

Royal Victoria Marathon
Box 675, 185 - 911 Yates Street
Victoria BC V8V 4Y9
Phone: 250.658.4520
Fax: 250.658.4580



Email: info@royalvictoriamarathon.com
Web: www.royalvictoriamarathon.com

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MEDIA RELEASE

Royal Victoria Marathon becomes a BC Sanctioned Race

(Victoria, BC – August 28, 2007) The Royal Victoria Marathon (RVM) has been officially sanctioned by BC Athletics, the provincial branch of Athletics Canada. The Victoria Marathon Society, the organizer of the event, announced that the Marathon, Half Marathon and the 8K Road Race will all be sanctioned for the 2007 races, which take place on October 7, 2007.

“RVM stands to benefit from the sanctioning by having access to certified officials, course measurement and certification, and by listing the three races on the BCA Calendar of Events which is distributed to over 80,000 clubs, schools and event directors throughout British Columbia,” says Bob Reid, president of the Victoria Marathon Society. “RVM stands to increase participation, prestige and performance from elite runners entering provincial, regional and national road racing championships, which Victoria intends to host in the near future. Sanctioning also helps events because race times can immediately be ratified and used to qualify for national and international championships.”

“I am particularly pleased that our sanctioning policy now opens the door for RVM as it gives the event the true recognition it deserves in BC,” says Frank Stebner, chair, BCA Road Running Committee. “We do look forward to a long lasting relationship between RVM and BCA. It has to be a win/win situation for both RVM and BCA.”

The RVM sanctioning has opened the door for more Vancouver Island races to be officially sanctioned. In 2008 six races organized by the Prairie Inn Harriers and eight races in the Vancouver Island Race Series, organized by the Vancouver Island Runners' Association will all be sanctioned. This will add 17 new Vancouver Island sanctioned races to the BCA Calendar of Events.

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For more information contact:
Bob Reid
President, Victoria Marathon Society
Phone: (250) 384-1520
Cell: (250) 686-7343
Email: breid@islandnet.com