



City of Peterborough

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Peterborough, ON --

Peterborough ready to shine in the 2010 Olympic Torch Relay

In just 5 days, the eyes of the world will turn to our City as the Olympic Flame arrives in Peterborough as part of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay, presented by Coca-Cola and RBC and supported by the Government of Canada.

“Excitement is building in Peterborough for the arrival of the Olympic Flame and everyone is invited to come out and cheer it on during its journey to Vancouver,” said Mayor Ayotte. “On December 15, we’re expecting thousands to turn out for this rare, emotional opportunity to see the Olympic Flame in person, right here in our city, and feel inspired by its universal message of peace, brotherhood and friendship.”

When the Olympic Flame arrives in Peterborough, it will be proudly carried by several torchbearers and finally, by Bob Gainey, who has been nominated as our community torchbearer. Midway through the two-hour celebration program at Morrow Park, he will carry the Olympic Torch on its final 300 metres to the stage where he will light the 1.3-metre high celebration cauldron, in a move similar to the dramatic highlight of what will occur during the Opening Ceremony for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

Peterborough native Bob Gainey is recognized as one of the best players ever to play in the National Hockey League. The Gainey Foundation was established in 2006 to fund environmental and arts programs for youth. “This is a special opportunity for Bob Gainey, who is one of 12,000 Canadians chosen to carry the Olympic Flame on the longest domestic torch relay in Olympic history. On December 15th, we want everyone in our community to join together with other Canadians and show the world how inspired we feel by the Olympic Flame.” said Mayor Ayotte. “Bob Gainey exemplifies this Olympic spirit and the City of Peterborough is proud to have him as our final torchbearer.”

To celebrate the arrival of the flame, the community is planning a celebration beginning at 5:30 pm in Morrow Park. We invite you to join us along the route, or at the celebration in Morrow Park. It is sure to be an evening filled with excitement and entertainment and will certainly evoke a sense of both community and national pride.

“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 torch relay will arrive at approximately 6:40 pm as part of a convoy of vehicles, which will include torchbearer shuttles, media vehicles, relay support vehicles and police cruisers. The relay will begin at the **intersection of George Street and Charlotte Street** and temporary rolling road closures will ensure the safety of the torchbearers and spectators lining the relay route. The relay will proceed south to the celebration site in Morrow Park.

The crowd will see a new torchbearer carry the flame every 300 metres through the community as it travels on its 45,000-kilometre-long journey across Canada — the longest domestic torch relay in Olympic history.

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This information is also available on our City of Peterborough website at www.peterborough.ca.

For more information on the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay visit www.vancouver2010.com/torchrelay. Detailed street-level route details are available on the website.

About VANOC

VANOC is responsible for the planning, organizing, financing and staging of the XXI Olympic Winter Games and the X Paralympic Winter Games in 2010. The 2010 Olympic Winter Games will be staged in Vancouver and Whistler from February 12 to 28, 2010. Vancouver and Whistler will host the Paralympic Winter Games from March 12 to 21, 2010. For more information, visit www.vancouver2010.com.

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