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**BRAMPTON SET TO HOST NATIONAL FIREFIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

BRAMPTON, ON: It's been called the toughest two minutes in sport. On Thursday, September 2, nearly 500 firefighters from across the country will be in Brampton for the National Scott FireFit Championships. The four-day competitive event features a challenging course that requires firefighters to use the skills and strength they employ when responding to an emergency. There are both team and individual course relays for males and females.

"Brampton is honoured to be hosting Canada's firefighting community this weekend," says Mayor Susan Fennell. "The Scott FireFit Championships showcase the strength, endurance and bravery it takes to be a firefighter. The event also gives the public a chance to see these skills firsthand."

The Scott FireFit Championships are free of charge, and feature a festival-like atmosphere where families can cheer on competitors. The event is also being recorded and will be broadcast on TSN and RDS sports channels in October. Individual and team winners of this national event will represent Canada at the world championships in Myrtle Beach in November.

This week's competition takes place at the South Fletcher's Sportsplex at 500 Ray Lawson Blvd. The event begins daily at 10 am. Thursday and Friday feature preliminary round competition, with the semi-finals and finals taking place Saturday and Sunday. The opening ceremony for the weekend events begins 10 am Saturday. Mayor Susan Fennell, Brampton Fire Chief Andy MacDonald and the Brampton Fire Department Honour Guard will welcome participants.

"This is a highly competitive event that will showcase the incredible skill and endurance that firefighters have," says Brampton Fire Chief Andy MacDonald. "We expect to see a number of national and world records being broken in both the male and female divisions."

**The FireFit course**

The FireFit course features a variety of challenging components, including climbing and descending six flights of stairs, hitting a target with a fully charged fire hose, and carrying an 80 kg mannequin 30 metres – all while wearing a complete firefighting outfit.

For more information about the Scott FireFit Championships and for a complete event schedule, visit [www.firefit.com](http://www.firefit.com).

### **Fundraiser**

On Sunday August 22, a group of Napanee firefighters and their families were involved in a deadly bus accident outside of Woodstock. The wife of a volunteer firefighter was killed and twelve others were seriously injured. There will be a special silent auction fundraiser taking place during the Scott FireFit Championship weekend in support of the three daughters who lost their mother. Donations from the public are also welcome.

**About Brampton:** The 11<sup>th</sup> largest city in Canada, Brampton has a successful, well-diversified economy and is home to more than 8,000 businesses. The City continues to retain a Triple 'A' credit rating by Standard & Poor's, reflecting its successful economy and debt-free position. Brampton celebrates its diverse population that represents people from more than 175 distinct ethnic backgrounds who speak more than 70 different languages. Offering more than 6,000 acres of parkland, Brampton takes pride in being known as the Flower City of Canada. Brampton has been designated as an International Safe Community by the World Health Organization. For more information visit [www.brampton.ca](http://www.brampton.ca)

- 30 -

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