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Special Olympics BC

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Get set for the 2011 SOBC Winter Sport Championships!

Starting in February, Special Olympics BC will host the 2011 Winter Sport Championships in three installments, each unique in the sports it will offer and the community in which it's being held!

February 11 and 12 will be the time for athletes in the three ice sports to shine at the 2011 Special Olympics BC Ice Sport Championships! Two hundred forty-five athletes and coaches, including a team from the Yukon, will compete for two days in the sports of curling, figure skating and speed skating at the Poirier Sport & Leisure Complex in Coquitlam. This will be the kickoff event for our Winter Sport Championships and will take place in facilities that have just opened, with plenty of viewing space for spectators and great venues for the athletes. Teams can look forward to two fun and fast-paced days of competition and friendship!

The 2011 Special Olympics BC Floor

Hockey Championships will be hosted on February 18 and 19 at the University of British Columbia in the Student Recreation Building. There will be three floors of non-stop action as both our teams and skill athletes battle it out for medal standings. Spectator seating will be limited but once there, you will be treated to some great competition!

Looking for snow, we are heading to Kelowna for the 2011 SOBC Snow Sport Championships on March 4 and 5. Alpine skiers will hit the gates on Crystal Mountain, while cross-country skiing and snowshoeing competitors will make tracks at Telemark. Athletes and coaches will stay in a camp-like setting, spending their days on the mountain and their evenings enjoying Karaoke and Wii competitions!

If you would like more details about the 2011 SOBC Winter Sport Championships, go to specialolympics.bc.ca.



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SPORTS CELEBRITIES FESTIVAL

SILVER | WHEATON



CANACCORD | Genuity

The 2010 Sports Celebrities Festival was another stirring, sold-out success, overflowing with smiling faces and memorable experiences in the evening festivities held in the new Vancouver Convention Centre on October 27.

The sparkling event, which raises vital funds for the Canucks for Kids Fund and Special Olympics BC, offered a glorious celebration of the power of sport. Guests had the opportunity to mingle, play games and have their photos taken with Vancouver Canucks before settling down to enjoy a delicious dinner and evening entertainment, including inspiring speeches from SOBC parent James Sutherland, accompanied

by his show-stopping athlete-in-training son Oliver; and Canuck Mason Raymond. The silent and live auctions were stuffed with a spectacular array of prizes, thanks to our remarkable donors.

We are truly grateful for the abundant labours and love that go into the Sports Celebrities Festival every year. There are the tireless efforts of the SCF organizing committee and the Vancouver Canucks organization. There's the unflagging and invaluable support of the four presenting sponsors: BCLC, Canaccord Genuity, Rogers and Silver Wheaton. The unstinting contributions by more than 60 volunteers on the night. The big-hearted





donors who allow us to stage the silent and live auctions. The generosity and enthusiasm of the attendees. The time and good-natured support of the sports celebrities who take the time to spend an evening with us. We thank and salute you all!

Each year, we are uplifted and delighted to see the joy on the faces of the Special Olympics BC athletes who get to interact and then partner up with the Vancouver Canucks players, coaches and management and other outstanding sports celebrities.

Our heroes talk about their encounters with their heroes for years afterwards. They

are delighted and honoured by the unique opportunity to chat and play with these superstars. The pictures capture it all: our athletes are beaming as they dive into games with the dapper Canucks and are introduced for dinner at their sides.

And it is the Canucks who make this happen, year after year. They ask for their athletes to be partnered with ours for the evening, creating the unique chance for our athletes to be inspired and energized by their encounter with the sports stars. The players take the time to be gracious, generous participants throughout

the evening, and they go above and beyond what's expected of them with their courteous, enthusiastic

conduct and interest in our athletes.

We are forever grateful for the true sportsmanship showed by all of the Canucks, and for the many people in the Canucks organization who work tirelessly on this event from start to finish.

Thank you to everyone involved in the 2010 Sports Celebrities Festival – your generosity and help matters so much.





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Vancouver Canuck Table Purchasers

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CTV
Gateway Casinos & Entertainment Ltd.
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David Yan

Thank you, Okanagan Spring Brewery!

Okanagan Spring Brewery has been a leading BC craft brewing company for 25 years, and a fan of Special



Olympics BC for five years. We are deeply grateful for their ongoing support, which flows to us in the form of their annual fundraising campaign and their contribution of beer for the majority of our fundraising events, including the Sports Celebrities Festival, the Goldcorp Invitational (formerly Final Fore) Golf Tournament and *motionball*.

In October, Okanagan Spring Brewery knocked our socks off by presenting Special Olympics BC with a cheque for nearly \$13,000. In their campaign, Okanagan Spring Brewery contributes \$1 for every 12-pack of bottles sold, and the funds are a deeply appreciated source of support for our athletes and programs. Thanks to Okanagan Spring Brewery for your generosity!



Thanks to Els Stalker and the SOBC – Grand Forks bowling brigade for submitting this photo! They sent us the image along with their thanks for the free bowling shoes that the Provincial Office had to offer earlier this fall. Best of luck to all the bowlers in Grand Forks and around the province who are tearing it up this season!

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Ann & Ben Jorgensen

Local: Campbell River

Years Involved: 6

Roles: Volunteer Coordinator (Ann), Coaching, Event Volunteering

When Ann and Ben Jorgensen's son Bryan attended his first-ever Special Olympics BC floor hockey practice in Campbell River, he experienced a revelation. "After the first night, when we came home, Bryan was [saying], he didn't realize there were other people like him," Ann says. The family had lived in tiny Port Alice before moving to Campbell River, and Bryan had never met anyone else with special needs.

After that first practice, Bryan was hooked on Special Olympics, and so was his family. He's gotten involved in numerous sports, but swimming has become his main focus. Meanwhile, every member of his immediate family is volunteering with SOBC. Ann and Ben have been SOBC volunteers for about six years, and their two other children also coach.

Ann currently serves as SOBC – Campbell River's Volunteer Coordinator as well as being a co-head coach for 5-pin bowling and helping coach bocce. Her fellow volunteers say she does it all with diligence, commitment and a positive attitude while juggling a full-time job and family life. Ann has been inspired by the feeling that SO volunteers are truly making a difference, having seen the lights of realization in the eyes of athletes. "When something clicks with one of the athletes, you're hooked," she says. "It's addictive, once you start."

Ben is currently serving as an assistant floor hockey coach with a team now gearing up for the 2011 SOBC Winter Sport Championships – he says they are, in a fair way, "kick-butt" – and he helps with 5-pin bowling. He also steps up to help with fundraising events, and has worked with the bocce, softball and soccer programs. He is described as a skilled, respectful and supportive coach. Ben says working with the joyful, welcoming athletes in Campbell River is what he enjoys most about Special Olympics. "They're very personable, they're always happy... They just bring you up and make you smile." He and Ann both have their NCCP Level 1 and Ethics certifications and have participated in Special Olympics coaching courses and workshops.

Ben served as a coach with the highly successful Team BC at the 2010 National Games, where Bryan also tore it up in the pool, winning two silver and two bronze medals. One of Ann's standout Special Olympics memories is her eye-opening experience at her first Provincial Games in Abbotsford, where she watched the hundreds of cheering athletes marching in, and the Campbell River bocce players in action in their gold-medal-winning game.

Ann and Ben have been put forward for SOBC awards in recognition of their outstanding commitment and dedication, including Ann's nomination for the SOBC President's Award in 2010, and Ben's nomination for the Howard Carter Award in 2009. We are so grateful for everything you bring to SOBC!



SALUTING GOLDCORP'S GENEROSITY

As a leading gold producer with an international reach, Goldcorp has dedicated itself to starting and supporting community initiatives in the diverse locations where it operates. We're glad and deeply grateful that here in BC, home of Goldcorp's head office, Goldcorp has been a dedicated fan of Special Olympics BC for more than five years, and their generous commitment to us has grown and strengthened to great effect.

Ian Telfer, chairman of Goldcorp's board of directors and former company president and CEO, was instrumental in developing the relationship between Special Olympics BC and Goldcorp, and current CEO Chuck Jeannes and Corporate Communications Manager Tanya Todd have generously sought to extend and enhance our partnership. Goldcorp's support initially centred around the Final Fore Golf Tournament, now known as the Goldcorp Invitational, which is a key source of funds to help our athletes and programs around the province. To date, during the years of Goldcorp's involvement with this event, the tournament has almost tripled in the amount of money raised for Special Olympics.

As Goldcorp has become acquainted with the inspirational athletes and life-changing sports experiences provided by Special Olympics BC, they saw an opportunity to support the programs we have developed to meet the needs of BC's children with intellectual disabilities. In the summer, at



the 2010 Goldcorp Invitational, Goldcorp announced a significant, long-term pledge in support of our blossoming and vital youth programs.

