



CITY OF QUESNEL NEWS RELEASE

Quesnel advances to GamesTown 2010 Top 10

For Immediate Release
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QUESNEL, B.C. – The community of Quesnel has made the shortlist for GamesTown 2010, putting it in the running for the top prize of \$100,000. GamesTown 2010 is an initiative of the provincial government's ActNow program. It encourages communities to demonstrate their creativity and enthusiasm for healthy living and sport, environmental sustainability, their spirit for the 2010 Games and the community's participation in the World Healthy Living Challenge.

Community residents have been posting for months to www.gamestown2010.ca, submitting stories about what makes their home town special. A "Viewers' Choice" style of voting ran from Nov. 1 until Jan. 4, with Quesnel leading the way in the 5,001 to 10,000 population category.

"We're absolutely thrilled to have advanced as one of the top 10 finalists," said Quesnel Mayor Mary Sjostrom. "This community has done an amazing job of posting stories and voting. On behalf of City Council I thank the entire community, as well as our Quesnel Community and Economic Development Corporation and Chamber of Commerce, for playing such an active role and helping us advance in this competition."

The other nine finalists are Houston, Princeton, Smithers, Salmon Arm, Dawson Creek, Prince George, Kamloops, Kelowna and Coquitlam. They will now be judged by a celebrity panel that includes Nancy Greene Raine, Steve Podborski, Simon Whitfield, Dr. Art Hister, and Dr. Rhonda Low. These communities can post even more entries on the GamesTown website, as they will count towards the final judging round if submitted by midnight Jan. 7.

The Grand Prize winners will be announced later this month. Top prize is \$100,000; second spot is worth \$50,000, with the third-place entry taking home \$25,000. The prize money is to be put towards upgrading a local sport or healthy living facility.

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Editor's Note: This release is available online at www.city.quesnel.bc.ca

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