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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The Battle of the Blades is Over
Collingwood Minor Hockey Association Endorses the Collingwood Skating Club**

COLLINGWOOD, ON – In this corner of the arena – hockey! In the other corner – figure skating! These two winter sports have always battled to run the rink. But as the snowy season approaches, athletes across the ice can now meet on common ground: the Collingwood Skating Club. The Collingwood Skating Club is pleased to announce an official endorsement from the Collingwood Minor Hockey Association.

Basic skating skills are vital for any on-ice sport – hockey is no exception. To build technique and confidence, the Collingwood Minor Hockey Association recommends the Collingwood Skating Club's CanSkate program. This nationally certified learn-to-skate program teaches fundamental skating movements and skills to kids ages 3 and up. Through fun, participation, challenge and achievement, CanSkate provides aspiring athletes with a strong foundation for success in any on-ice sport.

To register for the 2011-2012 season, visit the Eddie Bush Arena on Saturday, September 17th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Guests are invited to browse the skating equipment and Club merchandise on sale in the lobby, and registered skaters are invited to a free funskate from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. A second registration will take place on Wednesday September 28th from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., also at the arena.

"All children should learn to skate before registering for hockey" says Chris Potts, President of the Collingwood Minor Hockey Association. "I'm such a believer in this."

"Regardless of the on-ice activity your child eventually chooses, Hockey, Ringette, Figure Skating, or just learning to skate confidently, CanSkate provides the basic fundamentals needed to succeed," says Tammy Carlson, Co-President of the Collingwood Skating Club.

For more information on programming, schedules, or pricing, please contact Martha Whitton, Registration Chair, at executive@collingwoodskatingclub.com or visit www.collingwoodskatingclub.com.

The Collingwood Skating Club is a non-profit youth sports organization operating in the Eddie Bush Memorial Arena in Collingwood, Ontario. For 60 years, the Club's Skate Canada certified coaches and programs have been encouraging the instruction, practice, enjoyment and advancement of our members in all aspects of skating.

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