

Jeannes, Lulay lending star support to Team BC 2012

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Burnaby, B.C. – **Chuck Jeannes**, President and CEO of Goldcorp, and B.C. Lions quarterback **Travis Lula**y have achieved remarkable feats in business and in sport. Now they will inspire the achievements of the 109 **Special Olympics BC** (SOBC) athletes who will be going for gold in the 2012 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games.

Jeannes and Lulay have been named as the Honourary General Manager and Honourary Head Coach, respectively, for Team BC 2012. The team is comprised of 109 SOBC athletes from all around the province who will be going for gold in seven sports in the 2012 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games. The 2012 National Games will be held in St. Albert and Jasper National Park, Alberta, from February 28 to March 3.

As outstanding B.C. sport and business leaders, Jeannes and Lulay will inspire the Team BC athletes and coaches to go for gold and reach great heights in the Games. They will join Team BC in St. Albert to march into the Opening Ceremony with the squad, and they will cheer on the athletes through their first days of competition.

"I am honoured to have been chosen as Team BC's Honourary General Manager. Goldcorp has proudly supported Special Olympics for a number of years and I continue to be impressed by the outstanding dedication and hard work put in by the athletes to qualify for these Games. I'm looking forward to supporting them as they seek to do their province proud in this national competition," Jeannes said.

"As a professional athlete, I know how much time and effort the Team BC athletes have put in to reach the National Games. I'm excited to see what they will achieve in St. Albert, and I'm so glad I will be there to cheer them on and share some of my own competitive experiences," Lulay said.

Jeannes has been President and CEO of Goldcorp, the world's fastest growing senior gold mining company, since December 2008. Goldcorp has been an outstanding supporter of athletes with intellectual disabilities throughout the province for more than six years, and recently announced a multi-year \$1 million contribution to SOBC that will grow vital programs for children with intellectual disabilities. Goldcorp also supports SOBC through the annual Goldcorp Invitational Golf Tournament.

Last May, Lulay joined forces with SOBC as a key fan, advocate and supporter of athletes. He is coming off an outstanding CFL season in which he guided his team to capture the Grey Cup on home turf and won the CFL Most Outstanding Player Award.

The 2012 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games will draw more than 950 athletes with intellectual disabilities, volunteer coaches and mission staff members from across Canada for the events in St. Albert and Jasper National Park. Athletes will compete in seven winter sports – alpine skiing, cross-country skiing, curling, figure skating, floor hockey, snowshoeing and speed skating – and their performances

could earn them the opportunity to advance to the 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Pyeongchang, Korea. For more information about the National Games, please visit http://stalbert2012.ca/en/.

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About Special Olympics BC:

Special Olympics BC is dedicated to providing individuals with intellectual disabilities opportunities to enrich their lives and celebrate personal achievement through positive sport experiences. In 55 communities around the province, we provide year-round training and competitive opportunities in 18 different sports to more than 3,900 athletes of all ages and abilities, thanks to the dedicated efforts of over 2,900 volunteers. For more information, please visit <u>www.specialolympics.bc.ca</u>.

For more information and interview opportunities, please contact:

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