

VIRGINIA SCOTTISH GAMES ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 1338, Alexandria, VA 22313



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2009

City of Washington Pipe Band to Headline Saturday Night Concert

Alexandria, VA - In 2009 the *Virginia Scottish Games & Festival* will be hosting a Saturday night concert during Games Weekend. Headlining the Saturday night concert will be the World Champion City of Washington Pipe Band. In 1999, the band took the title of World Champion in Grade Two. Following their success at the World Championships in Scotland, the band geared up for the intense competitive environment of Grade One. In 2001 the band made the finals in the World Championships and took 12th overall. Now firmly ensconced in Grade One, the band performs at major concert halls and events throughout North America. These experiences have brought the band's music to a whole new level of professionalism, even as the band continues competing in Grade One in Canada and Scotland. The concert will kick off at 6PM with Alex Beaton and then Glengarry Bhoys. Those holding a Saturday ticket or 2009 Weekend Pass to the *Games* are welcome to remain for the concert. Tickets for the Saturday night concert are \$10 and may be purchased at the gate beginning at 4PM.

The *Virginia Scottish Games* is an annual state-sponsored event celebrating the rich Scottish heritage and traditions of so many of Virginia's first families. The *Games* began in 1974 as an officially sponsored event of the City of Alexandria. For 33 years, the *Games* were held every July at Episcopal High School in Alexandria, VA. In 2007, the *Games* moved west to Fauquier County. The *Games* have grown steadily throughout the years and now typically draw on average 15,000 to 20,000 over two days from across the Northern Virginia region and beyond.

The cornerstone of the *Virginia Scottish Games* is the highland athletic competition. Throughout the years the *Games* has played host to numerous professional and amateur championships. In 2009, the *Games* will host many of the top-ranked professional athletes in North America to include several who have competed at the recent World Championships. Also joining us this year is the City of Washington Pipe Band who will be headlining our Saturday evening concert. They are one of only three Grade 1 pipe bands currently in the United States. The *Games* is rounded out with piping & drumming, highland dancing, and fiddling competitions along with sheep-herding demonstrations, an antique car show, a variety of vendors & crafters, clan and society exhibits, a living history encampment, activities just for the children, entertainment on the main stage to include Alex Beaton and Glengarry Bhoys, and plenty of Scottish food and drink.

The 36th *Annual Virginia Scottish Games & Festival* will take place on September 5-6, 2009 at Great Meadow in The Plains, VA. Gates open at 9AM and close at 8PM on Saturday and 6PM on Sunday. Tickets are \$18 (\$10 after 4PM). Children 5 - 12 are \$5 and under 5 are free. A two-day pass can be purchased for \$25. Active duty military receive \$5 off the price of admission with ID at the gate. Discounted tickets and a schedule of events will be available online at www.vascottishgames.org in summer 2009. Great Meadow is located at 5089 Old Tavern Rd in The Plains, VA and is just a short 30 minute drive on I-66 from either the Washington Beltway or I-81.

If you require additional information about the *Virginia Scottish Games*, please contact the Virginia Scottish Games Association at info@vascottishgames.org or 703-912-1943.