



## **CANADA ARMY RUN TO SALUTE INJURED SOLDIERS AND ATHLETES WITH A DISABILITY**

OTTAWA, ON – (August 27, 2008) A key part of the inaugural Canada Army Run will be a salute to this country's injured soldiers, with race proceeds going to support the Military Families Fund and the Soldier On Fund, which provides resources and opportunities for CF personnel with a disability to fully and actively participate in physical activity, recreation and sport. Some of Canada's injured soldiers will take part in the September 21 event, which starts near City Hall in Ottawa.

Among them will be Cpl Shaun Favens, 25, who survived a bomb blast in Afghanistan two years ago that killed six of his fellow soldiers riding in the same light armoured vehicle. Favens was told he would never walk again but he plans to run the 5k with his physiotherapist, Capt Adam Hannaford, of Halifax.

"Being injured hasn't been the end of the world for me, but it's been a long road back," he says. "I may not be able to run the whole race but I owe it to myself, my fallen brothers and my comrades to go as far as I can."

MCpl Paul Franklin, who lost both legs in a suicide bombing in Kandahar three years ago, plans to cover the 5k race distance in a wheelchair. "This Run is about telling the world that our spirit doesn't die just because we're injured. It's also a chance for us to draw inspiration from each other."

Several U.S. soldiers who sustained permanent injuries in the Iraq conflict will also be taking part, as will other athletes with disabilities. They will be given a special early departure of 7:45 AM for the 5k and 8:45 AM for the Half Marathon, 15 minutes before the main field.

"I've experienced the raw emotion first-hand of running beside an injured soldier at the U.S. Army Ten-Miler in Washington ... and what it means to them to tell the world that their fight continues," says Canada Army Run director, Major Chris Horeczy. "I have no doubt that people in our race will feel the same."

Injured soldiers and all athletes with a disability interested in taking part in the Canada Army Run are encouraged to contact race organizers at [info@armyrun.ca](mailto:info@armyrun.ca).

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