

## Cool Bowlings Comes to Northern Ireland

November 24, 2008

**Belfast, Northern Ireland:** Today marked the opening of the IV Commonwealth Tenpin Bowling Championships 2008 held at Dundonald International Ice Bowl in Northern Ireland. This prestigious event has National Teams participating from Australia, Bahamas, Canada, Cyprus, England, Gibraltar, Guernsey, India, Northern Ireland, Jersey, Malaysia, Malta, New Zealand, Pakistan, Scotland, Singapore and Wales.

The ceremony was attended by dignitaries, nationals and invited guests from the Commonwealth nations, including the main speakers: Cllr. Mrs Ann-Marie Beattie MLA - Mayor of Castlereagh, Cllr. Mrs Margaret McKenzie MLA - High Sheriff of Belfast, Mr Billy Beattie - President of the Northern Ireland Tenpin Bowling Federation, Mr Julian Pace Bonelio - President of the Commonwealth Tenpin Bowling Federation and Mr Addie Ophelders - President of the European Tenpin Bowling Federation. Tomorrow night a reception hosted by The Hon. Mr Gregory Campbell MP, MLA, Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure, will take place at Stormont Parliament Buildings, in Belfast.

Mayor of Castlereagh, Cllr. Beattie, explained to the packed audience her sincerest appreciation to all involved in the organisation of such an international championship and celebrating those that have made the commitment, travelling thousands of miles to compete.

The celebrations included music from Different Drums, Scottish-Irish dancing and a banquet of food and drink from the different Commonwealth countries.

Dr. Christopher Stange - Hon. Consul for St. Vincent and the Grenadines in Northern Ireland who attended the event added: "Today is about celebrating all the many people and communities from the Commonwealth, which now contribute and enrich our society. Our society is more diverse than ever before and Northern Ireland is better because of these influences. While Tenpin Bowling would not be played in the Eastern Caribbean, I am delighted we could arrange for The Commonwealth of The Bahamas to send a National Team, representing the Caribbean people and region at these championships."



**L to R: Mr David Caprom; Mrs Rochelle Russell; Mr Lindberg Cooper; Mrs Justina Sturup; Mrs Monique Leary: President - Bahamas Bowling Federation; Dr Christopher Stange – Hon. Consul for St. Vincent and the Grenadines in Northern Ireland; Mr Clarence Wallace**

**ENDS**

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