



NEWS RE-RELEASE

Burnaby is Ready to Shine in the 2010 Olympic Torch Relay

Burnaby, B.C. – (February 2, 2010) In just 9 days, the eyes of the world will turn to our city as the Olympic Flame arrives in Burnaby as part of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay. The Torch Relay is presented by Coca-Cola and Royal Bank of Canada and supported by the Government of Canada.

On Thursday, February 11, thousands of Burnaby residents are expected to turn out for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the Olympic Flame in our city and feel inspired by its universal message of peace, brotherhood and friendship. Excitement is building for its arrival and the community is invited to come out and cheer on the Flame's final journey to Vancouver.

At 10:45am, the formal program at the 1920s-style Burnaby Village Museum will begin. The torch will make a two-minute ceremonial stop as part of the program. Attendees can explore Canada's gold medal past at the Village where activities will include entertainment from neighbouring schools, two costumed interpreters wearing replicas of the 1924 Olympic ceremonial uniform for Canada – the year of the first Winter Olympics – and a family scavenger hunt.

With 4,000 people expected to attend, the community is advised to take public transit to the Burnaby Village Museum and arrive early. Organizers are also asking attendees to show their spirit by wearing red and white to the celebration. The gates to the Museum will be open to the public, free of charge from 9:30am to 1:30pm.

Temporary rolling road closures will ensure the safety of the torchbearers and spectators lining the route. The crowd will see a new torchbearer carry the flame every 300 metres as it travels on its 45,000-kilometre-long journey across Canada – the longest domestic Torch Relay in Olympic history.

“Our goal with these celebrations has always been to bring the magic and excitement of the Olympic Spirit home to millions of Canadians no matter where they live and truly make these Canada's Games,” said John Furlong, Chief Executive Officer of the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC).

The 106-day Olympic Torch Relay will visit more than 1,030 communities and places of interest in every province and territory. On February 12, 2010, the Olympic Flame will make its way to downtown Vancouver to light the Olympic Cauldron in a magical and awe-inspiring moment before a television audience of three billion people worldwide, signalling the kick off to the start of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

For more information on the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay, visit <http://www.vancouver2010.com/olympic-torch-relay/>

Street-level route details are also available on the website.

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