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October 10, 2010

October 9, 2011

MEDIA RELEASE

Royal Victoria Marathon to host 2010 and 2011 Provincial Marathon Championships

(Victoria, BC – January 18, 2010). The 31st Annual Royal Victoria Marathon (RVM) has been chosen by BC Athletics to host the 2010 and 2011 Provincial Marathon Championships for junior, senior and master runners, for both men and women. The 2010 Marathon will be held on Sunday, October 10, 2010.

“The Royal Victoria Marathon has repeatedly shown itself to be one of the best marathons in Canada, both in terms of the quality of the event and the standard of performances,” said Maurice Wilson, Technical Manager of BC Athletics’ Road and Cross Country Running Division. “It is a fitting showcase to host a provincial championship, and BC Athletics is pleased to award both the 2010 and 2011 BC Marathon Championships to Victoria, to be held in conjunction with the event.”

The Royal Victoria Marathon has consistently attracted an elite field of runners including former winners Cheryl Murphy and Olympian Jon Brown, reigning and three-time Marathon winner Steve Osaduk, five-time winner Kelvin Broad, six-time winner Cindy Rhodes and Olympians Bruce Deacon and Peter Butler.

“This is the second consecutive year that the Royal Victoria Marathon will be hosting the BC Marathon Championships,” said Bob Reid, Elite Athlete Director and President of the Victoria Marathon Society. “Last year we attracted some top level local runners such as Langley’s Steve Osaduk, second in 2:22:24, Graeme Wilson, of Vancouver, fifth in 2:27:58 and Victoria’s Hugh Trenchard, top master in 2:38:55. The 2009 event included several international high performance runners from the United States, Japan, Europe, Mexico, United Kingdom and featured seven Kenyans, with Hillary Cheruiyot winning in 2:19:26, Lameth Masoti placing third in 2:24:43 and Philip Samoei taking fourth in 2:25:32. All three Kenyans have promised to return in 2010 to shatter the 2:16:49 course record, set in 2006 by Osaduk.”

The 31st Annual Royal Victoria Marathon takes place Sunday, October 10, 2010. The Marathon is ranked number one in Canada for most Boston Marathon qualifiers and number two in Canada of top Boston Marathon qualifying races. In addition to the Marathon there is a Half Marathon, 8K Road Race and Thrifty Foods Kids Run. For more details, visit www.royalvictoriamarathon.com.

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