

## CLA Salutes Luge Community and Athlete's Dedication to Excellence in 2010

The entire staff at the Canadian Luge Association would like to thank the volunteers, officials, parents and coaching staff to contributing to a memorable journey to the 2010 Olympic Winter Games which saw two Canadian sleds finish in seventh spot.



Led by Calgary's Sam Edney finishing seventh which is the best-ever performance by a Canadian male in singles luge at the Olympics, Chris and Mike Moffat bookended a successful Olympic competition with a seventh-place finish of their own. Regan Lauscher, of Red Deer, Alta., finished as the top Canadian in the women's race, placing 15th.

The Canadian Luge Association would like to congratulate all involved in making our country proud and staging a successful Olympic race in Whistler.

## Luge Athletes Slide into Rock Star Treatment at Olympic Parade in Montreal



More than 150,000 red and white clad fans took jockeyed for position on the curbs of Ste-Catherine Street in Montreal in April as Canada's Olympic and Paralympic heroes were decked out on floats to extend the celebration of the 2010 Games during the Canadian Olympic Committee's Hall-of-Fame induction weekend.

"This event showed me how far the Olympic movement spread across our big country," said Sam Edney. "To see the streets lined with people that were all still wearing their Canadian colours with pride was something I will look back at and smile for the rest of my life. It gave me such a huge sense of pride to see a city that was thousands of kilometres away from the racing and competing that happened in Vancouver still be so pumped up about Canada's Olympic and Paralympic teams."

Hosted by new COC President, Marcel Aubut, the Celebrating Excellence 2010 parade was an opportunity for Montrealers to relive the passion of the Games, and to see and meet the athletes who gave the nation many unforgettable moments this year in Vancouver.

Following the historic parade, athletes were invited to attend a gala dinner which featured such performers as Sarah McLachlan and Tom Cochrane while the COC inducted great Canadian athletes including Caroline Brunet, Susan Auch and Bruny Surin into the Hall-of-Fame.

Taking part in the Hall-of-Fame gala made me feel like a true rock star," added Edney. "They put on a show that I will never forget and to see some of Canada's greatest athletes of all time be inducted into the Canadian Hall was a true inspiration. What a cool event to be able to spend time with my fellow Olympians away from the arena, race track or competition venue. To share Olympic stories of great triumph or huge disappointments, I really felt honoured to be a part of the event and want to thank the COC for hosting us."

## Identifying the Future of Luge in Canada

The Canadian Luge Association is targeting its next generation of luge athletes with Summer Recruitment Camps in Calgary and Whistler, B.C.

Athletes will receive an introduction to the sport of luge, and its equipment, prior to participating in a series of dry-land physical testing sessions to showcase agility, flexibility and all-around athletic ability. The day will culminate with a wheel-sliding session to build a familiarity on the luge sled.

Camp coaches will be looking for athletes age 10-14, with strong overall fitness, those who demonstrate a keen interest in sport and a willingness to learn.



### CAMP DATES

Whistler, BC - The Whistler Sliding Centre:

Saturday June 5th, 2010: 9am-Noon  
 Saturday July 10th, 2010: 9am-Noon  
 Saturday August 14th, 2010: 9am-Noon  
 Saturday September 11th, 2010: 9am-Noon  
 Cost: \$30.00

Calgary - Canada Olympic Park:

Saturday May 29, 2010: 9am-Noon  
 Saturday June 24, 2010: 9am-Noon  
 Saturday August 28, 2010: 9am-Noon  
 Saturday September 11, 2010: 9am-Noon  
 Saturday September 25, 2010: 9am-Noon  
 Cost: \$30.00

## International Luge Federation Issues Report on Olympic Tragedy

The International Luge Federation, FIL published its final report to the International Olympic Committee on the fatal accident of Georgia's Nodar Kumaritashvili in April, citing no single reason as cause for the extremely unfortunate incident which occurred hours before the opening ceremonies of the 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

"What happened to Nodar has been an unforeseeable fatal," summarized FIL Secretary General Svein Romstad together with FIL Vice-President Claire DelNegro, who were both tasked with leading the report. "After an in-depth analysis we concluded that there was no single reason, but a complex series of inter-related events which led to this tragedy", said Romstad.

In the report, the FIL added that Kumaritashvili's sled reacted in ways that computer simulations could not foresee or mimic, the high-speed impact throwing him out of the track. "No athlete would have control in dealing with this type of 'catapult' effect," the report said.

Kumaritashvili's death during a training run February 12 was the first at a sanctioned luge track in nearly 35 years.

In an effort to honour Kumaritashvili's sporting career, the report also highlighted the qualification process of the Georgian luger to participate in the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver, and it documents the general qualifying criteria in the sport of luge and illuminates all relevant aspects of the artificially-iced track at the Whistler Sliding Center, such as for instance, the construction, homologation, the up-following changes and training sessions. The fatal training run is reconstructed in detail, the decisions taken immediately following the accident are described and first conclusions from this fatal accident drawn.

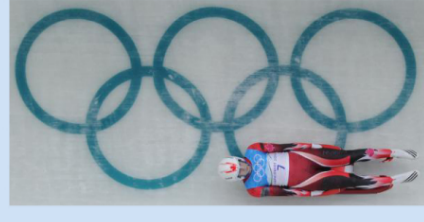
Furthermore, the International Luge Federation continues to support the family of Nodar Kumaritashvili and backs the efforts of his family and the Republic of Georgia in building a luge track that shall then be named after Nodar. "The FIL is determined to do what it can to avoid a tragedy like this from occurring again", the report says.

The coroner in British Columbia will incorporate FIL's findings into its own report, expected soon. FIL meetings in May and June will further discuss track safety, particularly at the facility to be built for the 2014 Sochi Olympics.

The report has been prepared with the support of the IOC, the Organizing Committee of the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver, VANOC, the Canadian Luge Federation, CLA, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, RCMP, as well as the Coroner's Service of British Columbia.

For a complete look at the FIL report, please visit [www.fil-luge.org](http://www.fil-luge.org) on the Internet.

## REMINDER NOTICE - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR THE CANADIAN LUGE ASSOCIATION



The Canadian Luge Association's Annual General Meeting will be held May 29 in the Sundance Room at The Blackfoot Inn in Calgary from 9-11 a.m.. Agenda items at the 2010 Annual General Meeting will include board elections for the president, vice-president of marketing, secretary and directors of event committee and officials.

