

Community Celebrates Olympic Flame in Parksville

PARKSVILLE, BC: On Sunday, November 1, the City of Parksville hosted a community celebration on the third day of the 106,000 kilometer Olympic torch relay across Canada. Over 1,000 gathered in the City's Community Park to welcome the Olympic Flame and participate in activities that included a pancake breakfast, kid's crafts and activities, entertainment, races and hockey games.

Said Mayor Ed Mayne, "I was delighted to see so many people excited about the Olympic Torch coming to our community. The torch relay celebration reflected the enthusiasm of the City for the Olympics. It was a great community party and a great opportunity for residents to come together to show our community spirit."

Parksville is proud to have hosted the Olympic Torch as it passed through our City on November 1. Parksville resident, Cliff Reynolds as the first torchbearer for the City of Parksville, started his 300 meter run at the Englishman River Bridge. Hundreds turned out for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the Olympic flame in person and residents along the route extended a warm welcome to the torchbearers. Runners carried the torch along the Island Highway, into the Community Park and then along Alberni Highway. The relay finished at Alberni Highway and Bernard Avenue on its way to Coombs and the west coast of the Island.

The City of Parksville acknowledges the financial support received for this event from the Province of British Columbia. We also wish to acknowledge local suppliers, Thriftys Foods, McDonald's, Cannor Nursery and Black & White Party Rentals as well as the Oceanside RCMP, Oceanside Running Club Association, Parksville Curling Club, our local Shriners, and the many volunteers and organizations who made the City of Parksville's community celebration such a great event.

The City's next opportunity to celebrate the Olympics will be at the Parksville Community & Conference Centre's 2010 Live Site Gathering Place - the only indoor live site facility on Vancouver Island. The live site will broadcast live Olympic and Paralympic events between February 12-28 and March 12-21, 2010. The Parksville live site will be an opportunity for residents to gather and celebrate in the "largest living room" on the Island.

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For further information:

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About Parksville — One of the fastest growing communities on Vancouver Island, 12,000 residents call Parksville their home. Located on Vancouver Island's sheltered east coast, Parksville offers a quality lifestyle with many activities. We are committed to being the city of choice for ourselves and future generations in a clean, safe, friendly, economically viable and sustainable environment.