

October 21, 2009

Steve Nagle Chosen As Official Olympic Torch Bearer for Campbell River

The Campbell River Spirit of the Flame Committee is pleased to announce that Steve Nagle has been chosen to be the official Olympic Torch bearer for Campbell River. He will be the final torch bearer in the Campbell River portion of the nation-wide Olympic Torch Relay and will light the Olympic Torch in Spirit Village in the new Spirit Square on Monday, November 2, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Steve moved to Canada from Scotland in 1971 and to the Campbell River area in 1982. He was a partner in the Beaver Aquatics Dive Shop and taught scuba diving courses for many years. Later, Steve entered the car business and until 2008 he was a co-owner of Campbell River Honda. His impressive list of fitness achievements is complemented by his current work as a fitness instructor and personal trainer. With Campbell River's Parks, Recreation & Culture Department and through Sportfit Personal Training, he helps people achieve a variety of fitness goals – ranging from stroke and head injury recovery to Ironman triathlon training.

“Steve is a community role model for excellence and athletics,” explains Councillor Claire Moglove. “His passion is fitness, training and motivating others to enjoy healthier lifestyles, and people who attend Sportfit can attest to Steve’s energy, dedication and encouragement to achieve their goals, even distant goals like running a marathon or trying a triathlon.”

Steve originally established his Sportfit class in 1983, and it has run twice a week from September to May ever since. In 2007, celebrating its 25th anniversary, Sportfit became the longest-ever running fitness class in British Columbia.

In 1990 Steve started the annual Campbell River Pub Run to raise funds for the Campbell River Hospital Foundation. Now in its 19th year, this event has raised more than \$100,000 and exemplifies Steve’s idea to make fundraising simple and fun: get a bunch of runners together and run from pub to pub raising funds with pledges and selling various Pub Run items.

Steve started running in 1974 and was an active member of the Campbell River Athletic Club (now River Runners). He has competed in many races, including several marathons. His personal best time for the marathon is three hours and 33 minutes.

In 1997, Steve took up the sport of triathlon. Steve has completed five Ironman triathlon races (a 3.8-kilometre swim, a 180-kilometre bike ride, followed by a marathon of 42.2 kilometre). Steve’s performances in the Ironman races are consistently in the top third of his age category. Steve also competes in Half Ironman races and other shorter races, often placing in the top three in his age category. Steve was one of the founding members of the local Strathcona Triathlon Club. He served on the board of directors for several years and was president for one term. It was Steve’s combination of drive, encouragement of others and leading by example that helped the Triathlon Club grow to its current membership of almost 100 members – one of the largest triathlon clubs in British Columbia per capita. Steve volunteers his time to the Triathlon Club by coaching adult beginner swimmers and youth members as well.

“Steve has made a lasting impression on everyone who meets him as a stellar example for achieving personal goals. He encourages everyone to live a healthier lifestyle and improve their quality of life,” Councillor Moglove concludes.

Steve also loves to snowboard, mountain bike and hike, which makes Campbell River the best place to live. He is honoured to accept the role of official torch bearer for Campbell River.

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Contact: Councillor Claire Moglove

250-286-5708 or 250-286-9946