Goldcorp's new commitment has had a resounding impact for Special Olympics BC. Their support is allowing us to make significant strides toward our goal of substantially increasing the number of children and youth gaining opportunities for skill development, empowerment and acceptance through Special Olympics BC programs around the province. It has allowed us to hire more regional staff members to support the volunteers providing our programs around BC, and to help expand our youth program offerings. And it allows us to develop our SO Inclusive program, so we can reach more high school and university students to get them involved as volunteers, and as champions for the cause of supporting social inclusion for all and raising awareness about intellectual disabilities.

Goldcorp has also generously introduced many of their business associates to Special Olympics BC, encouraging them to support our athletes, programs and volunteers. Goldcorp has shown they truly are fans of Special Olympics, and we thank them for their commitment to enriching the lives of our athletes and young participants around the province.

BC Food & Drug Industry Charity Golf Classic

More than 200 participants had the chance to enjoy a fun-filled day of sun-soaked golf at the 23rd annual BC Food & Drug Industry Charity Golf Classic, held on August 11, 2010, at Hazelmere Golf and Tennis Club in Surrey. The day on the links was followed by a fabulous dinner reception, featuring an exciting raffle and prize giveaways.

Special Olympics athletes and volunteers were on hand to spot holes-in-one for fabulous prizes, but despite their valiant efforts, no one was able to score golf's most coveted achievement. Thanks to the continued support of the BC Food & Drug Industry and the Nicoll family, the event raised \$10,000 for Special Olympics BC! A donation was also given to the Vancouver Community College Foundation.

Thank you to Lucy Komori of Vancouver Community College and the entire organizing committee for the opportunity to participate! For more information, please visit www.vcc.ca/golf.

Thank You! Grants and Foundations Update

Special Olympics BC thanks the following foundations, service clubs, corporations and individuals for their generous grants to assist us in supporting BC's Special Olympics athletes.

- Chris Spencer Foundation**
- Dave Macfarlane**
- Norco Products Ltd.**
- Telus**
- Ted Hirst & Family**
- The Cedar Club**
- The Highbury Foundation**

In-Kind Gifts

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

- **Garry Robertson Music** for donating their sound equipment for various fundraising events.
- **The New Car Dealers Association of BC** for their donation of a new corporate vehicle.
- **STAPLES Business Depot** for supplying us with our stationery needs.

If you would like to donate to Special Olympics BC, please contact the Provincial Office at **604-737-3078** or by e-mail at info@specialolympics.bc.ca.



PHOTO BY KATHY MCHUGH

Goldcorp CEO Chuck Jeannes (third from right) enjoys the day at the 2010 Goldcorp Invitational with (from left) Caleb Chan, Joe Houssian, Premier Gordon Campbell, James Lepp and Avtar Baines.

Wolseley ups the ante for awareness

With over 250 branches coast to coast and more than 175,000 products, Wolseley is the most diverse supplier of products and customer



solutions in Canada. From industrial pipe and valves for oil sands projects to retail showrooms offering the latest designs for kitchen and bath fixtures and faucets, Wolseley is the name Canada builds on. In turn, Wolseley is proud to help build communities, and one of the ways they do this is through a national partnership with Special Olympics.

As part of this partnership, Special Olympic BC receives \$10,000 from Wolseley Canada each year – but their commitment doesn't end there. To reach their communities at a more local level, this past June was named "Special Olympics Awareness Month" at all of the Wolseley branches across Canada. Throughout the month branches took part in the "Become a Gold Medallist" campaign which encouraged customers to purchase a paper medal for \$2 in an effort to help Wolseley "raise the bar on awareness."

On June 23, 2010, many branches also held a barbecue in support of the campaign and invited Special Olympics athletes and volunteers to come out to meet their customers and take part in fun activities. Wolseley's BC branches raised an additional \$3,400 to support BC's Special Olympics athletes. Thank you Wolseley!

Deb Bright steps down as CEO of SOC

As of December 3, 2010, Deborah Bright will no longer be leading the way at the helm of Special Olympics Canada. Deb announced her resignation in November, sharing the news that she plans to pursue another exciting opportunity as the President and CEO of the Abilities Centre, a facility currently under construction that is intended to become a fully accessible, world-class recreation, athletic and performing arts facility. Special Olympics BC wishes her joy and success in her future endeavours, and thanks her for her many contributions to this great cause.



As SOC's President and CEO for the last five years, Deb showed strong support of Special Olympics BC, which has always been deeply appreciated. We enjoyed the great working relationship that we shared with her. Deb's influence on the Special Olympics movement will endure in a wide variety of ways, including the strong relationship that she helped to build between Special Olympics and the Government of Canada, which has been extremely beneficial for Special Olympics athletes and programs in BC and across the country. Her legacy will also be remembered through the continuing efforts of the dedicated team that she built at SOC.

Deb previously served the Special Olympics movement as the National Program Director at SOC and the Technical Director for Special Olympics Ontario.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Deb, and our heartfelt wishes for her success as she embarks on this interesting new opportunity.

ATHLETE PROFILE

Ryan Kuester

Local: Chilliwack
Years Involved: 4
Sports: Swimming
Former Sports: Powerlifting, soccer

If you ask Ryan Kuester why he loves to swim, you'll get an elegant answer about his love of water. The Special Olympics BC – Chilliwack athlete cherishes the sensation of water on skin, and the deep thoughts and sense of stress-free peace that come after a plunge. "I just love the way it feels. When I'm under the water, everything goes quiet," he says.



A swimmer since the age of three, Ryan has parlayed his passion into a berth on the national team bound for the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Athens, Greece. Ryan, who turns 23 in December, was surprised and delighted to hear this fall that he had qualified for a spot on the Canadian team. When Ryan heard he would be competing in Greece, his initial reaction was shock. And he hugged his mom, who had started to cry at the joyful news. "It's a big deal, it's amazing," he says.

Ryan has had a swift and successful rise through Special Olympics sports competitions. After starting out with a Special Olympics BC soccer program as a Grade 12 student, Ryan quickly found his way into swimming. After his first season, he was excited to be chosen to go to the Special Olympics BC Summer Games. He was nervous before competing at his first provincial games, but his much-respected coach Jacques Lemieux told him he would be proud of Ryan whether he won or not, and he should just do his best and have fun. Ryan went on to win two silver medals and one bronze.

Then Ryan moved on to compete at the 2010 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games, where he won two silver medals and topped that off with a gold medal in a backstroke event – even though backstroke is usually his least favourite event! Ryan loved meeting people from different provinces at the National Games, and he had fun cheering on all the other athletes and performing well himself in front of his family members who came to watch.

A graduate of St. John Brebeuf Regional Secondary School, Ryan is currently enjoying working with his father at BC Beds, and he loves to help spread the word about Special Olympics. These days, he's also stepping up his swim and dryland training in anticipation of the World Games. Best of luck, Ryan, and keep up the great work!



GETTING TO THE CHAMPIONSHIPS SHOULDN'T BE THE HARDEST PART

DRAFT AN ATHLETE



If you are a fan of courage, if you admire determination, and if you can't help but share in the joy of victory, then you are already a fan of Special Olympics. Why not make it official? With the Special Olympics BC Winter Sport Championships coming up early next year, we need people like you to Draft an Athlete.

Your sponsorship will give a Special Olympics BC athlete the opportunity to compete at the Winter Sport Championships. Each one of the over 600 qualified athletes have been training hard under the guidance of volunteer coaches, and they need your support to get them the rest of the way.

As you may know, Special Olympics BC aims to provide athletes with an intellectual disability the opportunity to enhance their lives and celebrate personal achievement through positive sport experiences. By drafting an athlete to the Winter Sport Championships you will be helping us to achieve our mission.

Your \$500 donation will help us to fund an athlete's travel, accommodation, and meals. It will also allow us to purchase medals and cover expensive competition costs such as ice time, venue rentals, and the specialized training of sport officials and referees.

If you would like to Draft an Athlete, please complete and return the enclosed form. Special Olympics BC is so much more than competition to athletes who participate in our sport programs. To some it means friendships; to others, increased confidence. To Michaela Robinson it means fun!!!

Michaela is a 24 year old Special Olympics BC athlete from Surrey who competes in figure skating, 5-pin bowling, and rhythmic gymnastics. She has been competing in Special Olympics ever since a friend invited her to a practice 10 years ago. She has gained new friendships and increased confidence, not to mention the superb balance needed to perform her medal-winning skating combinations!

"Special Olympics is part of my life every day now," Michaela says. "I practice five times a week, I fundraise for events and I even do public speaking – something I was too shy to do before."

