

# MAKING CHANGE

Tips From an Underage Overachiever



December 14, 2009

**Re: 13 Year Old Toronto Teen Bilaal Rajan To Carry Olympic Torch in Toronto**

Dear Friends,

Bilaal Rajan, the 13 year old UNICEF Children's Ambassador, youth activist, best-selling author and fundraising *wunderkind* will be participating in the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay in downtown Toronto on December 17th.

"It's an incredible honour to carry the Olympic Flame," says Rajan, who was originally chosen by the Relay Committee in September. "The Olympics have such an important message of international cooperation and goodwill, and to participate in this event is just overwhelming. I can't wait."

**The young Torontonian will start his torch relay at approximately 6:25 pm at the back of Sick Kids Hospital on Elizabeth Avenue (a block south of College St., just east of University Ave.) and jog to the entrance of the hospital.**

Olympic tradition has the torch lit in Olympus, Greece – the original place of the very first Games in 776 B.C. – and then delivered to the host country for each Winter and Summer event. For the Vancouver Games, the torch was flown from Greece over the North Pole to Canada's High Arctic and later taken by torchbearers through several cities and towns throughout the country.



Rajan will be one of more than 12,000 torchbearers during the next few weeks, including celebrities like Shania Twain and hockey star Sidney Crosby. "It's incredible knowing I will carry the same torch as thousands of others throughout our land from coast to coast, he says.

Besides traveling throughout the world and raising millions of dollars for programs that help kids in need, Rajan is a junior championship skier in his own right. "It takes incredible dedication and hard work to become an Olympic champion. It would be a dream to ski for Canada's Olympic team one day," he says. "But for now, I can get a little taste of the Olympic dream carrying the flame high."

If you would like to attend Bilaal's carrying of the torch or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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