



NEWS RELEASE

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Leadership Award recognizes lifetime commitment to sport

Kelowna figure skating coach Yvette Delcourt was recognized during the B.C. Summer Games for her lifetime contribution to girls and women in her sport.

The City of Kelowna, together with the 2008 B.C. Summer Games, partnered with ProMOTION Plus to honour Delcourt with a Leadership Award, in recognition of her exemplary achievement in the sport of figure skating over the past 50 years in Kelowna and the province of B.C. The award was presented during the 26th B.C. Summer Games held in Kelowna July 24 to 27.

“Leaders like Yvette inspire us with their passion and their dedication to their work,” said Mayor Sharon Shepherd. “They are frequently unaware of the far-reaching, positive effect their commitment has on their team, their league, their sport and their community at large. Yvette was instrumental in the designation of the Kelowna Skating Club as a PacificSport Regional Training Centre and, today, Kelowna Skating Club is the largest skating club in Western Canada.”

“It is fitting to honour individuals as part of the 2008 B.C. Summer Games as the Games Society is a leader in our sport system in providing access and opportunities for girls and women,” said Debbie Pyne, chair of ProMOTION Plus. “We look forward to the day when all women and girls in B.C. have the opportunity to coach, volunteer and compete at all levels of sport provincially, nationally and internationally – on an equitable basis.”

Delcourt is currently the Executive Director and Administrator for the Kelowna Skating Club. She has coached and recruited skaters, and introduced a whole host of new programs including CanSkate and PowerSkate. Figure skating since youth, Delcourt became a professional skating coach at age of 18. 2008 marks her 50th year as a coach and administrator in the sports system. In 1996, Delcourt was also awarded the BC/YT Section Skate Canada Lifetime Achievement Award.

ProMOTION Plus is a volunteer run non-profit society that works cooperatively with individuals and groups in the sport and recreation system in British Columbia to create access, and opportunity in physical activity and sport for all girls and women.

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