It's not only the lives of athletes that your donation has the potential to change, but also the families of athletes just like Michaela. Paddi Robinson, Michaela's mom, emotionally recalls the impact Special Olympics has had:

"When Michaela was born, we were told she may never walk and would suffer seizures. Although she has overcome those obstacles, balance was still a major issue for Michaela due to her hearing and vision impairments. She couldn't even balance on one foot at the age of 14. Now, after 10 years in Special Olympics she's not only balancing on one foot, she's skating and twirling on one foot; winning medals. It's incredible. Michaela's success in sport has opened so many doors for her. She now has the chance to be a real person, not defined by her disability."

If you would like to help an athlete just like Michaela to compete in the 2011 Special Olympics BC Winter Sport Championships, Draft an Athlete and make a difference today. Simply complete the form below and return it to Special Olympics BC. Don't forget that if you Draft an Athlete you will receive a tax receipt! The athlete you draft will be excited to learn that someone in their community would like to provide them the opportunity to compete at the peak level of competition.

On behalf of Special Olympics BC and athletes just like Michaela, thank you!



Draft an Athlete Registration Form

Contact Name: _____
 Company: _____
 Address: _____
 Telephone: _____ Email: _____
 I/we would like to Draft an Athlete from the community of: _____
 I/we would like to Draft: One athlete for \$500.00 _____ athletes at \$500/athlete

Payment Method

- Please find a cheque enclosed made payable to Special Olympics BC
- Please invoice me at the above noted address
- Please bill my credit card Visa Mastercard Amex

Total Amount: \$ _____

Card Number: _____
 Expiry Date: _____
 Name: _____

SIGNATURE

Tax Receipt?
Yes / No

Please return the completed form to:

**Draft an Athlete
 Special Olympics BC
 210-3701 East Hastings Street
 Burnaby, BC V5C 2H6**

Fax: 604-737-3080

**Email: cwood@specialolympics.bc.ca
apokoney@specialolympics.bc.ca**

**Questions?
 Please contact:**

**Courtenay Wood: 604-737-3131
 Amy Pokoney: 604-737-3056**

Healthy Athletes screening set for March

Coaches and athletes, mark your calendars: the Healthy Athletes Wellness Day event has been scheduled for March 12, 2011, in Vancouver.

In the past, athletes attending Provincial and National Games have had the opportunity to access the fun and informative Healthy Athletes screenings provided by medical professionals. This year we have a day planned solely for these events – no sport required! Just bring your winning attitude and big smiles.

The screenings are for registered athletes only, and we encourage one and all to attend. Get your teammates together, or coaches can make it a team trip – however you can get here, come and participate to have your teeth, eyes and feet checked, and so much more! There will be lots of cool giveaways and fun things for all to do.

Athletes in the past have received mouth guards for contact sports, and eyewear when needed. On top of that, there's all the great attention they get from trained practitioners!

Location: Medical Students Union Alumni, on the corner of Heather St & 12th, across from Vancouver General Hospital

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Special Olympics

Healthy Athletes™

SONA COACH OF THE YEAR



Special Olympics BC offers our warm congratulations and thanks to **Nanci Martin**, the SOBC – Vancouver coach who was named the Special Olympics North America Coach of the Year in September. Nanci is the first Canadian to capture the award since its launch in 2005. She was lauded for her dedication, patience, initiative, ability to inspire and exemplary coaching and mentoring.

Nanci has been a Special Olympics volunteer for more than 19 years, and she currently serves as a snowshoeing and track and field coach. But she never hesitates to step up and fill other roles, including her contributions as a coach and manager for teams competing at the Provincial, National and World Games. Thank you, Nanci, for all that you do!

Matthew Williams, Global Athlete Congress Chair

SOBC – Langley athlete Matthew Williams has a big role to play in the worldwide push to spread the message of empowerment, acceptance, achievement and joy that is such a big part of the Special Olympics movement. This 18-year-old athlete is currently a member of the small group of Special Olympics athletes around the world chosen to represent the movement as Sargent Shriver Global Messengers. Selected for two-year terms, Global Messengers undergo training in public speaking and presentation skills in order to share the joyful spirit of Special Olympics, with audiences around the world.



In the summer of 2010, more than 60 athletes from around the world came together in Marrakech, Morocco, to participate in the third annual Special

Olympics Global Athlete Congress. Matt took part in the discussions along with fellow Special Olympics BC athlete Marc Theriault, the World Games multi-medallist and member of the SOBC Hall of Fame who serves as the athlete representative on the Special Olympics Canada Board of Directors, as well as Canadian athlete Christina Campbell.

In Morocco, Matt earned the honour of being elected by his peers to serve as chairman of the Global Athlete Congress for a five-year term.

Matt has also been selected to serve on the Board of Directors for Special Olympics International for a three-year term beginning January 2011. Congratulations, Matt! We are very proud of all of our athletes who are developing their skills through our Athlete Leadership Programs!

Thanks to the Cedar Club, Surrey Knights of Columbus

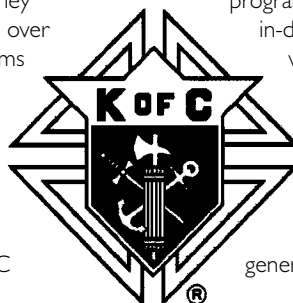
Internationally, Special Olympics has been the beneficiary of substantial gifts of time and money from the Knights of Columbus each year. In 2005, they formed a partnership with Special Olympics and committed \$1 million over four years and volunteer efforts to help grow Special Olympics programs in North America and state and local games.

In BC, the Knights of Columbus have been committed supporters of Special Olympics athletes and programs, offering assistance through donations, competition sponsorships and an annual walk-a-thon in locations around the province.

Most recently, the Cedar Club, Surrey Knights of Columbus Council 4767 made a very sizable donation to support the Special Olympics BC Fundamentals program. Fundamentals is a family-centred program

targeting young athletes in BC between the ages of 7 and 12. The program provides children with intellectual disabilities with an in-depth introduction to sport-related motor skills along with training and competition, while maintaining an atmosphere of fun and meaningful interaction. By learning, practicing and showcasing fundamental motor skills, participants will have the confidence to actively participate in organized and non-structured sport in future years.

Special Olympics BC is grateful for the ongoing, generous support of the Knights of Columbus.



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 more than \$1 million for Special Olympics Canada through their series of annual events.



Marathon of Sport: Do Something Special on the Playing Field

On June 5, 2010, Marathon of Sport was held at the Electronic Arts Sports Complex in Burnaby, BC. Special Olympics BC athletes joined teams of young professionals for a fun and intense day of athletic competition. With a focus on sportsmanship and fair play, teams competed in basketball, beach volleyball, soccer, ultimate Frisbee and bocce. Prizes were awarded to teams for various achievements including the team with the most points and the team that collected the most pledges.



PHOTO BY DUSTIN WOOD

Enjoying a sunny day full of sports and fun at the 2010 Marathon of Sport!

Six Degrees of Separation Gala

The name "Six Degrees of Separation" was inspired by the simple idea that each guest in attendance will be connected in some way to every other guest at the engagement through six relationships. The 2011 Six Degrees Gala will be held at the Commodore Ballroom on February 12. Guests will be treated to a fantastic evening that will feature a silent auction, live date auction, DJ and more! The purpose of this event is to connect friends of all ages in an amazing venue for a great cause. Proceeds from this event benefit the Special Olympics Canada Foundation.

Support Special Olympics with a cuddly JYSK bear

With the chill embrace of Old Man Winter all around us,



now is a great time to get a fuzzy teddy bear to warm your heart and those of your loved ones. JYSK has launched the "Bear it for the Cause" campaign, an in-store initiative in support of Special Olympics Canada featuring the adorable Victoria bears. When you purchase Victoria for \$10 plus applicable taxes, proceeds will help support Special Olympics Canada and its sport programs. Victoria is available in white and cognac while quantities last at any of the 40 JYSK stores across the country. To find your nearest store, check out www.jysk.ca.

Before they embarked on "bearing" it all for this great cause, JYSK had already raised substantial funds for Special Olympics in 2010 with another nationwide initiative. JYSK's "Be a Fan: Donate, Coach, Compete" campaign ran throughout the month of July. Customers were invited to donate to Special Olympics either in-store at one of JYSK's retail locations, or online at www.jysk.ca. To connect customers to the cause, JYSK welcomed athletes that had recently returned from the 2010 National Summer Games into their stores to share their medals and Games stories. The campaign raised \$75,000 across Canada with 100 per cent of the funds going to support the programs and competitions sanctioned by Special Olympics.



STAPLES KEEPS MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE

STAPLES has continued its commitment to supporting the goals and dreams of Special Olympics athletes from coast to coast.

