



MEDIA RELEASE



Dominion Day Multi Sport Regatta Recommended for Welland in 2010

For Immediate Release – Friday, October 23, 2009

Welland – The Welland Recreational Canal Corp (WRCC) is pleased to announce that it has been chosen as the Dominion Day Regatta Association's (DDRA) host for presentation to its membership. As host, the Welland International Flatwater Centre's (WIFC) North Course is the proposed site of the 2010 Dominion Day Multi Sport Regatta pending ratification by the DDRA members. Competitors in canoe, kayak, dragon boat and rowing will compete on July 1st with crews and teams visiting from all over Ontario.

The event was held in Welland this past year due to the workers strike in Toronto which resulted in an opportunity to move the event to Welland for its 125th running. The WRCC received a number of kudos and compliments regarding the running of the event and the WIFC facilities. "The WRCC is pleased that the WRCC/WIFC has been recommended to the Dominion Day Regatta Association membership as the host site for 2010. We feel we bring a lot to the table in terms of running events, an amazing facility, and an ease of access to clubs and competitors," suggested Stephen Fischer, WRCC Business & Operations Manager. "We hope the membership will support the Board of Governor's decision."

The Dominion Day Regatta could see more than 600 athletes arrive in Welland and along with the economic impacts to local business will also provide opportunity for local clubs and organizations to raise funds through volunteer stipends and shared revenue opportunities.

Funding assistance from the Ontario Trillium Foundation has enabled the WRCC to handle the increase in events over the past year and beyond, with the Commonwealth Rowing Championships and other pending announcements for next year. "2010 is looking to be another very active year for the WRCC and the Flatwater Centre. We would be remiss not to mention the support of the Trillium Foundation and local clubs and groups when it comes to delivery of events at the WIFC" added Bob Mahler, WRCC Chair.

The local canoe club, the South Niagara Canoe Club (SNCC) was elated by the news and quick to support the additional regatta and fundraising opportunity. "What great news. What a pat on the back for the work we did this year," suggested Rick Morris, SNCC Commodore, "We're happy to step up beside the WRCC to make the day a great one. I believe we'll be endorsed and look forward to the opportunity."

A final decision on the 2010 site will take place at the Annual General Meeting of the DDRA on Monday October 26th, 2009 at the Mississauga Canoe Club.

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For more information, contact:

Stephen Fischer

Business & Operations Manager, WRCC

Executive Director, WIFC

905-658-3033 wrcc@welland.ca or stephen.fischer@wifc.ca