

March 25, 2011



## **RUNJUMPTHROW AND THE AFTER SCHOOL SPORT INITIATIVE – THANKS TO THE PROVINCE OF BC**

RICHMOND - BC Athletics' RunJumpThrow (RJT) Program was recently endorsed by the Provincial Government as one of the fundamental movement skills teaching tools for its \$1-million After School Sport Initiative, funded through the 2010 Sport Legacy.

The Province's investment in the RunJumpThrow (RJT) Program has made it possible for more kids to receive quality sport programming from a grassroots athletics program that teaches the skills of running, jumping, and throwing as a basis for all land based sports. The initiative is designed to provide better access to sport for those children and youth who typically don't have opportunities to participate.

Funding through the Province's 2010 Sport Legacy, to increase participation and excellence in sport, gave over 89 Elementary schools in five launch communities the opportunity to be involved in the active delivery of RunJumpThrow along with other sports programs to their students. They are now being provided with the basic skills needed for the development of physical literacy and to help foster life-long involvement in sport and physical activity.

The After School Sport Initiative is now actively running in five launch communities: Surrey, Vancouver, Victoria, Prince George and Haida Gwaii. Over 4000 students in these communities are now involved in the Initiative, and are participating in RJT. A total of 72 new instructors have completed the Certification Training specifically for this initiative. By providing the funding for local instructors to be trained, the Province has created the capacity for a sustainable programming model. Included in the Province's investment of RJT was the purchase of equipment, namely the RJT "Fun-In-A-Bag," for each of the launch communities.

*Developed by Athletics Canada and presented by BC Athletics, RunJumpThrow is the grassroots development program for the sport of athletics. This Fundamentals program teaches the skills of running, jumping, throwing and the technical skill progressions for track and field events. It is designed for boys and girls 6-12, has progressions for older athletes, and can be adapted for special needs*

-RJT-