STAPLES
that was easy.™

From November 6 to 27, 2010, STAPLES employees across the country sought donations for Special Olympics in the national "Give a Toonie. Share a Dream." campaign. This annual drive invites customers to help send Special Olympics athletes across Canada to Special Olympics National and World Games by adding \$2 to their total purchase. The 2010 campaign was revamped by increasing the donation from \$1 in previous years and by offering customers a Special Olympics pin in return for their support.

SOBC sends a great big thank you to all of the STAPLES stores and staff in British Columbia for their amazing efforts! Since 2001, the campaign has raised over \$3.9 million for Canada's Special Olympics athletes.

On June 12, 2010, STAPLES employees and Special Olympics athletes enjoyed a chance to have fun together in the ninth STAPLES softball tournament. The friendly day-long tournament drew the complement of participants to the Riverway Sports Complex in Burnaby.

Awards were given out not only to the top team, but also to the teams with the most spirit and sportsmanship. Special thanks to the Burnaby Loughheed Lions who came out to cook up some hot dogs for all of the players!



SOBC – North Shore athlete-in-training Tristan was captured in action at a STAPLES store during the campaign, and this photo captured the hearts of everyone who voted on Facebook to make it the winning shot in our Share a Dream Photo Contest!

And a big thanks to STAPLES and all of the employees who never fail to come out in droves to participate in this inspiring day.



Money Talks Stock Trading Contest

Do you have what it takes to win big? The Money Talks Stock Trading Contest has returned for another exciting year – and all registration fees for this entertaining and educational contest go directly to Special Olympics BC.

MICHAEL CAMPBELL'S
MONEY TALKS
Disnat
Master Your Trades.
STOCKSCORES

Money Talks is a trading and investment website that strives to gather and share the highest-calibre independent financial thinking out there. The Challenge is entertaining. It's an opportunity to learn to trade without risking your money, and for more experienced traders to strut their stuff while being ranked based on the unique Stockscores method for rating trades. Meanwhile, you'll be competing for more than \$20,000 worth of remarkable prizes.

The contest is presented by Michael Campbell's Money Talks, Disnat and stockscores.com, which are all gracious fans of Special Olympics. Disnat went above and beyond its support of the trading challenge by running a fundraiser for Special Olympics athletes around their client appreciation night.

Contest registration costs \$19, and 100 per cent of those proceeds are being directed to support Special Olympics BC athletes and programs. To get started, visit www.moneytalks.net and click on the "Money Talks Tradescorps Challenge" banner. The contest is open until February 11, and participants can register any time.

The list of great prizes up for grabs includes:

- Random draw grand prize: \$13,320 fishing trip courtesy of West Coast Fishing Club;
- First-place prize: Five one-ounce gold coins courtesy of Border Gold;
- Second-place prize: \$2,500 rough cut diamond courtesy of Indicator Mineral;
- Third-place prize: \$750 earring and cufflink set courtesy of Teck;
- Fourth-place prize: 25 one-ounce silver coins courtesy of Endeavour Silver;
- Random draw weekly prize: two one-ounce silver coins; and
- Random draw biweekly from profitable trades: one 10-ounce silver coin courtesy of Silver Wheaton.

To support Special Olympics BC and improve your stock trading acumen in one fell swoop, sign up today!

LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

Officers and volunteers made the most of the sunshine (and at times the rain!), and in May through to September 2010 they raised approximately \$75,000 gross for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics BC. Their trusty tools? Roof sits, mall tolls, raffles, Final Leg Runs and more.

Thanks so much to the following people, departments, detachments and agencies for all of their hard work and effort in raising these funds:



CN POLICE GUILDFORD Free The Fuzz – \$10,000

Thanks to Inspector Dan Ritchie of CN Police, his lovely wife Joan, the team at CN Police and Sheila Snell, local coordinator for SOBC – Surrey. Proudly supported by Guildford Lions Club, North Surrey Lions Club, Guildford Leo's and students from UBC and SFU.

KELOWNA RCMP Free The Fuzz – \$19,000

Thanks to Cst. Steve Holmes, Cheryl McKinnon, the team at Kelowna RCMP and Sandra Grills, volunteer coordinator of SOBC – Kelowna. Another huge thank you goes out to Cops for Kids, who donated \$5,000, and to Walmart for their support and cooperation.

NORTH VANCOUVER RCMP Raffle and Auction – \$5,000

Thanks to Aux. Cst. Brenda Sinnott and Aux. Cst. Jim Robertson, who raised funds with a raffle of Vancouver Canucks autographed merchandise and the auction of a WestJet airfare. Thanks also to Cst. Desiree Brownlow for supporting these endeavours.

COMOX VALLEY RCMP Free The Fuzz – \$10,000

Thanks to Sgt. Marc Landry from the Comox Valley RCMP and Randy James, local coordinator for SOBC – Comox Valley. Thanks also to the Courtenay Walmart, which donated \$5,000 to this event, and to the three volunteers who sat on the roof.

SOUTH SURREY Free The Fuzz – \$7,000

Thanks to Vince Astoria, retired Canadian Border Services Agency officer and supporter of the Abbotsford Police Department, as well as Sheila Snell and Susan Wiczorek, the local coordinators of SOBC – Surrey and SOBC – Delta, respectively. Thanks to the South Surrey Walmart Supercentre, which also matched part of the funds raised at this event.

BURNABY RCMP Final Leg Run – \$5,000

Special thanks to Sgt. Andy LeClair, who sold a record number of LETR T-shirts to raise these funds at the Burnaby RCMP detachment. He sold more than 190 T-shirts! The detachment also hosted its own Final Leg Run with over 30 runners and received a \$1,000 sponsorship from TD Bank.



North American Police Soccer Tournament – \$3,500

Many thanks to Sgt. Joanne Wild, Inspector Bob Stewart and the coaches of the Surrey SOBC soccer team who organised and participated in the All Star Police v. Surrey SOBC exhibition match prior to the final of this tournament. The game saw police from all over North America take on the hugely successful Surrey Vipers soccer team that will be representing Canada at the Special Olympics World Summer Games next year in Athens. Safe to say the SOBC team won 2-1, and all had a fantastic time. The feedback from the participants, family members and crowd was fantastic and made this event extremely worthwhile for all involved.



CN POLICE Langley Free The Fuzz – \$8,000

Thanks to Inspector Dan Ritchie and his team from CN Police, Dick Jennens, local coordinator for SOBC – Langley, and the Langley Walmart, which donated \$1,000 to this event. Also thanks to Paul Miller from CN, who made a very generous personal donation to this event.

NANAIMO RCMP Free The Fuzz – \$11,000

Thanks to Cst. Gary O'Brien of Nanaimo RCMP plus Sylvia Taylor and Heiko Behn, the local coordinator and treasurer of SOBC – Nanaimo, for their fantastic event. Also thanks to the Nanaimo Walmart, which donated a plasma TV for the raffle and also donated \$1,000 to the event.

LANGLEY RCMP Final Leg Run

Sgt. Tom James did a great job organising a Final Leg Run in Langley with approximately 15 runners taking part. At the end of the run, a social game of softball was shared between police officers, media and Special Olympics BC – Langley athletes. Thanks to all involved.

The BC LETR and Special Olympics athletes in action at events around the province, including the Burnaby Final Leg Run (left) and the North American Police Soccer Tournament (above).

Canuel Golf Tournament – \$5,000

We were deeply grateful to once again receive support from the annual Chief R.J. Canuel Memorial Golf Tournament, which was held at the Newlands Golf & Country Club in Langley on September 9, 2010. Chief Canuel was a longtime member of the Vancouver Police Department, and the fun-filled event held in his honour contributes a portion of the proceeds to the BC Law Enforcement Torch Run. Our heartfelt thanks to Brian and Glenn Canuel, who work hard to stage this enduringly popular tournament and who continue to generously support Special Olympics BC.

Other notable fundraisers over the summer were the Abbotsford Airshow, the Abbotsford Community Run and the Richmond RCMP Community BBQ which were able to raise funds for the Law Enforcement Torch Run.

LETR International Conference – Long Beach, California October 19 to 22, 2010

The BC LETR had the opportunity to send Chief Superintendent Rick Taylor, Inspector I/C Dan Ritchie, Sgt. Andy LeClair, Sgt. Joanne Wild, Cst. Dave Chuy, Cst. Gary O'Brien, Cst. Steve Holmes, Cst. Kim Jones, Vince Astoria and Joan Ritchie to the inspiring weeklong conference in October. Attendees had the chance to attend informative sessions on varying topics and hear from motivational speakers such as Rafer Johnson, Jim Abbott and Bruce Jenner. As part of the week full of activities, there was a Final Leg Run along Long Beach, a beach volleyball tournament and a night aboard the Queen Mary. All that attended had a great time and have returned to BC with some great ideas to improve and build on the success of the LETR.

