

9 March 2010

IN FOCUS

- Paralympic Village Welcomes NPCs
- Torch Relay Hits Lytton and Hope
- Vancouver Athletes and Volunteers
- New Schedule for ParalympicSport.TV

TEAMS ARRIVE AT PARALYMPIC VILLAGE

Several National Paralympic Committees (NPCs) were greeted in high celebration today at the Paralympic Village in Whistler. Included in the afternoon event were NPCs from Belarus, Mongolia, People's Republic of China, Australia, Sweden, Belgium, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Germany, Netherlands and Austria.

The event included a special welcome with Aboriginal traditions to set positive spirits for the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games. Music and dancing were followed by the national anthem from each respective country, with the ceremonial raising of each nation's flag.

The welcoming event will continue in the next few days for all arriving NPCs.



TORCH RELAY VISITS LYTTON AND HOPE

The Paralympic Flame saw its seventh day of the relay as it reached Lytton and Hope in British Columbia. Lytton is known for hiking and rafting, with trails that go through a variety of terrain and climate conditions. A total of 15 torchbearers were in Lytton, including Andrea Drynock, who at the age of 16 became an athlete in Swimming after losing her legs in a train accident.

A total of 30 individuals held the honour of Torchbearer in Hope, with a celebration at Memorial Park on Wallace Street. One of the carriers was Heather Stewin, who is visually impaired and the founder of "Storytime in the Park", which addresses literacy issues in the community.

Hope is located two hours east of Vancouver and is well-known in winter for Alpine Skiing, Biathlon and Cross-Country Skiing. The Hope community was a Hudson's Bay Company fur trading fort and a starting point of the famous Fraser River Gold Rush, and event more than 150 years ago.

PARALYMPIC ATHLETES AND VOLUNTEERS



Zorig Enkhbaatar (LW6) is 18 years old and competing in the Paralympic Games for the first time. His event is Cross-Country Skiing. From Mongolia, Enkhbaatar doubles the number of his team from Torino, which had one athlete competing in 2006. He has spent two years training for the Games, and hopes to make it to the podium in his category. Being his country's second showing at the Paralympic Winter Games, Enkhbaatar is proud to be representing his Mongolia at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games.



Chris Lee is 29 years old and volunteering for the first time at the Paralympic Games. A native of Toronto, he is a driver for the Whistler fleet, attending to athletes, their families, and members of the Paralympic Family around the venues. Chris decided to volunteer because he wanted to be a part of the Games and be inspired by the people involved, as well as by each individual he meets on the road. In Toronto, Chris works for Deloitte and Touche as an accountant.



CALENDAR

10 March	IPC Exhibition	Snow Dome, Whistler
	IPC Governing Board Meeting	Paralympic Family Hotel

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE OF ONLINE COVERAGE AT www.ParalympicSport.TV

Friday 12 March		
18:00	Opening Ceremony	LIVE
Proudly presented by Visa and Samsung		
 		

Please note: All times are CET. This schedule is subject to change

PREPARE TO BE INSPIRED

The Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games are broadcast on www.ParalympicSport.TV.

BECOME A FAN ON FACEBOOK: Stay up to date with what happens on ParalympicSport.TV and become a fan on Facebook! Be the first to get news and videos from the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games, with additional LIVE programming information. Simply log in to Facebook, type in the address www.facebook.com/ParalympicSport.TV, and click on the “Become a Fan” button at the top of the page.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Lieven Coudenys and Rob Prezioso return as the IPC’s official photographers during the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games. Photos of daily events and competitions can be viewed and purchased from Lieven Coudenys and Rob Prezioso through their respective websites. For more information about Lieven Coudenys, please visit his official website at www.coudenys.be/paralympics. For more information about Prezioso Photography, please visit the official website at www.prezioso.com.au.

TICKETS

For information about tickets, please visit www.vancouver2010.com/paralympic-games/tickets.

VANCOUVER 2010 INFORMATION

For more information on the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games, please visit www.vancouver2010.com.

PARALYMPIC INFORMATION

For more information about the Paralympic Movement, please visit www.paralympic.org.



For more detailed information on this Newsletter, please send an email to jeff.wolfshohl@paralympic.org.