



309-4603 Kingsway
Burnaby, BC V5H 4M4

P +1 604 419 0377

BURNABY ON TARGET FOR WORLD JUNIOR TAEKWONDO CHAMPIONSHIPS

April 12th, 2016, Burnaby, BC, Canada:

BURNABY—A two-member delegation representing the World Taekwondo Federation has given Burnaby thumbs up in its preparations for the 2016 World Taekwondo Junior Championships, which are to be held November 16-20 at Bill Copeland Sports Centre. The event is being presented by Tourism Burnaby and the City of Burnaby and is expected to bring 800+ athletes (males and females) ages 14-17 years from 110+ countries. In addition to the athletes, it is anticipated that 500 coaches and team support members will also attend, as well as the presidents of the national taekwondo federations of participating countries.

It will be one of the largest multicultural sport events in Canada this year.

Following a two-day site inspection, the designated World Taekwondo Federation officials—Secretary General Hoss Rafaty and Grand Master Inseon Kim—told the local organizing committee they were pleased with the facility, the location and the progress to date.

City of Burnaby Councillor Paul McDonell, chair of the local organizing committee said, “The delegates were pleased with the hotel setup and with Fortius Sport & Health (which will be the primary athlete training facility), and with our readiness to host the event, still being almost eight months out from the start of the event.”

McDonell, along with Tourism Burnaby Executive Director Nancy Small and Managing Director of the Korean Cultural Heritage Society of BC Michael Suk, who are both members of the local organizing committee, travelled to Mexico City in early December to successfully bid for the World Taekwondo Junior Championships in a formal presentation to the World Taekwondo Federation.

The event is expected to generate a \$4 million economic impact in Burnaby and throughout the Province.

It is expected that athletes and their teams will start arriving for the event in early November.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Nancy Small
Marketing Lead, Burnaby Organizing Committee
Executive Director, Tourism Burnaby
604-828-5536 (cell phone)
604-419-0377 (office phone)
nsmall@tourismburnaby.com



309-4603 Kingsway
Burnaby, BC V5H 4M4

P +1 604 419 0377

WORLD TAEKWONDO FEDERATION

Established in 1973, the World Taekwondo Federation (WTF) is the world's international governing body for the sport of taekwondo. Recognized by the IOC, the WTF has 206 member nations in five continents, positioning it within the top eight among Olympic sports in terms of the number of member national federations. The WTF is responsible for encouraging and supporting the organization, development, and coordination of taekwondo. This WTF oversees the quality control and consistency of taekwondo events.

www.worldtaekwondofederation.net

CITY OF BURNABY

British Columbia's 3rd largest city, Burnaby is at the geographic centre of Metro Vancouver. With a multicultural and growing population, and a history of sporting excellence, the city is ready to host the international taekwondo community in November 2016. www.burnaby.ca

TOURISM BURNABY

Tourism Burnaby is the city's local Destination Management Organization. It works with local tourism businesses to drive visitors to the city. Sport Burnaby is the dedicated sport hosting arm of Tourism Burnaby that partners with local, provincial, national and international sport organizations to ensure their Burnaby-based sport events are an overwhelming success. Designed as a comprehensive 'one-stop-shop', Sport Burnaby provides organizations with local expertise and connect them directly with key community and industry stakeholders. www.tourismburnaby.com

ABOUT TAEKWONDO CANADA

Taekwondo Canada is the national Sport Federation in Canada recognized by the World Taekwondo Federation (WTF), Pan American Taekwondo Union (PATU), Sport Canada and Canadian Olympic Committee. Together with its membership and partners, Taekwondo Canada leads the pursuit of honouring tradition, enabling excellence and building champions. www.taekwondo-canada.com