



In support of



The Mike Weir Foundation

For Immediate Release:
July 5, 2011

**VIJAY SINGH, CAMILO VILLEGAS AND GEOFF OGILVY
JOIN FIELD FOR 2011 RBC CANADIAN OPEN**

*Adam Hadwin, Nick Taylor and Matt Hill earn exemptions to compete at Shaughnessy;
13 Canadians to date confirmed for Canada's National Open Championship;*

Vancouver (Golf Canada) – The field for the 2011 RBC Canadian Open continues to get stronger as three more PGA TOUR notables – Vijay Singh, Camilo Villegas and Geoff Ogilvy – have confirmed their intention to compete for Canada's National Open title, July 18-24 at Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club in Vancouver.

Singh is a 34-time winner on the PGA TOUR including the 2004 Canadian Open. Currently the No. 63 ranked player on the World Golf Ranking, Singh sits 31st on the 2011 FedEx Cup ranking and 32nd on the PGA TOUR money list.

Ogilvy, the No. 41 ranked player in the world is a 7-time winner on the PGA TOUR, including the 2006 U.S. Open. Villegas, a fan-favourite on the PGA TOUR, is a 3-time winner on Tour and currently the No. 71 ranked player on the World Golf Ranking.

Two weeks out from the event, RBC Canadian Open Tournament Director Bill Paul is thrilled with how the championship field is coming together.

"We're less than two weeks out from the RBC Canadian Open and our field of competitors for Shaughnessy continues to get stronger," said Paul. "Adding a former Canadian Open champion in Vijay Singh plus PGA TOUR stars Camilo Villegas and Geoff Ogilvy only strengthens what I would say is our strongest field in recent history."

Singh, Ogilvy and Villegas join a stellar field of previously confirmed PGA TOUR veterans and emerging superstars including World No. 1 Luke Donald, Ernie Els, Paul Casey, Jim Furyk, Rickie Fowler, Matt Kuchar, Hunter Mahan, Anthony Kim, Retief Goosen, Sean O'Hair, Tim Clarke, Justin Leonard and defending RBC Canadian Open champion Carl Pettersson as well as 2010 British Open champion Louis Oosthuizen and 2011 Masters champion Charl Schwartzel.

While several PGA TOUR players have confirmed their intention to compete for Canada's National Open Championship, competitors have until Friday, July 15 at 5:00 pm ET to officially register for the 2011 RBC Canadian Open.

ADAM HADWIN, NICK TAYLOR AND MATT HILL EARN TOURNAMENT EXEMPTIONS

Golf Canada and RBC also announced today that Canadians Adam Hadwin and Nick Taylor of Abbotsford, B.C. and Matt Hill of Bright's Grove, Ont. have been extended tournament exemptions to compete in the 2011 RBC Canadian Open, July 18-24 at Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club.

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Hadwin's solid 2011 season has been highlighted by a T39 finish at the at the 2011 US Open as well as a Canadian Tour victory (2011 Pacific Colombia Tour Championship) back in March. Currently the No. 3 ranked Canadian on the World Golf Rankings, Hadwin's steady play on the Canadian Tour this year has him 7th on current Canadian Tour Order of Merit. The 23-year-old former Louisville University standout is a graduate of Canada's national amateur team program – Team Canada – and finished as the low Canadian at the 2010 RBC Canadian Open.

Also granted exemptions to compete in the RBC Canadian Open are Team Canada graduates Nick Taylor of Abbotsford, B.C. and Matt Hill of Bright's Grove, Ont. Taylor and Hill are former amateur standouts who at one point during the 2009 season were ranked no. 1 and no. 2 respectively on the World Amateur Golf Ranking. Taylor, a graduate of the University of Washington, won the 2010 Ben Hogan Award as the outstanding male amateur and collegiate golfer of the year while Hill won the 2009 NCAA Division I individual title while attending North Carolina State and is a former Jack Nicklaus Award winner. Taylor, a former Canadian Junior and Amateur champion will be competing in the RBC Canadian Open for the 4th time while Hill is competing in his 3rd RBC Canadian Open.

With the addition of Hadwin, Taylor and Hill, the field for the 2011 RBC Canadian Open currently includes 13 Canadians, each looking to become the first Canadian since Pat Fletcher in 1954 to win Canada's National Open title.

"We are pleased to welcome Adam Hadwin, Nick Taylor and Matt Hill to the field for Canada's National Open Championship," said Bill Paul, Tournament Director for the RBC Canadian Open. "Adam has been playing as well as any Canadian over the past year since finishing as the low Canadian at last year's Open and Matt and Nick are two of this country's most promising young golfers. We are hoping that each of these talented competitors can capitalize on a start in our National Championship to build momentum in their professional careers."

Jon Mills of Oshawa, Ont. was also offered an exemption to compete at Shaughnessy, however, he turned down the exemption in order to focus his efforts on the Nationwide Tour. Mills, a 2-time winner on the Nationwide Tour is currently No. 25 on the Nationwide Tour Order of Merit. The top 25 players on the Nationwide Tour money list at season's end will earn their 2012 PGA TOUR card.

