



July 16, 2018

Dear Warden LeBlanc and council,

This summer from July 31- Aug 4th Nova Scotia will host over 1460 athletes and coaches arrive from all ten provinces and two territories to compete in nine Olympic sports (Swimming, Soccer, Softball, Athletics, Basketball, Bocce, Power Lifting, Rhythmic Gymnastics and Golf). The Town of Antigonish and ST FX University will play host. We expect over 5000 spectators and over 1500 family members to travel to the town to take in the competition. The 2018 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games is a National competition held every four years as a qualifying event for the World Games.

Prior to these games the Nova Scotia Law Enforcement Torch Run will be leading law enforcement torch runners, who will represent each province and territory in Canada in carrying the "Flame of hope" across our province, visiting many communities along the way. We call this the Final Leg journey. The community of Meteghan has been selected as one of the spots that we will be running the torch through. We anticipate that this will occur on **Saturday July 28th between 8:30 and 9AM** and will prove to be a very exciting event for you and your community to participate in.

Your local RCMP detachment (Cst. Mario Gougeon is assisting) and is aware of the details of the run. We would ask that yourself or a representative of your council attend at a small ceremony at the end of the run and say a few words. We would appreciate if you could limit your remarks to about 2 minutes as we are on a tight time schedule. We would also certainly encourage and welcome the attendance of all of your council, police advisory committee

members and others to attend to see and hear about LETR and Special Olympics. Additionally, at this event if you would like to make a financial contribution to Special Olympics Nova Scotia through LETR it would be appreciated.

More about Special Olympics and LETR:

Special Olympics Nova Scotia is dedicated to *enriching the lives of Canadians with an intellectual disability through sport*. It is a national not-for-profit grassroots organization that provides sport training and competition opportunities for 1700 local athletes of all ages and abilities. More than 9,900 certified volunteer coaches and 15 000 volunteers are currently involved with Special Olympics programs every day in virtually every community nationwide and over 45 000 athletes. Special Olympics Canada National Games are held every two years, alternating between summer and winter Games with World Games being held in the year following National Games. Special Olympics programs are supported by corporate sponsorship, fundraising activities, government funding, individual donors and the involvement of volunteers in communities across the country.

Special Olympics Nova Scotia is structured into regional, provincial and national programs and competitions with athletes also having the opportunity to participate along with more than 150 other countries in Special Olympics World Summer and Winter Games alternating every two years.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run supports Special Olympics athletes in their journey for excellence. Our mandate is to raise money and awareness for athletes locally, nationally, and internationally.

The [Law Enforcement Torch Run® \(LETR\)](#) is the largest public awareness and grassroots fundraising organization for Special Olympics globally. The LETR hold a number of year-round fundraising and awareness events in communities across Canada. The LETR are supported by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP), and have been an active partner of Special Olympics Canada since 1981.

The Torch Run™ is the most well-known event that the LETR host. The Torch Run is an event in which officers run the Flame of Hope™ into an Opening Ceremony at local, regional and national competitions. Grown to include a wide range of regional and national events, the LETR have raised more than \$ 63 million in Canada, since its inception.

As retired Chief Richard LaMunyon once said, “What started in 1981...as a flicker of hope for Special Olympics has now become a roaring flame of stability for Special Olympics athletes worldwide.”

Respectfully,

Chief Mark Mander, MBA, O.O.M (Rt'd)

Provincial Director LETR Nova Scotia

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