

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN SHINING SPOTLIGHT ON SPECIAL OLYMPICS



BURNABY, BC—It will be an inspiring, joyful sight in more than 20 communities around the province June 7 through 10: law enforcement personnel lacing up and hitting the streets in droves to show their support of Special Olympics.

The 2011 Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics BC (SOBC) will involve nearly 600 members around the province from a range of law enforcement agencies. On June 10, and in the Lower Mainland from June 7 to 10, they will gather to run through the streets of their communities to show their support for BC's inspirational Special Olympics athletes and raise awareness and funds to help SOBC programs continue changing lives.

This is a year of significant growth for the BC Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), with communities such as Cranbrook, Golden and Trail hosting their first-ever runs on June 10. They are joining the striking four-day presence that the Torch Run annually displays in the Lower Mainland. The series of 14 runs in the Lower Mainland begins on June 7 in Abbotsford and wraps up with the final leg and festivities galore in Delta on June 10.

Law enforcement personnel in each participating community will complete a run of three to five kilometres, and then will join SOBC athletes and volunteers and community supporters in fun festivities afterward.

The 2011 Torch Run is powered by law enforcement personnel from a variety of agencies, including the RCMP, the police departments in Abbotsford, Delta, New Westminster, Port Moody and Vancouver, the Transit Police Service and the Canada Border Services Agency. It is inspiring to see members from so many agencies generously giving their time to stage and participate in the Torch Runs and festivities all around the province.

The BC LETR began in 1990 with a run from Calgary to Vancouver leading into the 1990 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games. Over its 21 years, the LETR movement in BC has grown to include a wide variety of events and initiatives staged year-round by law enforcement personnel committed to raising funds and awareness for Special Olympics. The annual Torch Run remains a highlight of the LETR calendar, and is a stirring manifestation of the empowering relationship between law enforcement personnel and Special Olympics athletes.

About the Law Enforcement Torch Run

The BC LETR is part of a successful international fundraising movement powered by law enforcement personnel who are passionate about supporting Special Olympics. Since 1990, the BC LETR members have raised more than \$3 million to help change the lives of Special Olympics BC athletes around the province.

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. **For more information, please visit specialolympics.bc.ca.**

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Providing individuals with an intellectual disability the opportunity to enhance their lives and celebrate personal achievement through positive sport experiences