Hadwin, Taylor and Hill will join Canadian favorites and PGA TOUR members Stephen Ames of Calgary, Canadian Golf Hall of Famer Mike Weir of Bright's Grove, Ont., Graham DeLaet of Weyburn, Sask., David Hearn of Brantford Ont., Chris Baryla of Vernon, B.C., Matt McQuillan of Kingston, Ont. Also competing at Shaughnessy is the 2010 Canadian PGA Club Pro Champion Brian Hutton of Burlington, Ont. as well as 2-time defending Canadian Men's Mid-Amateur Champion Dave Bunker of Woodbridge, Ont.

Other Canadians already exempt include Team Canada members Albin Choi of Toronto and Eugene Wong of Vancouver. Choi is the defending Canadian Men's Amateur while Wong, the 2010 Jack Nicklaus Award winner, was granted an exemption last week.



Six more exemptions into the field for the 2011 RBC Canadian Open will be confirmed in the coming weeks as the Canadian Tour makes its way across Canada. In addition to the winner of the Canadian Tour Players Cup (July 14-17 in Winnipeg), the top five players on the Canadian Tour Order of Merit (not otherwise exempt) at the conclusion of the Canadian Tour Players Cup will earn an exemption to compete at Shaughnessy.

RBC CANADIAN OPEN ONLINE AUCTION

As part of the charitable commitment of the 2011 RBC Canadian Open, golf fans from coast to coast can take part in an online auction with a chance to bid on exclusive VIP golf experiences and other memorabilia.

The online auction at www.rbccanadianopen.com/auction, runs from June 7 to July 24, 2011 and offers five different bidding lots. Premium items available for auction include VIP trips to the most coveted professional golf events such as the Ryder Cup, PGA Championship and Grand Slam of Golf as well as the World Junior Hockey Championship and Toronto International Film Festival. There are also several unique pieces of autographed memorabilia up for auction.

All proceeds from the online charity auction will go directly to The Mike Weir Foundation, the National Charity Partner of the RBC Canadian Open.

Opening auction bids will be listed with each item — some items starting as low as \$20 — to ensure that all golf fans are able to participate. One of the key commitments made by RBC and Golf Canada is for the RBC Canadian Open to generate \$5 million over five years in support of children's wellness in Canada. Since 2008, the RBC Canadian Open has contributed over \$3 million dollars to various charities and community programs.

ABOUT THE 2011 RBC CANADIAN OPEN

An exciting new era has arrived for Canada's national championship. Part of the FedEx Cup, stars of the PGA TOUR will compete for \$5.2 million (US) at the RBC Canadian Open, July 18-24, 2011 at Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club in Vancouver. Established in 1904, the tournament is the third-oldest national open golf championship worldwide next to the British Open and the U.S. Open. The RBC Canadian Open is proudly sponsored by RBC, Bell, BMW Group Canada, C.F.F Stainless Steels, Corona Extra, TaylorMade adidas Golf, The Glenlivet, The Globe and Mail, Mike Weir Wine, LG, WagJag.com and Reader's Digest. For updated corporate hospitality, tickets, volunteer and sponsorship information please visit www.rbccanadianopen.com or call 1-800-571-6736.

RBC AND THE RBC CANADIAN OPEN

In partnership with Golf Canada, RBC is the title sponsor of the RBC Canadian Open, the third oldest national golf championship worldwide, next only to the British Open and the U.S. Open. With a history of great players and premier fields, the RBC Canadian Open provides golf fans with the opportunity to experience the excitement of a world class event on Canadian soil. RBC also sponsors all levels of amateur sport, from grassroots programs in local communities to national sport organizations and elite-level athletes, and is Premier National Partner of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

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GOLF CANADA – LOVE THE GAME. GROW THE GAME.

Golf Canada – a member-based organization governed by the Royal Canadian Golf Association (RCGA) – is the governing body of golf in Canada, representing close to 350,000 members at almost 1,500 clubs across the country. Recognized by Sport Canada as the National Sports Organization (NSO) for golf in this country, Golf Canada is responsible for promoting participation in and a passion for the game of golf in Canada.

A proud member of the Canadian Olympic Committee, Golf Canada actively conducts championships, programs and services to help shape the present and future of golf in Canada. High performance athlete development, National Golf in Schools, Golf Fore the Cure, the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame and Museum and CN Future Links, Canada's national junior golf program, are only some of the initiatives the association leads for golf in Canada. As the authority for golf in Canada, the association also administers the Rules of Golf, amateur status and handicapping and course rating under the respected RCGA brand.

In addition, Golf Canada conducts Canada's most prestigious golf championships. The RBC Canadian Open and CN Canadian Women's Open attract the best professional golfers in the world, while regional junior and national amateur championships provide world class competitive opportunities for Canada's top golfers to showcase their talents. For more information about what Golf Canada is doing to support golf in your community, visit us online at www.golfcanada.ca.

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