



Red Carpet Affair 2010



**An Evening of
Celebration and
Community Recognition
Gala Dinner
Live and Silent Auction**

**Friday, March 5, 2010
Shaw Conference Centre
Hall D - Edmonton**



PATRON'S COUNCIL

Honourary Patron
Marie Stelmach

Honourary Co-Chairs
Dr. Robert D. Steadward
PhD, O.C., LL.D.
Gary McPherson
C.M., A.O.E., LL.D.

Sheelah Zapf, Chair
Pam Bennett
James H. Brown
Lisa Crown
Bill Hendsbee
Bev Matthiessen
Raymond Royer
Teren Clarke
*Executive Director, Canadian
Paraplegic Association (Alberta)*

**For Immediate Release
November 13, 2009**

Guest Speaker:
The Honourable Steven Fletcher, PC, MP
Minister of State (Democratic Reform)
First person with a permanent disability
to be elected to the House of Commons

Steven Fletcher coming to Edmonton to receive Christopher Reeve Award

The Canadian Paraplegic Association (Alberta) announced today its winner of the annual Christopher Reeve Award. The Honourable Steven Fletcher, PC, MP, Minister of State (Democratic Reform) will come to Edmonton to receive the award and act as guest speaker on March 5th, when the Canadian Paraplegic Association (Alberta) will be hosting its annual fundraiser, the Red Carpet Affair.

With lead sponsorship from James H. Brown & Associates, and a host of additional supporters in Edmonton, the Red Carpet Affair is an evening of community celebration and recognition of those with spinal cord injuries and other physical disabilities.

“We have been able to honour some extraordinary people with spinal cord injury each year at the Red Carpet Affair and 2010 will be no exception,” said Teren Clarke, Executive Director of the Canadian Paraplegic Association (Alberta) when the announcement was made earlier today. “Steven Fletcher’s journey is an inspiration to all of us since sustaining a high level spinal cord injury only a few years ago. And now as a member of the Federal Cabinet, he deals with matters well beyond the scope of disability issues, and that deserves our recognition with this national/international award.”

Steven Fletcher’s accomplishments are so numerous that it’s hard to believe that some of his greatest achievements came after he sustained a spinal cord injury. His work as a graduate engineer in the mining industry ended abruptly when a vehicle collision with a moose left him paralyzed from the neck down. After hospitalization and rehabilitation, he returned to school to obtain his Masters in Business Administration, while also serving as student body president at the University of Manitoba.

more...

305 Hys Centre, 11010 101 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5H 4B9
Phone: (780) 424-6312 Email: marc.auinn@cpa-ab.org



Steven Fletcher became the first person with a permanent disability to be elected to the House of Commons in 2004. Re-elected in 2006 and 2008, Steven Fletcher is now Minister of State for Democratic Reform and is one of five Ministers who serve on the Treasury Board cabinet committee.

Fletcher has been inducted into the Terry Fox Hall of Fame, has received the King Clancy Award and is also the recipient of her Majesty's Golden Jubilee Medal for his contributions to Canada. He was twice elected President of the Progressive Conservative Party of Manitoba and has played a leading role in many community organizations, including the Canadian Paraplegic Association.

The Christopher Reeve Award: Conceived and developed by the Canadian Paraplegic Association (Alberta) in 2005 as a fitting tribute to Christopher Reeve who passed away just prior to his planned appearance at the CPA (Alberta) Red Carpet Affair in Calgary in 2004. First developed in 2005 as a national and international recognition, the Christopher Reeve Award is given annually to an individual who, on a national or international level, has made an outstanding contribution to the global village of persons with spinal cord injuries and other physical disabilities. Past recipients are Jeff Adams (2006), Rick Hansen (2007), Sam Sullivan (2008), and Chantal Petitclerc (2009).

The gala takes place at the Shaw Conference Centre Hall D, on March 5, 2010, when Edmonton will welcome and recognize Canada's Minister of State for Democratic Reform, the Honourable Steven Fletcher.

The Canadian Paraplegic Association (Alberta) provides services to persons with spinal cord injury and other physical disabilities through rehabilitation support and service coordination, community advocacy, peer support, aboriginal services and information services to help clients, and their families, regain their health and independence after an injury.

For more information, please contact:
Marc Quinn,
Canadian Paraplegic Association (Alberta)
Phone: (780) 424-6312 ext. 2226,
E-mail: marc.quinn@cpa-ab.org