



The Olympic Torch Relay is Coming to Niagara Falls!

Dear Niagara Falls School Principal:

As you may be aware, the City of Niagara Falls has been selected as one of the "Celebration Communities" to host the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic Torch Relay!

The Olympic Torch will be coming to our City on Sunday, December 20, 2009. In anticipation of the event, a community task force has been formed to plan a special celebration around the Torch arrival.

We are encouraging participation from our local schools and hope you will join us in this exciting initiative! The representatives on our Task Force from Niagara Falls schools are Carl Scott from the District School Board of Niagara and Mike Sheahan from the Niagara Catholic District School Board. These individuals will help disseminate information about the relay as it becomes available.

What can your school can do ignite the spirit of the Olympics in your students?...

September 11, 2009 - Marks the 100 Day Countdown to the Torch Arrival

Friday, September 11th begins the [100 day countdown](#) to the arrival of the torch in Niagara Falls! To help generate awareness and excitement about the Torch Relay, we have created a unique Winter Olympic inspired calendar for each of the four months leading up to the event. Please display the calendars in a prominent location at your school where students can check out the daily facts and trivia provided about the Vancouver Winter Olympics and the Olympics throughout history.

Keep the Momentum Growing...

Our Task Force has created an [Olympic Torch Relay Road Show](#) that we would like to bring to your school assembly. The presentation is 15 minutes in length and features inspiring videos, an overview of plans for the event and possibly a visit from a hometown Olympian who will share his experiences! A Task Force member will be contacting you in early September to book a presentation for your school.

Other ideas for you to consider:

- ▶ each day read trivia or facts from the calendar during your announcements
- ▶ provide information updates in your school's newsletter and/or website
- ▶ create a "torch" for your lobby
- ▶ have a Winter Olympic Sports Challenge Day

Be creative! The possibilities are endless!

Sunday, December 20, 2009 - Olympic Torch Relay and Celebration in Niagara Falls

The Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay will make its way to Niagara Falls on the 20th of December - at 6:00 p.m. Its journey will end that day at the lighting of the Cauldron at our Community Celebration, at the brink of the Falls at Table Rock Complex Parking Lot.

The Celebration will be an evening full of entertainment, interactive events, and fun culminating in the arrival of the Torch and a fireworks display! The Community Task Force identified a "Fire & Ice" theme for our evening celebration...**Fire** representing the Olympic Flame, a symbol of peace, friendship and enlightenment, and **Ice** representing the Winter Olympics and the beauty of Niagara Falls in winter.

Olympic Torch Relay "School Spirit Challenge"

This is an opportunity for our schools to rise to the challenge and really shine! ...We want to have as many people as possible lining the relay route cheering on the torchbearers, and at the celebration at Table Rock, to let the rest of Canada know how proud we are of our city, country, and our Olympians!

CHALLENGE: We are throwing down the gauntlet, and are looking for the **biggest, most enthusiastic and most unique** representation from our schools!

Our challenge will be judged by the Olympic Torch Relay Community Task Force and the winners will receive \$500 to create their own Olympic Legacy within the Physical Education department of their school! Details are summarized on the attached flyer.

So...show your Olympic spirit...line the route wearing your school colours or patriotic red and white...create signage to welcome the relay and display it along the route...expand on the fire and ice theme...have your cheerleaders cheer the torchbearers on... get your creative ideas flowing!

Once you have decided on a plan, we will provide you with a designated location to cheer on the Flame along the Relay Route.

WIN a Pizza Party for 100!

**Tell us what your school is committed to do for the
Olympic Torch Relay School Spirit Challenge
by November 18th and ...
your school will be entered in a draw to
WIN a Pizza Party for 100 people!**

For more information...

We also encourage you to visit www.olympicschool.ca and www.vancouver2010.ca for great resources for curriculum planning. There you can find more information on how your school can be involved in the Torch Relay and learn more about the 2010 Winter Olympics. Please discuss this information with your staff and make plans to participate.

If you have any questions, require additional information or help, or have suggestions for the celebration, please contact:

Dale Morton and the Olympic Torch Relay Task Force
Email: dmorton@niagarafalls.ca or
Telephone: 905-356-7521 Ext. 4215

Thanks very much for your support. We look forward to your enthusiasm and energy!

Sincerely,

Mayor R.T. (Ted) Salci