



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KELOWNA 2008 BC SUMMER GAMES – PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED

Mayor Sharon Shepherd announced today that Ron Rubadeau has been selected as the President of the Kelowna 2008 BC Summer Games Board of Directors. Rubadeau will lead a 15-member Host Community Board of Directors in the planning and staging of the 2008 BC Summer Games. A nomination process is currently underway to fill the Board of Directors portfolios and selection should be complete in January 2007.

Ron Rubadeau is well known in the Central Okanagan through his years as Superintendent of SD#23. Apart from his role as the chief educational officer of the school district Ron has also published more than 200 articles, taught several university courses and was a frequent guest speaker at regional and national conferences. His passion for arts and sport also run deep in Kelowna. Ron has played the double bass for more than three decades of Theatre Kelowna Society productions and is an avid sailor and Senior Canadian Race Official. He is a past Canadian National Sailing Champion and has run the racing programs for thirty six National Sailing Championships and three World Sailing Championships.

“I have spent my whole adult life working with teachers, parents and coaches in an endeavor to ensure that our children are well prepared for an ever changing world,” says Rubadeau. “It is an honour to continue this work as the president of the 2008 Kelowna BC Summer Games Society. I firmly believe that the 2008 Games will not only provide an outstanding opportunity for our community to view the skill and talent of our youth, but it will also provide the province with the opportunity to view the talents of the many extraordinary volunteers residing in Kelowna.”

Mayor Sharon Shepherd adds “As the planning begins to host the Kelowna 2008 BC Summer Games, the commitment to excellence from our volunteers, sport community and staff will once again signify Kelowna’s reputation as a premier sport host destination. We are fortunate to have someone with Ron’s background leading the charge!”

Sport Package

The BC Games Society also announced today the 19 sports that will be included in the Kelowna 2008 BC Summer Games when 2,800 of B.C.'s best developing athletes will compete in:

- Athletics (Track and Field)
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cycling
- Springboard Diving
- Equestrian
- Field Hockey
- Golf
- Lacrosse (box and field)
- Rugby
- Sailing
- Shooting Sports
- Soccer
- Softball
- Synchronized Swimming
- Towed Water Sports (water-ski, wakeboard, barefoot)
- Triathlon
- Volleyball (indoor and beach) and
- Wrestling.

New sports joining the BC Summer Games for 2008 are Field Lacrosse and Girls Rugby. Athletes with a disability from BC Special Olympics and BC Wheelchair Sports will compete in Athletics.

For information on the criteria for sport selection and the complete sport package please visit www.bcgames.org. The BC Summer Games are for high level amateur athletes in the 14 – 16 year age category.

Kelly Mann, President and CEO of the BC Games Society notes “Sports included in Kelowna in 2008 make up the best of those providing development opportunities for their athletes, coaches and officials. It will be top flight competition at premier venues for four days in July 2008.”

This will be the third time Kelowna has hosted the BC Summer Games having previously done so in 1994 and 1980. An anticipated 4,000 volunteers will be needed to host the 3,700 participants expected in Kelowna from July 24 to 27, 2008.

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Media Contacts:

Reid Oddleifson
Development Manager
469-8821

Jim Gabriel
Sport and Recreation Manager

469-8858

Karen Cairns
Communications Manager
469-8663