



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Canadian Olympians Unite in Support of Right To Play

More than 50 of Canada's best athletes assemble for 2nd Annual Right To Play Red Ball Celebrity Golf Classic hosted by WinSport Canada and Stone Creek Resorts

Calgary, AB – Athletes from across the country have rallied together and assembled the largest group of Canadian Olympians to ever participate in a celebrity golf tournament. With fewer than 250 days remaining before the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, more than 50 athletes will be participating in this important fundraiser in support of Right To Play.

Presented by WinSport Canada and Stone Creek Resorts Inc., this spectacular event at Silvertip Golf Resort in Canmore on June 17 offers a once in a lifetime opportunity to play with Canada's best winter athletes as they prepare for Vancouver 2010. Spots are still available.

Right To Play works to create a healthier and safer world for children through the power of sport and play. The Canada-based international humanitarian organization uses sport and play as a development tool to support children and communities affected by war, poverty and disease.

With the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games fast approaching, Canada's athletes are focused on the Games but still devoting time to the community. The Right To Play Red Ball Celebrity Golf Classic is a prime example of Canadian athletes giving back and showing their passion for sport. These athletes are calling on Canadians to show their support of Right To Play on June 17.

In addition to a great day on the greens, the event provides individuals and corporate Canada with the exclusive opportunity to play with the nation's top summer and winter athletes, including Olympic medallists: Jeff Pain (skeleton), Thomas Grandi (alpine skiing), Kristina Groves (speed skating), Ben Rutledge (rowing), Brian and Robin McKeever (cross country skiing), Kyle Shewfelt (gymnastics) and Kerrin Lee-Gartner (alpine skiing).

"As Canadians, we sometimes forget how truly lucky we are. Having the opportunity to be involved in sport from such a young age is a privilege we should not take for granted. Sport plays a critical role in our development as a community and as a nation," said Robert Witchel, Right To Play's National Director, Canada. "The support of Canada's athletes is the driving factor behind this whole operation. With their commitment, they have helped raise crucial awareness and funds in support of our Sport for Development and Peace projects in the most disadvantaged areas of the world. We encourage all Canadians to join the Red Ball Movement and help support this wonderful golf tournament in beautiful Canmore, Alberta."

Hosted by CBC's Scott Russell, a reception and banquet will take place at Silvertip Golf Resort immediately following the day of golf. This spectacular evening will include some of Canada's greatest amateur athletes, dinner and a tremendous assortment of auction items and prizes.

"The Red Ball Celebrity Golf Classic was an enormous success last year and we can't wait to experience it again," said Beckie Scott, Olympic gold medallist and Right To Play Athlete Ambassador. "We have a record number of Olympians and Canadian heroes participating in support of Right To Play through this tournament. Tournament players have a unique opportunity to be inspired by Canada's greatest amateur athletes on one unforgettable day. We

are all working together to make a significant difference in the lives of children and communities in need across the world."

In what promises to be one of the most exceptional charity golf tournaments of the summer, Canadians will have the opportunity to tee off with Canada's medal-winning athletes by purchasing one of four sponsorship levels: gold, silver and bronze. Gold and silver supporters will be grouped with athletes who have won the respective colour of international medal. Individual golf opportunities outside of sponsorships are also available.

"WinSport Canada is proud of our association with Right To Play," said WinSport Canada President and CEO Guy Huntingford. "WinSport Canada constantly strives to provide Canadians with world-class facilities where they can discover, develop and excel at sport – Right To Play takes sport to those who don't have the same opportunities. Both organizations firmly believe that sport and play are the corner stones to nurturing healthy children and strong communities and we're excited to lend our support through the Red Ball Celebrity Golf Classic."

Athletes confirmed include:

Olympic/Paralympic Gold Medallists:

Kerrin Lee Gartner – Alpine skiing
Catriona Lemay Doan – Speed skating
Clara Hughes – Speed skating
Beckie Scott – Cross-country skiing
Robin McKeever – Cross-country skiing
Brian McKeever – Cross-country skiing

Danielle Goyette – Women's hockey
Jennifer Heil – Mogul skiing
Lori-Anne Meunzer – Cycling
Kyle Shewfelt – Gymnastics
Jake Wetzel – Rowing
Ben Rutledge – Rowing

Olympic/Paralympic Silver Medallists:

Kristina Groves – Speed skating
Christine Nesbitt – Speed skating
Sara Renner – Cross-country skiing

Olympic/Paralympic Bronze Medallists and World Cup Medallists:

Melissa Hollingsworth – Skeleton
Sarah Reid – Skeleton
Lindsay Alcock – Skeleton
Jeff Pain – Skeleton
Jon Montgomery – Skeleton
Michelle Kelly – Skeleton
Helen Upperton – Bobsleigh
Jenny Ciochetti – Bobsleigh
Kaillie Humphries – Bobsleigh
Justin Kripps – Bobsleigh
Chris Moffat – Bobsleigh
Mike Moffat – Bobsleigh
Chris Le Bihan – Bobsleigh
Heather Moyse – Bobsleigh
Michelle Kelly – Luge
Jeff Christie – Luge
Emily Brydon – Alpine skiing
Thomas Grandi – Alpine skiing

Milaine Theriault – Cross-country skiing
Peri-anne Jones – Cross-country skiing
George Grey – Cross-country skiing
Justin Wadsworth – Cross-country skiing
Stefan Kuhn – Cross-country skiing
Alex Harvey – Cross-country skiing
Jason Myslicki – Ski jumping
Warren Shouldice – Aerials skiing
Aleisha Cline – Ski cross
Davey Barr – Ski cross
Patrick Chan – Figure skating
Zina Kocher – Biathlon
Megan Imrie – Biathlon
Jaime Robb – Biathlon
Dylan Armstrong – Shot put
Brendan Green – Biathlon
Scott Perras – Biathlon
Sarah Lang – Speed skating

For registration and ticketing inquiries, please contact Jessica Hartland by e-mail: jessica.hartland@winsportcanada.ca, or by phone at 403-247-5441.

For more information, please contact:

Stewart McDonough

Communications Specialist

WinSport Canada

T: 403-247-5447

C: 403-510-2347

E-mail: Stewart.McDonough@winsportcanada.ca