Provincial Workshop – Burnaby, BC November 22, 2010

This workshop saw law enforcement personnel from across British Columbia converge on the Hilton Vancouver Metrotown for a day of training and information sharing. Officers were lucky to hear from several Special Olympics BC athletes including Matthew Williams, the current chair of the Special Olympics Global Athlete Congress and SOBC – Langley athlete, as well as SOBC – Surrey athlete Michaela Robinson and Sheri Gulston, mom of Tristan, an SOBC – North Shore FUNdamentals athlete. It was a fantastic day with officers travelling from as far as Golden to attend, and with representatives from agencies including Municipal Departments, RCMP, CBSA, Transit Police and CN Police. New coordinator handbooks were given out and lunch time was used to recognize sponsors with a short presentation. We finished the day with a 10-pin bowling competition against SOBC – Vancouver athletes. Needless to say, the police officers lost!

Walmart Toonies For Torches campaign July 2 to 17, 2010

The Toonies For Torches campaign was a runaway success this year, with over \$57,000 raised at Walmart stores across BC. Each store in the province sold paper torches for \$2 throughout the designated period. With the support of fantastic staff and customers at Walmart, the campaign saw a \$16,000 improvement upon last year's total. Well done to all involved!



Salutations to the LETR sponsors

Each of our three Provincial Sponsors provide the BC LETR with at least \$20,000 in revenue each year. Without their constant and annual



BC representatives at the LETR International Conference.

support of the BC LETR, we would not be able to host many of our fundraising events or continue to provide sustainable funding to Special Olympics BC.

CN has been a sponsor for the past 12 years and has been involved in many aspects of the BC LETR. They have not only been a Provincial Sponsor, but with the support of CN Police they also raised an additional \$20,000 at roof sits throughout 2010.

Walmart has been a sponsor of the BC LETR for the past decade. Walmart stores are regularly the locations of roof sits, barbecues and mall tolls right across the province. This year, there were six Walmart roof sits held in various BC communities. The gross total of these six events is in excess of \$65,000. Much of this money is raised by the community and police officers; however, Walmart regularly matches funds raised at these events to increase our total revenue. For example, in Comox, the RCMP raised \$5,000 at their roof sit, and Walmart matched their efforts with a \$5,000 cheque. On top of this generosity, in the last three years Walmart has backed the LETR by supporting the Toonies for Torches campaign across Canada. In BC, we received a cheque for \$57,000 from the 2010 campaign.

The Lions Clubs of BC are one of our long-standing sponsors and biggest grassroots supporters across the province. Each year, clubs from every corner of the province support the BC LETR to collectively sponsor our cause. Clubs not only provide monetary assistance to the BC LETR but also provide priceless manpower and volunteer hours at events. From the North Surrey Lions who cater for the Guildford roof sit to the Abbotsford Lions Club that hosts multiple poker nights, the Lions Clubs are a partner that the LETR has truly come to rely on.

Leadership Changes

The BC LETR would like to acknowledge the amazing leadership and support of two of its most influential members in recent years.

Inspector I/C Dan Ritchie of CN Police will be stepping aside in 2011 and relinquishing the role of BC LETR Provincial Director to Deputy Chief Constable Rick Lucy of Abbotsford Police Department.

Chief Superintendent Bill Dingwall of RCMP PRTC is also retiring from his duties as RCMP representative on the LETR Executive Council. Chief Superintendent Rick Taylor has taken over this role.

The BC LETR would like to wish Inspector Ritchie and Chief Supt. Dingwall well in the future and again thank them for their enthusiasm, commitment and passion for raising funds for Special Olympics BC.

Team BC 2010 hit great heights with support of drafting sponsors

The 2010 Special Olympics National Summer Games was a huge success for Team BC. We won an incredible number of medals – 93 gold, 87 silver, and 78 bronze – and had an amazing experience while we were there. But that is the least of Team BC's achievements. Through participating in Special Olympics and competing in the Games, SOBC athletes overcame many personal obstacles in their quest to reach their personal bests.

Kelowna's Brian Smith, 52, has a severe fear of heights and elevators. Staying on the 9th floor during the Games was going to be a challenge for Brian, and riding the elevator up all those storeys caused some anxiety. Fortunately, when he arrived at the accommodations, he discovered that the elevator had a voice of its own, announcing every floor as he went up. Thanks to the talking elevator Brian was able to overcome his fear of

heights and elevators, and go on to win gold for Team BC in Track & Field.

Aquatics athlete Ryan Woikin has had a tough couple of years. While undergoing cancer treatment, Ryan wasn't sure if he'd make the National Games or not. Brave Ryan decided that he would compete regardless of his medical condition, and like so many others, he is proud of his achievements, bringing home a medal for the team.

It is stories like these that make Special Olympics much more than just a sporting organization. And it's generous donations that make these stories possible.

On behalf of Team BC 2010 – THANKYOU to everyone who donated to the Draft an Athlete program:

Anna Tudela	Colette Rustad	Fran Seddon	Joachim Neumann	Mark Caplan	Ozzie Jurock
Avtar Bains	Cory Bailey	Nicola Wealth Management	Joe Houssian	Michael Coyle	Peter Lamb
Bob Lee	Czarina Chen	James Hirst	John and Karen Van Dongen	Michael Kang	Stephane Bourque
Bob Olson	Darren Pylot	Jason Gordon	John Hardie Mitchell Foundation	Michael Shein	Stephen Roberts
Brian Hurl	David Deisley	Jennifer Cabeldu	John Sims	Gord Kelly Scholarship Fund	Tanya Todd
Caleb Chan	David Horton	Knights of Columbus St. Pius X Council, No. 7359	Jon Turvey	Milan & Maureen Ilich Foundation	Terry Hodson
Cathy Brown	Derek Lee	Jill Davies	Ken Williams	Le Chocolat Belge	Terry Neill
CKNW Orphans' Fund	Dick and Joanie Zokol	Jim Finkbeiner	Lindsay Hall	Daniel	Thomas Deutsch
Christopher Barton	Donald Jewell			Norm Duncan	Tom Whelan
Chuck Jeannes	Doug Holtby				Victor Adair



PHOTO BY KATHY MCHUGH

Members of Team BC show how excited they were to compete at the 2010 National Games in London, Ontario!

BC well represented on Team Canada

In June 2011, Chrystal Thompson's dream of wearing the maple leaf into competition is going to come true. The Special Olympics BC – Nanaimo athlete and 45 others from BC's best will have the opportunity to represent Canada on the international stage at the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Athens, Greece.

Special Olympics Canada has selected a strong Canadian contingent in the sports of soccer, softball, 10-pin bowling, powerlifting, athletics, swimming, and rhythmic gymnastics that will don the red and white to represent Canada against the world's best. With events running from June 25 to July 4 and participants coming from more than 150 countries, the Summer Games will be the largest sporting event in the world in the calendar year of 2011.

The Team Canada members selected from BC are:

Soccer

Rick Bussey – Surrey, BC
 Steven Dew – Surrey, BC
 Anne Gibson – Surrey, BC
 Rajan Heer – Surrey, BC
 Jay Laiter – Surrey, BC
 Jim Laiter – Surrey, BC
 Bryce Schaufelberger – Mission, BC
 Darcy Stebanuk – Surrey, BC
 Marc Theriault – Surrey, BC
 Derek Tomm – Surrey, BC

Coaches:

Jerzy Kusmieriek – Surrey, BC
 Donna Bilbous – Abbotsford, BC
 Rick Lucy – Abbotsford, BC

Athletics

Stacey Kohler – Delta, BC
 Avodele Caesar – Victoria, BC
 Mary Wells – Courtenay, BC
 Ray Lappalainen – Nanaimo, BC

Coaches:

Angela Behn – Nanaimo, BC
 Tom Norton – Abbotsford, BC

Swimming

Stephanie Rogers – Gibsons, BC
 Drew Sabourin – Victoria, BC
 Ryan Kuester – Chilliwack, BC

Coaches:

Heather Young – Surrey, BC



10 Pin Bowling

Belinda Lyle – North Vancouver, BC
 Lorraine McLatchie – North Vancouver, BC
 Chrystal Thompson – Nanaimo, BC

Coaches:

Mags Roberts – Vancouver, BC

Powerlifting

Chrystal Bradley – Vancouver, BC

Softball

James Blacke – Kelowna, BC
 Marcus Carberry – Vernon, BC
 Ryan Courtemanche – Kelowna, BC
 Kyle Grummett – West Kelowna, BC
 Chris Harrington – Kelowna, BC
 Jonathan MacDonald – Kelowna, BC
 Robert Penning – Vernon, BC
 Kevin Polehoykie – Kelowna, BC
 Walter Reddecliff – Delta, BC
 Mark Russell – Burnaby, BC
 Danny Sperling – Kelowna, BC
 David Wong – Burnaby, BC
 Jeff James – Abbotsford, BC

Coaches:

Lorena Mead – Kelowna, BC
 Ian Olive – Kelowna, BC
 Dennis Richardson – Kelowna, BC

Mission Staff

Patty Wheeldon – Langley, BC
 Shawn Fevens – Burnaby, BC

Congratulations to all of the members of Team Canada, and we want to wish each of them the best of luck at the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games.



