



City of Peterborough

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Peterborough, ON --

Fanning the Flame of Olympic Sprit

The Olympic games are a celebration of sport that excites the world every four years, but the spirit of the games is ongoing. Though the Olympic athletes occupy centre stage, it takes many more workers to fan the flames of the Olympic spirit. Coaches, organizers, referees, game officials, and an army of volunteers are at work.

One such volunteer is retired Peterborough high school teacher, Mollie Cartmell

Since the Calgary Olympic Games of 1988, she has been promoting the Olympic spirit. Mollie is an active volunteer with education programs for the Canadian Olympic Association. Every Olympic year, Mollie works with elementary school teachers to bring Olympic Resources Kits (ORK) to life in the classroom. ORKs are distributed to every elementary school in Canada. These kits provide teachers with school programming that links their curriculum with the Olympics in subjects as diverse as math and science to the creative arts. Mollie is looking forward to getting involved in the Olympic Education programs for the Vancouver 2010 games at the beginning of the new school year.

Mollie was an active coach in women's sports, particularly Field Hockey and Soccer, when she first got involved with the Olympics. In 1984 she attended the Canadian Olympic Academy in Val Morin, Quebec.

"The ORKs change with each Olympic games. The core values of the Olympics remain the same throughout the history of the modern games. Updates are necessary for each games, as the host country and language changes. There are also additions and deletions of sports and always new sports to consider."

As well as working with the Olympic Education program, Mollie has been fortunate to attend many Olympic and Pan AM games in a variety of roles. At Barcelona in 1992, Mollie was involved in staging transportation. At the 1994 Lillehammer games she worked team security. For Atlanta 1996, Mollie was the clothing manager for Team Canada, and in Sydney 2000 she helped bring the Olympic spirit to the Australian school system.

For Mollie, working with the Olympic movement has been a memorable experience from day one. She also says it is a life-long commitment.

"The Olympic medal, though a magnificent achievement itself, is just a small part of the international Olympic movement. The real lasting value is sport as a vehicle for personal development. It's not just about competition. It's about commitment and values"

For Olympic Volunteer Mollie Cartmell of Peterborough, promoting the Olympic values is her passion.

The Vancouver Olympic Winter Games begin February 2010. Peterborough will have an opportunity to show its Olympic pride on December 15, 2009 when the Olympic Torch, on its 45, 000 kilometre relay across Canada makes its appearance here.

For more information on the Olympic Games, visit www.vancouver2010.com

Do you know someone involved in the Olympic Spirit? Tell us the stories of local athletes, coaches, referees and volunteers. Contact Jane Wild (705) 743-9179 extension 2025 or email jwild@peterborough.ca

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