



NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts BC Games Society

MINISTER APPOINTS NEW MEMBERS TO BC GAMES BOARD

VICTORIA – The Province has appointed three new members to the BC Games Society Board of Directors, announced Stan Hagen, Minister of Tourism, Sport and the Arts.

"British Columbia has a strong tradition of excellence in sport and the BC Games are the first stepping stones for many athletes in their sport careers," said Minister Hagen. "Our ministry firmly believes healthy living and physical activity, as demonstrated by our young athletes, will help us achieve the province's goal of being the healthiest region ever to host an Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games."

The new members include Ken Wood, a resident of Coquitlam who has previously served on British Columbia's parole board; Renne McCloskey, a native of Prince George who is the Manager of External Relations with the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George; and Kelly Stefanyshyn, who is a member of Canada's National Swim Team.

In addition, Hagen announced current board member Frank Lento (Fernie), will join Wendy Ladner-Beaudry (Vancouver) as co-chair of the board.

The first ever BC Summer Games began in 1978 in Penticton with the first BC Winter Games following in 1979 in Kamloops. The Games occur every other year in a different British Columbia location to provide an opportunity for the development of athletes and coaches for higher levels of competition.

"The integral role the Society plays in the provincial sport system is further strengthened with the addition of these well respected community leaders," said Kelly Mann, President and CEO of the BC Games Society.

The 15-member board is responsible for setting policy and direction to ensure the objectives of the Society are met. The BC Games Society is responsible for staging competitive multi-sport events that serve as preparation for higher level competition.

The Kelowna 2008 BC Summer Games will take place July 24-27, followed by the Terrace 2010 BC Winter Games and the 2010 BC Summer Games in the Township of Langley.

For more information on the BC Games or biographies of the new board members please visit www.bcgames.org.

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