



For Immediate Release
Tuesday, June 21, 2011

Palestinian and Israeli Coed Soccer Teams Unite at 2011 VISF
7th Vancouver International Soccer Festival Coincides with 2011 FIFA Women's World Cup

1000 Athletes, Officials, and Volunteers will descend on Andy Livingstone Park, Vancouver, BC to play soccer and promote inclusion, respect, and equality for all.

VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA – The Vancouver International Soccer Festival (VISF) is lacing up to kick off its 7th year on **Saturday and Sunday, July 9-10, 2011**. The VISF is a 7 on 7 World Cup-style soccer tournament that brings together 48 adult, amateur, men's, women's, and coed soccer teams and players from Canada, the USA, Palestine, Israel, South America, and Asia to celebrate "the beautiful game" and showcase diversity and cultural harmony. 8 **First Nations** and **homeless teams** from BC will also participate.

Vancouver Mayor and avid soccer player **Gregor Robertson**, Honorable **Ida Chong** Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, and a host from the **Musqueam Nation** will officially open the festival on Saturday, July 9th at **10:00 am** at **Andy Livingstone Park** in downtown Vancouver. *"Through soccer, the VISF promotes peace, teamwork and intercultural celebrations. The City of Vancouver is proud to host this fun and meaningful event,"* Mayor Robertson says.

Admission to the festival is free! It takes place from 10:00am to 9:00pm on both Saturday and Sunday and coincides with round 16 of the 2011 FIFA Women's World Cup. In addition to exciting soccer action, festival highlights include globally inspired cuisine, a beer and wine garden, house DJ, wide-screen tournament TVs, games, and more. Thousands are expected to attend.

"Soccer has an incredible power, which can be used to make this world a better place. We use this powerful platform to promote peace, equality, health, and education for everyone." Adri Hamael says. Adri is the Founder and Executive Director of VISF and One Team United Soccer Society.

Major sponsors include: **Simpson Family Foundation, University of British Columbia, Simpson Thomas & Associates** (Lawyers – ICBC personal injury claims for 40 years), **Switch United, NOVUS TV, and Hostelling International Canada**. For more information, visit www.oneteamunited.ca

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