



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 24, 2008

2010 INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATORY DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL INFORMATION MEETING

Attention news desk:

Organizers are holding their first information meeting to kick off the planning for 2010's International Participatory Dragon Boat Festival here in Peterborough. The meeting is tonight, Monday, November 24, at the Holiday Inn from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This information meeting is an opportunity for volunteers to find out more about the event and to confirm committee chair positions and committee memberships.

About 65 teams from across the world are expected to attend the event and already 21 teams have indicated they plan to come to Peterborough. These teams are:

Ontario: Warriors of Hope/North Bay, and Dragons Abreast/Toronto

Nova Scotia: Bosom Buddies

Alberta: Breast Friends/Edmonton

B.C.: Abreast In A Boat, Dragon Divas and Dragon Busters

National: Canadians Abreast

Singapore: Paddlers In Pink

Australia: Redcliffe Pink Snapdragons/Brisbane Australia and Dragons Abreast/Brisbie Island (members) Australia.

New Zealand: The Waikato Treasure Chests (members of) and Abreast Of Life/Christchurch

England: Worchester Buster/Worcester, Paddlers for Life, and Pink Champagne

United States: Dragonheart/Vermont, Dragon Bat Atlanta 'Steel Magnolias', Dragon Dive/St. Paul Minn., Making Waves/Rochester, Minn. and Angels Abreast/Iowa.

Organizers from Survivors Abreast dragon boat team found out late October that theirs was the chosen bid. The other locations hoping to host were: Christchurch, New Zealand; Liverpool, England; Windermere, England; and Florence, Italy.

Highlights of the event, which is meant to raise awareness and encourage participation across the world, will include: opening and closing ceremonies, optional tours for visitors, a welcoming barbeque hosted by the Mayor, a gala dinner with entertainment, a special memorial race—the Sandy Smith Global Race, a variety of workshops for paddlers, a beer tent, vendors and information/awareness booths and the traditional flower ceremony.

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