SOBC STAFF CHANGES

Karley Ferner has joined Special Olympics BC as Manager of Community Development for Region One. Karley is a longtime resident of Cranbrook and recently completed her Bachelor of Education degree at the University of Lethbridge. She has been working with the Boys & Girls Club in Cranbrook and has a strong background in sport, having played softball at the Canada Cup level and volleyball while at The College of the Rockies.

Sue Wilmot has joined Special Olympics BC as Manager of Community Development for Region Six. Sue has relocated to Vancouver Island from Calgary where she worked as the Corporate Citizen Coordinator for Volunteer Calgary and has a long history in volunteer management positions. Sue holds a certificate in Human Resources Management and Voluntary Sector Management (with distinction). Sue and her husband are excited to make a home on Vancouver Island!

Special Olympics BC has also hired **Megan Grittani-Livingston** as Communications Manager. Most recently, Megan worked as a reporter for The Question newspaper in Whistler, BC, where she had a front-row seat for the 2010 Olympics and Paralympics as the paper's sportswriter. She is delighted and honoured to join the SOBC community and hopes to support all of you in every way she can.

PRINCE GEORGE KNOWS THE POWER OF QUILTING!

Thanks to the application of some generosity, creativity and collecting skills, SOBC – Prince George recently ran a fundraising raffle that resulted in a unique and cozy prize for athlete Carol West. Longtime SOBC – Prince George volunteers Thom and Jackie Ross made a donation of a significant stash of T-shirts bearing Special Olympics logos, and one of their fine friends created a beautiful quilt out of the Special Olympics shirts. The quilt was put up as the coveted prize in a raffle at the annual Prince George barbecue in June 2010, and Carol became the delighted winner of this creative prize.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JANICE RACZKI



Athlete Carol West picks up her unique prize of a hand-crafted quilt made of Special Olympics shirts.

SAFeway SPECIAL OLYMPICS BC CAMPAIGN

In March 2010, Safeway stores across Canada launched the second annual Families Living with Disabilities Campaign in support of Easter Seals and Special Olympics BC. Throughout BC, Safeway stores participated through various in-store fundraising events. Many stores hosted barbecues, bake sales and in-store raffles to raise money for Special Olympics BC. The campaign raised over \$400,000 for Special Olympics Canada, and out of that total, more than \$120,000 was raised in BC.

SAFeway 
Ingredients for life.™

In addition to the campaign, Safeway's District 4 stores from Richmond, Tsawwassen, Ladner,



South Surrey, Langley and Aldergrove raised over \$8,000 for Special Olympics BC at a bowling tournament held on May 6, 2010. Teams enjoyed bowling alongside Special Olympics athletes and showed their spirit as they competed for awards in the Best Dressed, Most Honest, and Top Team categories.

As we head into 2011, Safeway is gearing up for another successful Families Living with Disabilities campaign to begin in April. Here in BC, we will kick it off with another District 4 bowling fundraiser in late March.

Hats off to Sport Heroes

The enduring dedication and tireless, multifaceted contributions of Mona Hazell and Dona Cades were saluted when the pair of longtime SOBC – Penticton volunteers received Sport BC Community Sport Hero Awards in November.

Dona has been a multitasking and admirably adaptable coach for the Penticton Local for more than 10 years. A curling coach who has guided athletes at past National Games, Dona also developed her bocce skills when that sport was introduced, and she was quickly able to help her team taste great success. She has also stepped up to serve as the Program Coordinator; and has never hesitated to help with fundraisers and events in whatever roles needed – from apple pie baker to driver.

Mona has made a lasting mark on the SOBC – Penticton with her continuing contributions in a wide range of roles over the last 23-plus years. Mona has served as the Treasurer, as the coach of 5- and 10-pin bowling as well as softball, and as a “Jill of all trades” willing to meet any and all of her Local's needs. A long-standing voice of guidance and memory for Penticton, Mona has even been known to draft her husband into service for Special Olympics, serving as a coach and driver to countless events.

Thank you, Mona and Dona, for everything you do for Special Olympics!



Celebrating at the Sport BC Community Sport Hero Awards evening in Penticton, from left to right, SOBC Region 2 Coordinator Bob Hazell, Mona, Dona, curling coach and past executive board member Gloria Finstad, and swim coach Bill Baird.

MEETINGS OF ACTIVE MINDS AT REGIONAL CONFERENCES

This year's regional conferences, including several inaugural ones, were bustling hives of activity: they sparked new ideas and reunions of old friends, fostered connections and inspiration, and renewed the desire to continue enhancing the SOBC experience for all of our athletes.

The SOBC Winter Sport Championships and the focus on the three new youth programs, along with Club Fit and SO Inclusive, were all hot topics across the province. The introduction of the new Managers of Community Development, who have been tasked with increasing assistance in each region, was music to many ears. And when our volunteers are given a chance to come together, there's always much brainstorming and aligning of locals as to where and when to create the next opportunity for competition.

In April, Region One converged on Nelson for a day and a half of intense learning about a

range of topics including fundraising and our new youth sport programs. Volunteers and coaches shared what they have been doing in their locals, and took away some great new ideas to take back to their communities.

In the first weekend of May, Region 8 gathered in Williams Lake for a whirlwind day and a half of discussion, with sessions covering everything from associated disabilities to the treasurer's position. The regional meeting was held in conjunction with the conference here, and the volunteers left refreshed with a view of the latest happening in locals around Region 8 and development in the province.

Region 2 held their conference on October 16 with a gathering of local and program coordinators. This group focused on going over the role of the executive committees so all locals are consistent in their approach to their daily operations. There were many light bulb moments as the volunteers were

reassured they are following the right policies and procedures!

Regions 3, 4 and 5 held a joint conference the weekend after Region 2. Over 60 volunteers and coaches participated in multiple sessions over a day and a half, ranging from conflict resolution to practice planning. Alongside the conference, 13 athletes paired with speech coaches participated in our Athlete Speakers Bureau courses, while a dozen athletes discussed current concerns they see in their locals in an Athlete Congress session.

Region 6 came together on the weekend of November 20, also learning about practice planning and the latest in programs in Special Olympics BC. The volunteers and coaches were excited to connect with others in their region, and collectively sensed there will be more dialogue between locals. They all returned to their locals with added motivation in what they do!



There were plenty of smiling faces after the wrap of an Athlete Speakers Bureau course at the Region 3, 4 and 5 conference.



GOLDCORP INVITATIONAL 2010



A glorious day of golf, good-natured competition and enjoyable and inspiring energy: that's what greeted the participants in the 2010 Goldcorp Invitational Golf Tournament. Formerly known as the Final Fore Golf Tournament, this successful fundraiser for Special Olympics BC is making a name for itself as one of Vancouver's premier golf events.

The 2010 edition of the tournament drew participants to the Northview Golf & Country Club on June 22 for a fun-filled day of golf. Participants enjoyed playing in the Tournament and Scramble divisions on the beautiful Northview courses, and savoured stirring speeches, a mouth-

watering meal and an abundant auction to round out the experience.

Thanks to the generosity of the participants in the 2010 Goldcorp Invitational, the tournament was able to raise significant funds to support the programs that provide empowering and life-enriching experiences for athletes who have intellectual disabilities around the province. Special Olympics BC is deeply grateful to Goldcorp, the Presenting Sponsor of this event; the tournament has nearly tripled the amount of money it raises for our athletes and programs during the years Goldcorp has been involved. Goldcorp has shown it is a sincere and lasting fan of Special Olympics, as have the generous Supporting Sponsors of the Goldcorp Invitational: BMO Capital Markets, Endeavour Financial and Canaccord Financial.

To get involved with the next Goldcorp Invitational on June 21, 2011, please contact Christina Hadley at chadley@specialolympics.bc.ca or 604-737-3073.

