



**For Immediate Release:  
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## **2010 - AN OLYMPIC YEAR FOR CADDIES**

VICTORIA, B.C. (BCGA) - The Evans Caddie Scholarship, the world's largest, private sports scholarship (up to \$30,000 for four successful years of university) is coming to British Columbia and Victoria Golf Club--a first for Canada! This will mean a successful candidate may now attend a university in British Columbia and not have to go elsewhere. Our very first caddie scholars will qualify by 2010!

The official launch is Saturday, April 26 at 3 p.m. at Victoria Golf Club featuring Pacific Northwest Golf Association Executive Director John Bodenhamer, an authority on the scholarship. Students in Grade 8, 9 or 10 and their parents or guardians are invited. It is important to note that neither the parent/guardian nor the students need be members of Victoria Golf Club nor do the students need to be golfers--this is a caddie scholarship and is open to all students who have strong academic skills but are in financial need.

The Evans Caddie Scholarship was started by "Chick" Evans Jr., of Chicago, who learned the game of golf as a caddie and gained worldwide fame in 1916 when he became the first golfer to win both the U.S. Open and U.S. Amateur championships in the same year. Evans insisted on remaining an amateur so directed that any money he received from golf be put toward caddie scholarships. Evans himself was unable to attend university because his family could not afford it.

The Western Golf Association, founded in 1899, has administered the Evans Scholarship program since the first two scholarships were awarded in 1930. There are 8,590 alumni, 835 current scholars with an additional 246 scholarships awarded in 2007. More than 500 member clubs, 36,000 WGA Par Club members and 100,000 golfers in the WGA Bag Tag Program support the Evans Scholars Foundation. The program is also supported by 23 affiliated golf associations and receives proceeds from the BMW Championship, a PGA TOUR event. The total annual program cost is approximately \$10 million dollars with the alumni contributing \$3.4 million in 2006 and a total of \$35.4 million since the program's inception.

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