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Lower Mainland law enforcement members plunge into the Pacific to support SOBC

Many neatly pressed uniforms are set to get soaked on March 7. Law enforcement members will join Special Olympics athletes and other fearless participants to charge into chilly waters at the Vancouver Polar Plunge for Special Olympics BC presented by [Westminster Savings Credit Union](#). This frigid and fun event at Kitsilano Beach will raise funds and awareness for SOBC's life-changing year-round sport, youth, and health programs for people with intellectual disabilities.

"We are very grateful to all the law enforcement members and other brave Plungers who support Special Olympics BC athletes through this fun and inclusive event," SOBC President & CEO Dan Howe says. "You may only spend a few moments in the freezing water, but your impact will be felt for far longer – because funds raised will help change lives across the province."

Staged in partnership with the [Law Enforcement Torch Run for SOBC](#), the Vancouver Polar Plunge will see champions from many agencies get bold and cold, including members of the Abbotsford, Delta, Vancouver, and West Vancouver police departments, Burnaby, Coquitlam, North Vancouver, Ridge Meadows, and Surrey RCMP detachments, B.C. Conservation Officer Service, BC Corrections, B.C. Sheriff Services, Canada Border Services Agency, City of Maple Ridge Licences & Bylaws Department, Metro Vancouver Transit Police, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. They will plunge alongside Special Olympics athletes, corporate teams, university students, and other courageous participants.

"A big part of policing and public safety is serving the community and making that community feel safe," says Metro Vancouver Transit Police Deputy Chief Officer and BC LETR Executive Council member Barry Kross. "Supporting Special Olympics BC and the Polar Plunge is another way for us to serve a community of athletes and their families. The monies raised at events like the Polar Plunge help to support programs that enrich lives and provide opportunities for the athletes to thrive and feel safe and included."

The event will include a colourful costume contest, law enforcement vehicle displays, and plenty of prizes and giveaways. Funds raised will support Special Olympics BC's high-quality programs and competitions for more than 5,200 athletes in 55 communities around the province. The 2019 Vancouver Polar Plunge saw more than 200 people get freezin' for a reason and the event raised more than \$100,000.

Breakfast Television's Mary Cranston will emcee the Vancouver Polar Plunge, which will feature appearances by notable locals including BC Lions alumnus Travis Lulay, White Rock Mayor Darryl Walker, and Vancouver City Councillors Lisa Dominato and Michael Wiebe.

Westminster Savings will support the Vancouver Polar Plunge as Presenting Sponsor and are also entering a team in the event. The sponsorship is part of the credit union's provincial partnership with SOBC to celebrate the power and joy of sport.

"We're thrilled to be back presenting the 2020 Polar Plunge, while also raising funds and awareness for Special Olympics BC. Many of our employees look forward to this challenge each year and the opportunity to show their support for the Special Olympics athletes!" says Nicole Eich, Foundation and Community Giving Manager, Westminster Savings.

The Vancouver Polar Plunge is also supported by VIP Warming Tent Sponsor [Dueck Auto Group](#), Breakfast Sponsor [Safeway](#), Hot Beverage Sponsor [Tim Hortons](#), and Media Sponsors [Citytv](#), [JACK 96.9](#), [KiSS RADIO](#), [OMNI Television](#), and [Sportsnet 650](#).



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All are welcome to register for the Vancouver Polar Plunge as a team or an individual at www.plunge4specialolympics.com. Supporters can also [donate to SOBC through the Plunge](#).

Date: Saturday, March 7
Schedule: 10 a.m. Plunger check-in
11 a.m. Opening Ceremony
11:45 a.m. Plunge
Place: West end of Kitsilano Beach

For more information, please visit plunge4specialolympics.com

Polar Plunge for SOBC videos: <http://ow.ly/K7pu50y3CO8>
2019 Vancouver Polar Plunge photos: <http://ow.ly/ReZi50yx5ix>

About the Law Enforcement Torch Run

For more than 35 years, law enforcement members throughout the world have supported people with intellectual disabilities through the Law Enforcement Torch Run. The LETR movement has raised more than \$4 million in British Columbia since 1990. To date, the LETR has raised more than \$700 million for Special Olympics programs around the world. To learn more about the LETR, visit www.specialolympics.bc.ca/letr. Find BC LETR on Twitter @BCLETR.

About Special Olympics BC

Special Olympics BC is dedicated to enriching the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities through sport. In 55 communities around the province, we provide year-round training and competitive opportunities in 18 different sports to more than 5,200 athletes of all ages and a wide range of abilities, thanks to the dedicated efforts of over 4,300 volunteers. For more information, please visit www.specialolympics.bc.ca and find us on Facebook and Instagram @specialolympicsbc and Twitter @sobcsociety.

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