

OLYMPIC DAY TOOLKIT  
**TORCH RELAY**



# TORCH RELAY



# HOW TO HOST AN OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY IN YOUR SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY

**As part of every Olympic Games, a torch relay is planned that often involves schools, clubs and local sport dignitaries. The relay is symbolic in that it leads to igniting the cauldron during the Opening Ceremonies, and officially opens the Games. The flame will stay ignited until the Olympic Games are officially closed.**

**There are many exciting elements in an Olympic Torch Relay to incorporate when hosting your own Torch Relay. Decide the size of your Olympic Torch Relay: The Olympic Flame, even if it's your own, is very exciting. This event could be as big or small as you make it. Decide whether this will engage classes, grades, age groups, the entire school or club. From there you can decide whether this activity will span over a certain time (lunch, afternoon, etc).**

## 1. ASSEMBLE YOUR TEAM

It took over 100 Vancouver Organizing Committee (VANOC) staff members and partners in operations to coordinate the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay. Assess whether you will require help from fellow staff, club members or parent volunteers and recruit accordingly.

Plan your Olympic Torch Relay Route: Engage potential participants in designing your Olympic Torch Relay Route. Be sure to consider safety, distance, length of each relay segment, room for spectators to cheer and the weather. Encourage participants to envision what the 45,000km Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay Route must have looked like.





## 2. DESIGN YOUR OLYMPIC TORCH

Run a contest to design and build simulated torches. Have each participant carry their own torch during their leg of the Olympic Torch Relay or pick a winning design to be carried by a group or by another torchbearer. Use tissue paper, paper towel rolls, tin foil, flashlights, pylons, dollar store plungers and your creativity to make your torches.

## 3. SELECT YOUR TORCHBEARERS

Participation is the key: 12,000 Canadians had the opportunity to carry the Olympic Flame prior to the Vancouver Olympic Winter Games. The more participants you can touch by appointing them as official torchbearers in your school or club based Olympic Torch Relay, the greater the chance of making a life-long impact with this experience. Try to incorporate all participants as torchbearers if you can.





## 4. CHOOSE YOUR MODES OF TRANSPORTATION

The Olympic Flame traveled via different modes of transportation. Allow participants to get creative and select their own method of physical activity or transport to actively move through their section of your Olympic Torch Relay.

## 5. CELEBRATE CANADA'S DIVERSITY

During the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games the Olympic Flame passed through every Canadian Province and Territory. The organizing committee took the opportunity to celebrate and learn about the culture and diversity of the 1020 communities it touched.



## 6. HOST A CELEBRATION OF YOUR COMMUNITY

Over the span of the Olympic Torch Relay 187 regional celebrations occurred throughout Canada. These celebrations honoured the torch bearers, community leaders, local heroes, teams and volunteers involved in the relay. Use this opportunity to celebrate various people and aspects of your community.

**HAVE FUN! THE OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY IS AN INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO MAKE THE OLYMPIC GAMES COME ALIVE. USE THIS MOMENT TO CREATE A ONCE IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCE FOR THE PARTICIPANTS.**



# MAKE YOUR OWN MEDALS





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Gold, Silver and Bronze medals are created for each Olympic Games by the host country. Medals not only represent the successful accomplishments of an athlete, but also how an athlete has given their everything through hard work, commitment and by never giving up during challenging times. The medal also embodies the Olympic Values and the Olympic Oath delivered by an athlete who competed at the Olympic Games.

IN ORDER TO CELEBRATE THAT ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE CHAMPIONS AT OLYMPIC DAY EVENTS, PARTICIPANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CUT AND COLOUR THEIR OWN MEDAL THAT IS AVAILABLE ON LINE AT [WWW.OLYMPICSCHOOL.CA](http://WWW.OLYMPICSCHOOL.CA).





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