

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, June 21, 2010

CHRIS WHYMAN MAINTAINS REIGN WITH SECOND WORLD TOWN CRIER CHAMPIONSHIP

Kingston, ON: Tourism Kingston, a division of the Kingston Economic Development Corporation (KEDCO) is proud to announce that Chris Whyman, Kingston's official Town Crier and Goodwill Ambassador won first place in the Chester World Town Crier Tournament in England on Saturday, June 19.

More than 40 Town Criers from around the world gathered in Chester to compete for the title of World Town Crier, part of the 2010 Chestival Festival in England. Town criers from as far as Canada, USA, Australia, New Zealand and Europe were invited to vie for the world title. Contestants are judged in a variety of categories including volume and clarity of cry; dictation and inflection; and, how they engage the audience.

Whyman shared his success with friends and family via email, writing, "I woke up and let's just say I had a voicebut not just any voice, enough of a voice to take the championship again!!!! This was the toughest competition I have been in for a while, with powerful Canadian representatives as well as the Brits. I was so surprised when it was announced that I won, that I really couldn't believe it. I was one hour doing interviews and on camera spots for BBC and many local stations."

"We are incredibly proud of Chris and his great accomplishment at the World Championships. He truly lives out his role as an ambassador of this City in everything he does. Kingston has always known that Chris is number one, now the world knows it too," says Rob Carnegie, Director of Tourism Marketing and Development.

This is the second win for Whyman who was awarded this title in 2004. When not donning his Crier uniform, he works for Tourism Kingston as Visitor Services Manager.

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