PRESENTING SPONSOR:



SUPPORTING SPONSORS:



EVENT SPONSORS:



NATIONAL SPORTS CELEBRITIES FESTIVAL SPONSORS





Tournament Committee Members

Michael Campbell
 Michael Coyle, Replay Resorts Inc.
 Norm Duncan, Integro (Canada) Ltd.
 Christina Hadley, Special Olympics BC
 Dan Howe, Special Olympics BC
 Jim Kerr, James D. Kerr Enterprises Ltd.
 Terry Lyons, Northgate Minerals Corporation
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COACH PROFILE

Joan MacKinnon

Local: Kimberley/Cranbrook
Years Involved: 10
Role: Swimming Head Coach

Like so many of our outstanding coaches, Joan MacKinnon got irrevocably hooked on Special Olympics by falling in love with her wonderful athletes. A highly qualified swimming coach with SOBC – Kimberley/Cranbrook, Joan first started volunteering with Special Olympics when she was asked to coach the swim program in Cranbrook for three months while she needed hours for her program at Cranbrook's College of the Rockies. After three months, she asked if she could finish the season; after the season ended, she asked if she could keep going.



"And it's been 10 years," Joan finishes laughingly. She has a heartfelt explanation for her progression from three months to a decade of SOBC coaching: "I just loved the athletes so much, I wasn't willing to stop." The bonds that have formed between her and her athletes are the most memorable part of her Special Olympics experience. Joan says she knows the impact her athletes have had on her life, and it's lovely to feel that she might have had an effect on theirs. "They just make my heart warm – it warms my heart to know how much they mean to me. They make me smile," she says.

In her aquatics career, Joan has progressed from being a competitive swimmer herself, to serving as a generic sport swim coach, to now coaching only Special Olympics BC swimmers. "It's a lot more fun," Joan says. She values the connections that she builds with her athletes, the sincere appreciation they show when they learn something, and the opportunities to learn who they are as people, not just athletes.

Those who have seen her in action describe Joan as quiet and very professional in her manner with her athletes. She is also regarded as one of the highest-certified swim coaches in the ranks for Special Olympics BC, and she will be the lone SOBC swim coach serving at the 2011 Western Canada Summer Games.

In July 2010, Joan served as part of the Team BC coaching staff for the 2010 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games. Team BC's swimmers posted an incredible showing in the pool in London, Ontario, winning 30 gold, 40 silver and 33 bronze medals. The 2010 National Games were Joan's first, and she says the experience was fatiguing but totally fabulous. She especially enjoyed the unique chance to get to know other athletes from around BC, particularly the other athletes in her sport. Joan, we are so grateful for your compassion, commitment and great coaching!

2010 SOBC AWARD WINNERS

Special Olympics BC offers hearty congratulations and reams of gratitude to the outstanding winners of and nominees for our 2010 awards! Tokens of recognition were handed out this fall to the deserving recipients around the province. We salute you!

Athletic Achievement Award

Special Olympics BC salutes the incredible athletic record racked up by Kelowna's Richard Gillis! His outstanding excellence has also won him recognition as **Special Olympics Canada's 2010 Male Athlete** of the Year. In his 18 years with Special Olympics, Richard has been a consistent competitor at high-performance levels, and a positive leader who demonstrates diligent, determined commitment to his training and nutrition. Richard has qualified twice for berths on Special Olympics Team Canada squads, including a bronze-medal-winning performance in 2007, and he has earned four spots on Team BC squads. Richard has made four trips to BC Games – two Winter Games and two Summer Games – and two trips to Canada Cup competitions.

Along with his athletic excellence, Richard is known for his positive nature, his willingness to help others, his leadership by example and his encouragement. Richard has also become known as a top athlete in his sports, especially track and field, floor hockey and softball. He specializes in the multi-disciplinary pentathlon, and won a silver medal in the event at the 2010 National Games. He has also participated in cross-country skiing, swimming and 10-pin bowling. Richard, your continued commitment and high-achieving ways continue to impress and inspire us.

Congratulations to nominees Sheryl Spurr (SOBC – Vancouver) and Kelsey Wyse (SOBC – Kelowna).



Richard (right) accepts his award from Bill Farley, SOBC–Kelowna program coordinator.



Dallas (right) receiving his award from SOBC – Langley athlete Matthew Williams.

Spirit of Sport Award

Hooray for Dallas Stager of Vancouver, an athlete who amply demonstrates the true spirit and power of sport! Dallas has made his mark many times as a supportive, positive and reliable teammate, and an inspirational athlete who leads by example. Dallas delivers wholehearted efforts in every practice, and he is always determined to do his best and perform for his team despite physical challenges. A Special Olympics BC athlete since 1998, Dallas participates in floor hockey, soccer, softball and track and field. He has worked extra hard to develop his hockey skills – and some have nicknamed him Gretzky. Dallas is a valued athlete representative, a sportsmanlike and dedicated competitor, and a respectful, polite person.

Dallas is known to comfort fellow athletes on their down days, and in team discussions he has shared his belief that all athletes should get along and speak kindly. He also embodies an impressive combination of athletic and creative skills – he has written and recorded his own songs, and is open to culture. Thank you, Dallas, for sharing your skills, spirit and dedication, and for inspiring those around you!

Congratulations to nominees Brad Cue (SOBC – Port Alberni), Debbie Lowery (SOBC – Campbell River), Rajan Heer (SOBC – Surrey) and Erin Thom (SOBC –Kimberley/Cranbrook).



Jaci (left) receives flowers of tribute from athletes Tyler VanKooten and Simone Myers.

Howard Carter Award

Empathy, approachability, tireless dedication to each and every athlete: These are the kind of qualities that Jaci Gaetz has in spades, and that have helped make her the 2010 winner of the Howard Carter Award. She has also earned the 2010 **Special Olympics Canada Female Coach of the Year award**.

The head coach of SOBC – Port Alberni's bowling program, Jaci has been involved with Special Olympics for more than 24 years. Port Alberni is overflowing with examples of her contributions and dedication to athletes of all levels. Jaci has worked tirelessly to ensure the needs of all athletes are met, including rails to guide a blind bowler and ramps to assist participants in wheelchairs. Athletes at all stages have benefitted from her support, ranging from her creation of a Pee Wee bowling league to nurture young participants to the extra bowling practices she runs for athletes competing in provincial and national games. Jaci has attended many national and provincial games, and every year she leads as many teams as possible to regional qualifiers.

Jaci organizes everything from teams and travel arrangements to events, athlete stats and much more for the Port Alberni bowling program. Meanwhile, she also displays her boundless patience and understanding for individual athletes and issues. Athletes know they can turn to Jaci to resolve conflicts in a compassionate and confidential manner. Volunteers and coaches want to keep coming back to the bowling program each year to support her. New recruits find themselves signing on thanks to Jaci's friendly and unflagging encouragement. Jaci, we are truly grateful for everything you bring to SOBC!

Congratulations to nominees Robert MacLean (SOBC – Campbell River), Bob McLeish (SOBC – Kimberley/Cranbrook) and Landis Werner (SOBC – Vancouver).

Patty (right) receives her award from Barb Tull, Region 4 Coordinator.



President's Award

Hats off to Langley's Patty Wheeldon for the many and varied ways she has helped Special Olympics BC at all levels! Patty is currently the SOBC Leadership Council Chair; a member of the SOBC Board of Directors, an Athlete Congress facilitator; a curling and fitness coach in Langley, an NCCP course conductor and a member of the mission staff for the 2011 Special Olympics Team Canada. But those are just her current titles. Patty has also served warmly and well as a member of the mission staff for two editions of Team BC and two other Team Canada entries, as the Region 3 coordinator; as the 2007 Chef de Mission for Region 3, as the local coordinator and an executive member for SOBC – Langley, as a softball and floor hockey coach in Langley, as the organizer of Langley's high-quality annual floor hockey tournament and as a volunteer for numerous fundraising events.

But while the list of Patty's roles is impressive all on its own, the words don't capture the brightness of her smile, the respect and love she engenders in athletes and fellow coaches and volunteers, and the generous, warm and reliable way she steps up to help in so many different areas. She is a bright and integral presence at a wide range of events, and she is a valuable resource for Special Olympics volunteers and participants both in Langley and around the province. Always ready to pitch in and give 110 per cent, always considering the interests of the athletes, always open to questions, Patty makes many of those she works with wonder how they could ever do it without her. Thank you, Patty, for all that you do!

Congratulations to nominees Raj Chari and Chelsea Bennie (SOBC – Vancouver), Gerry Johnston (SOBC – Port Alberni), Ann Jorgensen (SOBC – Campbell River), Sheila Snell (SOBC – Surrey) and Pat Taylor (SOBC – Princeton).

