



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 10, 2010

Governor General to Visit Toronto

OTTAWA—Their Excellencies the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, and Mrs. Sharon Johnston will travel to Toronto on **Saturday, November 13, 2010**.

During this one-day visit, the Governor General will meet with representatives from **Pathways to Education Canada**. This not-for-profit organization, of which His Excellency is patron, is focused on reducing the high school dropout rate of youth in low-income communities. The Pathways program provides four key supports—academic, social, financial and advocacy—to ensure youth successfully complete high school, continue on to post-secondary studies, and choose meaningful careers.

His Excellency will then have the opportunity to meet with youth and adult sledge hockey players and representatives from **Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation**. This organization facilitates partnerships between groups and organizations serving people with disabilities to offer over 15 accessible sports programs across Toronto.

Their Excellencies will end the day at the **Royal Agricultural Winter Fair** and attend the **Royal Horse Show**, where the Governor General will recognize excellence in the sport horse breeding classes by awarding the Governor General's and the Lieutenant Governor's cups.

Below is the itinerary for this visit.

Saturday, November 13 Toronto, Ontario

12:45 p.m.

Round-Table Discussion with Pathways to Education Participants, Volunteers and Administrators

His Excellency will visit the Rexdale Pathways to Education facility and learn first-hand from program participants, volunteers and administrators about the challenges and successes the charitable organization and individuals have experienced over the years.

The Rexdale Pathways to Education Program, delivered in partnership with the Rexdale Community Health Centre, aims to increase the future potential of youths in the Jamestown community, leading to better career options, and the opportunity to be professionals and role models. It began in August 2007 and has over 395 students in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 across 30 different high schools in the Jamestown community.

Rexdale Community Health Centre, 8 Taber Road, Etobicoke, Toronto

PHOTO OP—Upon the arrival of His Excellency and at the beginning of the discussion.

2:15 p.m.

Meeting with players and representatives from Toronto Sledge Hockey at the Phil White Arena

His Excellency will have the opportunity to meet with players taking part in Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation's sledge hockey program, along with their families, and with representatives from Toronto Sledge Hockey. This encounter will allow the Governor General to discover the sport of sledge hockey, including its equipment and techniques. At approximately **2:40 p.m.**, His Excellency will conduct the official puck-drop at centre ice followed by a friendly game of sledge hockey. The visit will end after a meeting with players who will share the benefits of the rehabilitative nature of the sport and the positive impact it has on their lives. **Media wishing to cover the event are asked to contact in advance John Gosgnach at 647-404-4531.**

Phil White Arena, 443 Arlington Avenue, Toronto

PHOTO OP—During the basic skills demo and the puck drop.

4:45 p.m.

Visit to the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and Presentation of the Governor General's and the Lieutenant Governor's Cups

Upon their arrival, Their Excellencies will visit the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and meet with past presidents. **At 7:30 p.m.**, Their Excellencies will attend the 2010 Royal Horse and, at approximately **8:30 p.m.**, the Governor General will present the Governor General's and Lieutenant Governor's cups to this year's winners. This annual tradition began in 1922 when Canada's premier indoor horse show, the Royal Horse Show, first opened. Entries in the Governor General's Cup class are judged as to their suitability at becoming a sport horse assessing their potential for excellence in the Hunter, Jumper, Dressage or Eventing disciplines.

Founded in November 1922, the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair has become the world's largest indoor agricultural and international equestrian competition. It draws more than 340 000 visitors to Toronto annually to see thousands of unique entries from elite Canadian and international breeders, growers and exhibitors.

Exhibition Place, Toronto

PHOTO OP—Upon the arrival of Their Excellencies and at the beginning of the visit.

OPEN TO MEDIA—The Royal Horse Show and the presentation of the Governor General's and Lieutenant Governor's cups.

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