



ABOUT THE TORCH RELAY

- The Olympic Torch Relay will start in Canada in late October 2009, and continue for approximately 100 days, concluding at the Opening Ceremony, in Vancouver, on February 12, 2010.
- The relay will be organized by the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC).
- The Olympic Torch Relay will visit every province and territory, passing through over 1,000 communities and places of interest across the country. The route will be designed so as many Canadians as possible can partake in the relay.
- The route is 45,000 kilometres: This will be the longest national Olympic Torch Relay ever.
- A total of 12,000 torchbearers will carry the Olympic Flame. Each torchbearer will carry the flame with an individual torch.
- Each torchbearer will run or walk for approximately 300 metres.
- Two official celebrations will be held almost every day of the Olympic Torch Relay in communities along the route, the first at mid-day, and the second in the evening in the city where the Olympic Flame and the Torch Relay crew will stay overnight.
- Close to 200 community celebrations are planned over the duration of the relay meant to engage the local and regional population and showcase the unique culture and geographic diversity of Canada.
- The Olympic Flame symbolizes the Olympic values of peace and friendship.
- The Paralympic Torch Relay will operate between the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The route and dates for the Paralympic Torch Relay will be announced in 2009.