

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vancouver to host 2017 Western Canada Women's Cricket Championship

July 25 2017, Vancouver, BC – British Columbia will battle it out with Alberta next month in Vancouver to defend its title in the 2017 Western Canada Women's Cricket Championship.

The teams will compete in three matches on August 5 and 6 at Stanley and Connaught Parks. The event, which started in 2009, provides a unique opportunity for female players in the two provinces to compete at a more intense level and develop valuable skills that could one day see them selected to play for Canada.

"BC is ready to defend our title again this year, and have some fun while doing so – we hope the tournament will encourage any women interested in cricket to come and give it a go," said B.C. Captain and 2016 Best Batswoman Chrissie Blackadder.

There are limited opportunities for people to see women's cricket both in Canada and worldwide, Blackadder said. "It was exciting to watch the recent ICC Women's World Cup in England, which I think has helped to bring women's cricket to the attention of the world. Maybe our tournament can help to do the same in the local community."

The tournament will see the B.C. team, consisting of members of local Vancouver club, [Meraloma Cricket](#), and Victoria's Wicket Maidens, face Alberta and includes a number of players who have represented Canada.

Blackadder has represented Canada and is also part of the [CanAm United Cricket Association](#), which aims to develop women's cricket in USA, Canada and the Americas. As captain and coordinator of the Meraloma women's cricket team, she hopes to see more women take up the sport.

"Cricket teaches patience and focus at all levels of the game. The competition will be fierce, but the camaraderie and sportsmanship is what makes the tournament. We're going to have a great weekend, with some great cricket."

Spectators are welcome to cheer the BC team on to another Championship.

2017 Western Canada Women's Cricket Championship

Supported by Cricket BC and Cricket Canada

- Saturday, August 5 – Match 1: 10:00am, Match 2: 2:00pm at Upper Brockton Oval, Stanley Park
- Sunday, August 6 – Match 3: 11:00am at Connaught Park, 2390 West 10th Avenue

Latest updates on tournament at www.facebook.com/westerncanadawomenscricket

About Cricket

Cricket is one of the most popular sports in the world behind soccer and was once the most popular sport in Canada, declared Canada's national sport by Sir John A. Macdonald, Canada's first Prime Minister. Over 40 men's teams compete in the local BC Mainland Cricket League but women's cricket is still developing in Vancouver, BC and nationally.