



MEDIA ADVISORY

Monday, February 9, 2009

Who will 'Ignite the Countdown' and light the Canada Olympic Park Cauldron?

Calgarians vie for a chance to light the COP Cauldron and kick off an exciting weekend at COP with Countdown to Vancouver 2010, Viessmann Luge World Cup and Family Day festivities.

Calgary, AB – The Canadian Winter Sport Institute™ – WinSport Canada™ – is asking Calgarians to share stories, memories and hopes inspired by athletic excellence, perseverance and the Olympic spirit. One lucky entrant will be drawn to light the cauldron at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 12 to mark the one-year countdown to the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. A torch from the 1988 Olympic Winter Games will be used to light the cauldron and kick off the weekend of festivities. Entry details can be found at www.winsportcanada.ca. Entrants must meet specific criteria in order to light the cauldron.

Thursday's celebration will also mark the beginning of the Viessmann Luge World Cup. The eighth stop on the World Cup luge circuit starts with a qualifying race on Thursday leading in to World Cup races and live entertainment on Friday and Saturday.

Family Day weekend brings its own excitement to Canada Olympic Park. Families will enjoy discounted Discover and Next Steps programs throughout the weekend and have multiple chances to win thousands of dollars of prizes on Sunday, February 15.

February 12, 2009 > Countdown to Vancouver 2010

6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

- Torch lighting to begin countdown at 6:00 p.m.
- RBC online pledging for a Better Canada and enter to win an RBC spot on the Olympic Torch Relay
- Tim Horton's Brier Tankard on display accompanied by RCMP, Wii curling and Brier ticket contest
- Olympic Hall of Fame and Museum open for free tours and videos
- RBC mascots on-site
- Family Day weekend recreation program specials available
- Food and beverage specials in the cafeteria and eightyeight lounge

February 12-14, 2009 > Viessmann Luge World Cup

Participating nations include: Canada, Argentina, Australia, France, Croatia, Great Britain, Japan, Italy, Korea, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Switzerland, Ukraine, United States, Venezuela, Norway, and Germany.

Thursday, Feb. 12	3:00 p.m. Nation's Cup – World Cup qualifier
Friday, Feb. 13	3:00 p.m. Suzuki Challenge Cup 6:40 p.m. World Cup Women's Race (Run 1) 7:55 p.m. World Cup Women's Race (Run 2) 8:30 p.m. Awards and live entertainment featuring the Mocking Shadows in the Festival Tent
Saturday, Feb. 14	3:00 p.m. World Cup Men's Race (Run 1) 4:25 p.m. World Cup Men's Race (Run 2) 6:00 p.m. World Cup Double's Race (Run 1) 3:00 p.m. World Cup Double's Race (Run 2) 7:40 p.m. Awards and live entertainment featuring local bands in the Festival Tent

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February 13-16, 2009 > Family Day Weekend

Family Day Weekend Program Specials

Register for a Youth Ski or Snowboard program and get an adult program free. Exclusively for the Family Day long weekend, these two-day programs run on February 12/13 or 14/15 with convenient start times to accommodate a family experience. Prices start as low as \$80 for two two-day programs.

Family Discover Ski or Snowboard & Next Steps Ski or Snowboard

The entire family can learn to ski or ride together for one incredible price including hill tickets, rentals and a 1.5 hour lesson. This offer is available Thursday, February 12 or Monday, February 16. Three timeslots are available: 3:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m. or 7:15 p.m. Discover and Next Steps lessons provide families with the perfect opportunity to learn or improve at one of Canada's most popular sports. All family members can participate for only \$79.

Sunday, Feb. 15

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- Last person standing contests, dance offs for prizes and DJ Benny on the back deck of the daylodge
- 2010 Countdown Turnaround contest – every hour a countdown will be held and random Park guests will win prizes

'Ignite the Countdown' contest details:

- Entries to be submitted through the WinSport Canada website – www.winsportcanada.ca;
- Deadline for entries is 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11;
- Draw for winner will be made at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11 and the winner will be contacted immediately;
- Entries must include name, age, day and evening phone numbers;
- Entrants must be 14 years old or older and physically able to walk up and down stairs in order to be eligible to win;
- If under 18, the winning entrant must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian;
- Winning entrant or parent/legal guardian will be required to sign a liability waiver;
- The winning entrant must be able to get to Canada Olympic Park and be available from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 12;
- Winning entrant will light the COP cauldron using a torch from the 1988 Winter Olympic Games at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 12;
- Winning entrant will also win a Canada Olympic Park prize package including dinner for four at **eighty eight** lounge, four hill tickets and VANOC 2010 merchandise.

WinSport Canada

The Canadian Winter Sport Institute provides world-class sport facilities where Canadian athletes can discover, develop and excel. WinSport Canada owns and operates Canada Olympic Park in Calgary, AB, the Bill Warren Training Centre located at the Canmore Nordic Centre, the Beckie Scott High Performance Training Centre on Haig Glacier, AB, and Camp Green on Farnham Glacier, BC. A not-for-profit organization, WinSport Canada supports national sport organizations, encourages educational opportunities and subsidizes the operation of unique training and recreational facilities used by the nation's top athletes and the general public. WinSport Canada also provides the necessary support to host major national and international winter sporting events at the various facilities, making the Calgary/Bow Valley Corridor home to high performance winter sport in Canada. For more information on WinSport Canada please visit www.winsportcanada.ca.

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