL



# SPECIAL OLYMPICS BC

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