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Every community in British Columbia is bound by a family of shared emotions.

Optimism, hope, friendship and pride: this is the spirit of BC. And these are the qualities that Spirit of BC is dedicated to preserving and promoting, in every region of the province.

Working with local leaders, we bring together people, projects and ideas to engage and excite every city and town through province-wide celebrations of excellence and innovation.

We help communities come together, find their voice and celebrate the spirit that makes them unique. The charm of Vancouver Island. The hospitality of the Interior. The heritage of the Cariboo. The Spirit of BC is our common ground, reflecting our unique geography and honouring our cultural diversity.

Richmond is one of 100 BC jurisdictions with a community based Spirit of BC Committee. Appointed by Richmond City Council, the 14 members who serve on the committee are dedicated to preserving and promoting all of the BC qualities listed.

Whether it is the Richmond Spirit of BC entry in the Salmon Festival parade, the booth at the Maritime Festival, participating at the annual Winter Fest or organizing and taking part in the many Spirit Week activities, the committee always remains true to our objectives.

To host a **Spirit of BC Event**, complete the [Application for Event Designation Form](#) and email it to: designations@richmondspirit.ca. Once approved, you will be contacted by the Spirit of BC - Richmond Committee.

Great Times!

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5,000 Celebrate Beijing 2008 Olympics At Aberdeen Centre

Wow. They started lining up at 3:00 a.m., Friday, August 8, 2008 -- much to the surprise of the Aberdeen Centre guards. By 5:00 a.m., there were hundreds of people lining up for their free pancakes -- and the doors to Aberdeen Centre opened to displays, entertainment and a huge 28-foot video screen showing the opening ceremonies of the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics.

The event, jointly organized by Richmond Spirit of BC and Aberdeen Centre, was projected to have a maximum of 3,000 people, but people kept coming. By 7:00 a.m., about 5,000 people crammed in at all levels in Aberdeen Centre.

Highlights of the stage event included over 15 past and current Olympians from Richmond, an Olympic Fashion Show by The Bay, a dragon dance, terrific Asian dances, tai chi demonstration -- and greetings from the Mayor, who read out his proclamation celebrating the day, the Chinese Consul General, MP Raymond Chan and provincial minister Ida Chong.

Over 60 Richmond volunteers, from Richmond Spirit of BC, Richmond Chinese Community Society and Volunteer Richmond Information Services were on hand to make the event a resounding success.

The event had a host of media on hand with live broadcasts by **Fairchild TV and Radio, CBC Radio, Global TV** and **CITY TV**.

Special thanks to the event partners

