



ATTENTION NEWS/ENTERTAINMENT/SPORTS/PHOTO EDITORS

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Welcoming the Dragons to Toronto

TORONTO, August 8, 2006 — After many months of preparations, the 2006 International Dragon Boat Federation Club Crew World Championships officially get under way this Thursday. With the help of government officials, sponsors, special guests and some star-studded international entertainment, the athletes will receive a rousing welcome at the Official Opening Ceremonies at Nathan Phillips Square.

Athletes and dignitaries will be ushered in by a pipe band. The evening will also feature diverse entertainment from a number of Canadian and International performers, including a performance from Beijing's Tang Concubines, the new show from the company that created the acclaimed Action-Musical Terracotta Warriors, as well as an aboriginal dance performance and much more.

WHO: The Athletes – Dragon Boat Crews and Coaches from around the world
Hon. Gerry Phillips, Minister of Government Services
Deputy Mayor Joe Pantalone
Mike Haslam, Executive President, International Dragon Boat Federation
Sharifa Khan, Chair, Organizing Committee Toronto 2006
Corporate Sponsors
Performers and Special Guests

WHAT: The IDBF Club Crew World Championships Opening Ceremonies

WHEN: Thursday, August 10, 2006
7:30 pm – 9:30 pm

WHERE: Nathan Phillips Square
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario

The 5th Annual International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) Club Crew World Championships event will be held from August 10-13 at Toronto's new Western Beaches Watercourse, and is expected to draw more than 3,000 competitors from 12 nations and regions, as well as over 150,000 spectators. The races along Toronto's beautiful waterfront are free to attend. For more information, visit www.2006ccwc.com.

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