Grassroots Coach Award

Let's hear it for Evelyn Brandolini, the founder and continued driving force behind SOBC – North Shore's alpine skiing program! Throughout her more than 25 years of involvement with Special Olympics, Evelyn has demonstrated her abundant ability to share her love of the sport, arrange a multitude of program and travel details, and, most of all, nurture bonds with each and every athlete she has taught. She is the mother of an SOBC – North Shore athlete and currently serves as the assistant coach, team manager and coach of beginner athletes for the alpine ski program. Evelyn has been lauded for the connections she has forged with each of the athletes who have had the chance to learn from her. She establishes a safety-first and fun environment where they thrive, building confidence and skills.

Evelyn's touch is felt throughout the program, from her organizing of all season's passes for the participants at the Cypress ski area and travel arrangements, to her constant prioritization of the athletes' safety and health. And her touch has changed lives, like that of the athlete she has coached for more than 20 years, who has blossomed into a confident, capable young man with the help of Evelyn's instruction not just in sport but in life skills. Thank you, Evelyn, for the far-reaching support and passion that you share with all your athletes!

Congratulations to nominees Darren Inouye (SOBC – Vancouver), Rob McKenzie (SOBC – Surrey) and Pat Warner (SOBC – North Shore).



Evelyn (right) receiving her award from Randy Scott, SOBC provincial coach for alpine skiing.

WHAT A WEEK !

2010 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games

Team BC had an amazing week in July at the 2010 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games in London, Ontario! When the dust had cleared and the competition had wrapped up, Team BC had collected an astounding 258 medals. And, perhaps even more impressive, the Team BC athletes turned in more than 200 personal-best performances.

It was also heard throughout the Games from volunteers, officials and other teams that Team BC was one of the most well-prepared and respectful teams in attendance. Each member of the team represented the province with pride and left nothing on the field of play. Congratulations to all of Team BC!

Medal Count:			
	Gold	Silver	Bronze
5 Pin Bowling	11	6	5
10 Pin Bowling	10	7	3
Softball	1	1 Fourth-place finish	
Soccer	1 (A Division)		
Swimming	30	40	33
Athletics	17	20	24
Powerlifting	17	7	0
Rhythmic Gymnastics	6	7	13
Total	93	87	78

Right: Bowlers Belinda Lyle, Tyler Zanatta, Lorraine McLatchie, Sarah Brown and Peter Weber.



Rhythmic gymnast Alison McKee

Softball player Shirley Bird



Members of the 5-Pin Bowling Team show their competitive spirit.



The Surrey Vipers soccer team



Swimmers Kristeen Cooper, Marty Davis, Karen Assels and Kelsey Wyse



Track athletes Jered Bertulis (left) and Nolan Grey (foreground)



Team BC Powerlifters



Team BC

New Car Dealers Foundation of BC / Special Olympics Auction Raises

The 2010 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.

\$185,000



The online auction, which ran from May 31 to June 10, featured over 200 items, including five vehicles that were generously donated by: BC Ford Dealers; Chevrolet and Buick GMC Dealers of BC; 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 2010 Auction remained one of Special Olympics BC's largest single-event fundraisers 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.

Special thanks to the Auction Committee:

- John Chesman – Auction Chair; MCL Motor Cars
- Mamie Carter – New Car Dealers Association of BC Foundation Chair; Carter Auto Group
- Doug Bower – Vancouver Sun & The Province
- Kristen Binkley – Pan Pacific Nissan, Surrey
- Manse Binkley – Harmony Honda & Harmony Acura
- Christina Hadley – Special Olympics BC
- Dan Howe – Special Olympics BC
- Pam Keith – Dueck Auto Group
- Joe Mitchell – Carter Auto Group
- Blair Qualey – New Car Dealers Association of BC
- John Wynia – Harbourview Volkswagen

and to all the other dealers who made cash pledges, solicited auction items, and bid on items.

Special Olympics BC salutes the New Car Dealers Foundation for their many years of support.

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New Car Dealers Dream Car Lottery

The 2010 Vancouver International Auto Show was the first Canadian consumer show to run a large-scale Grand Prize with the unveiling of its Dream Car Lottery. This brand-new program saw one lucky ticket buyer win a 2010 Porsche 911 Carrera 4 Cabriolet, and was created to raise funds for various charitable, non-profit and educational programs supported by the New Car Dealers Foundation of BC.

As part of the Lottery, Special Olympics BC, which has been supported by the New Car Dealers Association of BC for more than 26 years, received a 2010 Equinox to assist with ongoing work to meet the needs and interests of individuals with intellectual disabilities.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY SOBC!

We'd like to wish a very happy 30th birthday to the athletes, volunteers and sponsors all around this province who have made Special Olympics BC the empowering and inspiring movement that it is today! November marked the 30th anniversary of the signing of the incorporation documents for Special Olympics BC. Happy birthday, one and all!



Special Olympics
British Columbia

Thanks to our inspiring athletes and our dedicated and passionate volunteers, supporters and staff, Special Olympics BC has come a long way in these 30 years. We started out by setting up shop in Sport BC, hiring our first executive director and sending 37 athletes, nine coaches and one Chef de Mission to the CSO National Summer Games. (They brought home 60 medals!) We now have more than 3,700 athletes and 2,600 volunteers in year-round programs, offering opportunities in up to 18 sports in 55 communities around the province, with the support of 15 SOBC staff members.

A look back at our early years tells a remarkable story of steady growth and enduring efforts, all dedicated to the enrichment of the lives of Special Olympics athletes across BC. We offer a heartfelt tip of the cap to the pioneers who launched our programs in Chilliwack, Cranbrook,

Kamloops, Penticton, Richmond and Williams Lake in 1983, and those who initiated the next wave of programs in Campbell River, Coquitlam, Delta, Nelson, North Vancouver, Surrey, Terrace, Vancouver, Vernon and Victoria in 1984. And we added our 55th Local, Invermere, in 2010.

We salute the early sponsors who are still supporting us today, including the Canadian Progress Club, the Tiger Williams Pro Am Golf Classic (which became the Goldcorp Invitational), the Auto Dealers of BC (now known as the New Car Dealers of BC), Royal Bank, Deloitte, BCLC and Safeway. We also offer our sincere thanks to the more than 80 individuals who have served on our Board of Directors from 1980 to today.

Our first Provincial Championships in floor hockey, bowling and soccer brought athletes together in 1985, followed in 1986 by our first Winter Sport Championship, our first Summer Sport Camp and the introduction of the regional concept that created many new regional events and interactions.

Many more milestones have been marked in the ensuing years, thanks to the efforts of many influential individuals and stellar supporters. It's been a joyful ride over the first 30 years – here's to the next 30!

SOBC youth programs are growing strong

Special Olympics BC is very excited about the continued growth of our youth programs, and its impact for the province's younger athletes. This year, new programs have been initiated in Burnaby, Fort St. John, North Vancouver, Surrey and Vancouver, and a number of other communities are looking to start programs in 2011. Currently, there are 15 Active Start and 11 FUNdamentals programs operating around the province, opening up joyful opportunities for BC children with intellectual disabilities.

The SOBC strategic plan calls for a significant increase in our number of new youth participants in the next few years. With all of this exciting movement, it appears we are well on our way to meeting and exceeding those goals.

Active Start, FUNdamentals and Sport Start

 **GOLDCORP**



Canada 

are the programs we have developed here in BC to serve young athletes-in-training, and the models are now being used across the country.

Active Start: The Active Start program is a 12-week, family-centered activity program targeting children with intellectual disabilities between the ages of 2 and 6. Through the Active Start program, children learn basic motor skills such as walking, running, jumping, throwing, etc. in a fun and safe environment.

FUNdamentals: The FUNdamentals program is a continuation of the Active Start program with the skills transitioning from basic movement skills to basic sport skills for children with intellectual disabilities between the ages of 7 and 11.

The 12-week program introduces children to the sports of soccer, softball, basketball and track and field, and provides them with the

opportunity to learn and practice the sport skills necessary to later move into community or traditional Special Olympics programs. The FUNdamentals program also introduces basic nutrition information to both parents and children through a series of fun activities at the conclusion of each session.

Sport Start: The Sport Start program is aimed at youth ages 12 to 18 with intellectual disabilities, and is designed to promote specific sport education, proper nutrition and social inclusion while participating in positive sport experiences. Sport Start also builds on each athlete's existing motor skills, helping to translate those abilities into sport-specific skills development and game play.

Benefits to participants and families:

- Substantial and improved development of physical, cognitive and social abilities.
- Introduction of positive social experiences through appropriate play activities.
- Education for parents/caregivers in the areas of nutrition, basic motor skills, sport skills and the Special Olympics BC organization.
- Opportunities for parents/caregivers to expand their networks and support systems.

For more information on our youth programs and how they can benefit your Local and your community, please contact the SOBC Provincial Office at (604) 737-3078 or 888-854-2276.



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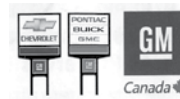
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