



WOMEN LEADERS HONOURED FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPORT, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

VANCOUVER, November 5, 2010 – Olympic sprinter, athletics organizer/administrator and cookbook author Diane Clement, national women's basketball coach Allison McNeill and BC Wheelchair Sports executive director Kathy Newman were recognized Thursday night as the 2010 honourees for IN HER FOOTSTEPS...CELEBRATING BC WOMEN IN SPORT.

The program, a shared project of the BC Sports Hall of Fame, ProMOTION Plus, 2010 Legacies Now and the BC Centre of Excellence for Women's Health, annually recognizes up to three women who have made significant contributions to girls and women in sport, fitness and healthy lifestyle initiatives in British Columbia. Their stories are featured in the In Her Footsteps exhibit at the BC Sports Hall of Fame.

Diane Clement competed on Canada's 1956 Olympic team, earned a bronze medal at the 1958 Commonwealth Games and went on to serve as president of Athletics Canada. Diane and husband Dr. Doug Clement also co-founded the Richmond Kajaks Track and Field Club and the annual Vancouver Sun Run. Clement received a Queen's Jubilee medal for her contribution to fitness and sport and in May 2010 Diane and Doug Clement received the International Lions Medal of Merit for their lifetime contribution to sport and healthy lifestyle.

Allison McNeill has devoted her life to basketball, from inspiring and mentoring young children on the court to developing and nurturing promising talent to coaching top players in British Columbia and Canada. From 1988 to 2001 she coached the Simon Fraser University women's basketball team, leading the team to compete in 11 NAIA championships. From 1998-2000 she served as head coach of the national junior team and has coached the Canadian women's team since 2002. She is committed to developing youth coaches and in helping athletes succeed as students and community members.

Kathy Newman joined the BC Wheelchair Sports Association in 1981, serving as office manager before advancing to executive director in 1986. With considerable energy and enthusiasm she has helped create opportunities, in sport and in life, for people with disabilities. She co-chaired the 2009 Americas Cup International wheelchair basketball tournament and Canada's successful bid to host the 2010 World Wheelchair Rugby Championships, and has worked with government and business to increase funding and awareness. Through her work also emerged Bridging the Gap, a program encouraging individuals with disabilities to participate in wheelchair sports and recreation.

In addition to recognizing the 2010 honourees, the evening served to celebrate the 20th anniversary of ProMOTION Plus, the provincial organization launched in November 1990 to encourage sport and physical activity opportunities for girls and women in BC.

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