

THE 2010 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES ARE OVER

Passing the Torch of Global Citizenship to London 2012



Global Citizenship – From Vancouver to London, UK

Sharing the Dream's focus on global citizenship started on February 12, 2009, with the launch of the Adopt a Country Program where schools were challenged to adopt countries from across our globe. The global citizenship theme concluded with BC students passing a globe on March 25 to London's students in preparation for their 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Summer Games. The final webcast took place with a live interactive connection between Vancouver, B.C. and London, UK.

The final webcast concluded a succession of opportunities for students to become engaged in the experience of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Through programs such as Student Reporter, Student Welcome Cards, Paralympic School Week, and the Student-Led Webcast Series students increased their knowledge and experience of global citizenship. The Ministry of Education offers a special thank you to all students who contributed to the Sharing the Dream programs and the teachers who made these opportunities come to life in their classrooms.

The March 25 webcast featured interactions with the Honourable Margaret MacDiarmid, BC Minister of Education, John Furlong, CEO of the Vancouver 2010 Organizing Committee, and Jonathan Edwards from the London 2012 Organizing Committee. The speakers shared their experiences with the 2010 Winter Games and their hopes and vision for the 2012 Summer Games with the elementary and secondary student audience in Vancouver and London, as well as the web audience.

During the webcast the students interviewed Olympian Julia Murray (ski cross) and Paralympian Tyler Mosher (para-nordic skiing) about their experiences at the 2010 Winter Games. Both athletes identified that it was inspirational to be supported by their entire country and they expressed their appreciation for the volunteers who supported every aspect of the Games. Julia and Tyler shared that their journey to the Olympics and Paralympics was based on a belief in themselves and on support along the way from their families, schools, and communities. Their journey became a reality because they focused on their defined path while enjoying life at the same time.



Passing the Torch of Global Citizenship to London...



B.C. educators Steve Garland, the Principal of Carson Graham Secondary in North Vancouver, and Cindy Smith, a teacher at College Heights Secondary in Prince George, described the activities and events that took place in their schools. Both Cindy and Steve commented on how the Olympic and Paralympic fever built over the period leading up to and throughout the Games and on how these Winter Games provided a great learning opportunity for their schools and classrooms.

London's 2012 Team shared how London is preparing programs and connecting them to the values of Olympism and Paralympism. It is their hope that young people will be the ambassadors of these values and that their games will change lives and leave a legacy of sport.

B.C. students provided suggestions to the London students. They encouraged their London peers to “get out there”, talk about sport and sustainability, be adventurous, take advantage of events, experience the culture, savour every moment, and pursue all the opportunities to get involved and meet people. B.C. students expressed that this was a chance in a lifetime and that they know the experience will carry them into a future of global citizenship activities.

To conclude the webcast B.C. students identified what global citizenship meant to them. “Global citizenship is a way of life.” “To be a global citizen, it is our duty to help one another.” “The pillars of the Olympics are philosophies for action.”



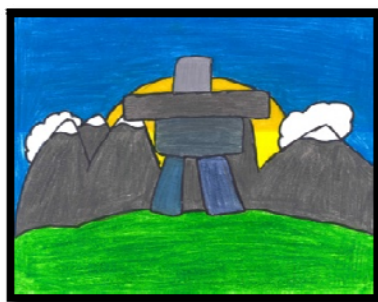
The [Sharing the Dream student-led webcast series](#) brought the excitement of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games to classrooms across Canada and across the world. Each webcast explored youth issues related to culture, sustainability, sports and healthy living, Olympism, Paralympism and global citizenship. The webcasts have been [archived](#) to view at your convenience. The *Olympic Truce – Make Your Peace: Youth Dialogue-Promoting Mutual Understanding* webcast with the Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada will be included in the archive.

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Stories from Schools

Student Welcome Cards

Many schools have received responses from athletes thanking them for their artwork. Have your students received responses? Drop a note to the [Sharing the Dream e-mail](#) and tell us about it.



Below is a sampling of messages that were received by schools from physiotherapists, chef de missions, coaches, doctors, officials, and of course athletes!

Langley Meadows Community School (Langley) "These rooms do not have a lot of decoration in them and your thoughtfulness may remind them [the athletes and other guests] of their children at home in Belarus."

Martha Jane Norris Elementary School (Surrey) "After my event on the first day of the Olympics, I moved into the athletes village and was welcomed by your card. Thanks for drawing such impressive mountains. I hope you are enjoying the Olympics and grade 5 (that was my favourite year)", and "...This is my first Olympics and it has been an amazing experience. I have so much fun meeting new athletes from different countries and different sports every day in the Cafeteria."

Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary (Surrey) "...Your card was a great surprise and very kind...It's an excellent drawing! I can see the Olympic rings, the Olympic torch, the sun (which we see a lot of!!) and lots of colours. I think it's great – and I'm going to take it home and put it on my fridge!"

Vancouver Christian School (Vancouver) "I would like to thank you quite warmly for the nicely formed card which has stood in my room in the Olympic Village, Vancouver...I will take the card with me back to Germany after the games."

Argyle Secondary School (North Vancouver) "Thank you very much for the lovely art on the card left in my room. I arrived at the Olympic Village in Whistler yesterday evening, after 24 hours of travel from Oslo, Norway...the reason why I write to both of you is that I got a room with 2 beds on my own, and I couldn't just pick one of your – the cards were so lovely!"

John Knox Christian School (Burnaby) "I have enjoyed Vancouver enormously, as have all of our team. Thank you for your part in making it enjoyable. Getting your card was a highlight."

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Stories From Schools



Pacific Christian Elementary/Middle School (Victoria) had an awesome time celebrating the Olympic Games. It began with a torch relay to start the Opening Ceremonies on February 12 and included a parade of flags of all the nations participating in the 2010 Winter Olympics. For the torch relay, one class made replica torches and each class in the school designated one student to participate in the nine kilometre relay, from their primary campus to the main campus.

Students were divided into groups representing various nations competing in the Winter Games. Flags, pennants, and many pictures representing Olympic events and activities decorated the hallways. Festivities concluded with a week of Olympic activities for the entire school. Everyone dressed in red and white, or their countries' colours for the Closing Ceremony on February 26 which included a flag march while national anthems were played, figure skating demonstrations (on socks in the gym), a Power Point display of all the Olympic activities, announcement of the winning medal totals, and an emphasis on the Olympic values.

All classes rotated through special, adapted activities including figure-skating, biathlon, cross-country skiing and bobsled. There were also Paralympic versions of various events such as sledge hockey and curling. For example, in curling each student was given a CD to use as a curling rock. From a sitting position, using a long stick, they had to slide their "rock" down a long sheet of paper (representing the ice). This proved to be an exciting and difficult challenge for everyone involved. Stations included an Athletes' Village where students did various Olympic arts and crafts.



One secondary student (Shannon Huff) was selected as a torch-bearer for the first day of the torch relay, rowing with a team across Elk Lake in Victoria, and two students (Neil and Scott Mavridis—twins) were selected to carry the torch in Victoria for the Paralympic Relay.



It has been a wonderful time of celebrating the Olympics and of emphasizing Olympic values. As one parent expressed it in a note of thanks to the teachers, "My son has loved learning about the sports, the athletes' stories, learning to lose graciously, and he can't stop talking about the activities he's been able to participate in and watch!"

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Stories From Schools



Spencer Middle School (Langford) had some very energetic celebrations for the Winter Games. Unfortunately, their Olympics were cancelled midway through, due to a school fire. However, prior to that, the school enthusiastically undertook in their own “Spencer Olympics”!

The school started their Olympic journey as twenty-five home-rooms adopted a country for their own. The “Spencer Olympic” volunteers prepared the school with event posters and each class prepared their own flags to display. As well, the school

prepared a 36 by 72 inch Canada flag which every Spencer staff and student signed wishing their best to Team Canada.

The “Spencer Olympics” started February 12th with an Opening Ceremony in the gymnasium. Each class sat with their country, dressed in their country’s colors. As each country was introduced, the class stepped forward to present their country’s cheer. A rousing rendition of O’Canada was followed by inspirational short films. It was a very passionate assembly as classes truly expressed themselves through their adopted countries.

These Olympics had three events: a hockey tournament, a jeopardy contest, and a torch run. The hockey tournament was floor hockey in the gym. Jeopardy tested the students’ knowledge on Olympic themed questions. The torch run was a relay race around the school, carrying a torch made of wooden dowels and tissue paper.

Jeopardy was a great hit. A teacher emcee asked teams from different classes Olympic themed questions. As the Jeopardy theme music played, the teams conferred and displayed their answers on small white boards. Correct answers were applauded loudly by their boisterous classmates.



As the events continued every day through homeroom and lunch, medals were achieved. The Czech Republic won gold in sudden death overtime over China in grade seven hockey. Poland defeated zealous Japanese and Dutch teams in overtime grade eight Jeopardy. The Swedes showed their stamina winning the grade nine torch run.

As mentioned, unfortunately the Spencer fire disrupted the completion of the Olympics, but school pride, classroom patriotic fever and fun were evident throughout!

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Stories From Schools

Students LIVE!

Throughout the Olympic and Paralympic Games a group of students from West Vancouver reported on the Games. These students participated in a range of traditional media activities, including filing articles for newspapers, capturing videos and conducting interviews with young people before, during and after events. They hosted an interactive web



space with a variety of social networking tools that allowed them to share their experiences and help create the foundation for an online student community. Students from across B.C., Canada, and the world contributed to the site through Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, and blogs. Topics included: pin trading, fireworks, flag bearers for the ceremonies, sledge hockey as well as images of events and celebrations, and live reports on YouTube.

The Sharing the Dream website will remain active. View the latest webcast, read school stories, check out the links to the London 2012 Education Program, and to Sochi 2014.

School Stories

Share your school's story on our Sharing the Dream website.
Send your story to sharingthedream@gov.bc.ca.

Sharing the Dream Program – Survey

Please help us evaluate our programs.
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/sharingthedream>

Student Welcome Card Project - Student Certificates

A Certificate of Appreciation has been sent to each school that provided student art work for this project.
If you would like certificates for your students who participated, send your request to sharingthedream@gov.bc.ca indicating the number of certificates you require and your address.

Teachable Moments for the 2010 Classroom – Resources

Would you like a *Teachable Moments for the 2010 Classroom* disk?
Email your request to sharingthedream@gov.bc.ca.