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Six More International Stars will Fire into Calgary for the 2019 Shaw Charity Classic
—Vijay Singh, Jesper Parnevik, Ken Tanigawa, David Frost, Carlos Franco and Esteban Toledo to bring flags from around the world to award-winning tournament—

CALGARY—Six more flags from around the globe will be soaring above the putting green at Canyon Meadows Golf and Country Club during the 2019 Shaw Charity Classic, August 28 – September 1.

Vijay Singh (Fiji), Jesper Parnevik (Sweden), Carlos Franco (Paraguay), Ken Tanigawa (United States), Esteban Toledo (Mexico), and David Frost (South Africa) will add to the international flare that will be on display for Calgary golf fans at Canyon Meadows Golf and Country Club.

“Calgary has an uncanny ability to attract the top stars from around the world regardless of the event, and the Shaw Charity Classic is no different,” said Sean Van Kesteren, executive director, Shaw Charity Classic. “The Shaw Charity Classic offers so much more than a great golf course to the best players on Tour. The beauty of the Rocky Mountains, world-class fishing and activities on the Bow River, along with our unique cowboy culture, first class restaurants and friendly hospitality all play a critical role in attracting the top senior golfers beyond North America to our tournament.”

Vijay Singh brings additional firepower to the tee deck at Canyon Meadows. The 56-year-old Fijian has won 64 times worldwide including 34 wins on the PGA TOUR, 13 European Tour victories and five wins on the Asian Tour. Capturing more wins than anyone after the age of 40, the “Big Fijian” has three Major titles throughout his illustrious career. He won the 2004 and 1998 PGA Championships, and put on a Green Jacket after winning the 2000 Masters. Singh was the World Number 1 for 32 weeks between 2004 and 2005. He racked up 13 of his PGA TOUR victories during that two-year period — none more memorable for golf fans north of the border than when he topped Canada’s Mike Weir in a dramatic playoff duel at the Canadian Open, denying fans a celebration they had been waiting to have for 50 years.

“I have fond memories of playing in Canada. The fans share my passion for the game and have always treated me with great respect. I am excited to have the opportunity to try and win another title up north this September,” said Singh, who won the 2008 FedEx Cup and has played on eight President Cup Teams for the International squad.

One of Singh’s four wins on the PGA TOUR Champions came at the 2017 Bass Pro Legends of Golf with Carlos Franco, who won the 2016 Shaw Charity Classic and will also be back in Calgary in August.

Jesper Parnevik will make his fourth trip to Calgary since turning 50. A five-time winner on the PGA TOUR before battling a series of injuries, the Swede captured his only PGA TOUR Champions win in 2015 at the Insperity Invitational in The Woodlands, TX.

“This is such a beautiful part of the world and I always love playing in Canada. I would not miss this tournament,” said Parnevik. “The golf course is beautiful, really tight with lots of Christmas trees on either side of the fairways. You gotta keep it in play, and if you do, anything can happen. It’s going to be a great week.”



The hottest new star on the PGA TOUR Champions, Ken Tanigawa, will also make a return trip to Calgary. Born in Japan before moving to the United States where he became an accomplished amateur player until he turned 50 when he got his shot to tee it up against many of his heroes in the game. Tanigawa has lived his dream over the last two years. The 51-year-old, who is now currently ranked third overall on the Charles Schwab Cup Money List, captured his second victory and first major on the PGA TOUR Champions, winning the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship.

Fan-favourites David Frost and Esteban Toledo will both make their seventh-straight trip to Calgary. A 10-time winner on the PGA TOUR including the 1993 Canadian Open, David Frost has taken in all the beauty the City of Calgary has to offer between tee times. In addition to carding top-12 finishes in five of his previous six appearances at the Shaw Charity Classic, Frost and his wife blasted down the Olympic bobsleigh track in Calgary and have taken multiple trips to Banff.

"Calgary creates the stage that all professional golfers want to play in front of. There are thousands of people watching us at Canyon Meadows every year regardless of the weather conditions, and that makes this tournament enjoyable to play," said Frost, who had the first round lead in 2016. "I have played really well in Calgary over the years and have had a lot of fun there. Hopefully I'll get the crowd to make some noise with a good week again this year."

Toledo, who has spent his time in Calgary doing charitable appearances including a memorable visit to the Alberta Children's Hospital, will bring his four PGA TOUR Champions titles with him to Calgary. The entertaining Mexican enjoyed a breakthrough season in 2013 with two victories including a win during a Montreal stop on the PGA TOUR Champions. His latest victory on the senior swing came in 2016 at the Allianz Championship. He will look to improve on his best finish in Calgary when he was eighth last year.

"The Shaw Charity Classic is one of my favourite events on the Tour. It is in a great town and a lot of people show up for the tournament, which makes it fun for us because we love putting on a show," said Esteban Toledo. "I haven't missed an event yet and I don't plan too. The tournament does everything right, and has such an incredible impact on the community. We love everyone up there and I can't wait to get back."

About the Shaw Charity Classic

The Shaw Charity Classic will host some of the greatest names in the game of golf in Calgary at the Canyon Meadows Golf and Country Club, August 28 – September 1, 2019. The field, which will consist of 78 stars on the PGA TOUR Champions, will compete for US \$2.35 million in a three-round, 54-hole stroke-play tournament. The winner will receive US \$352,500. The annual PGA TOUR Champions stop in Canada showcases Calgary to the world through its broadcast on the Golf Channel. Led by a philanthropic Patron Group including Tournament Chairman – Jim Riddell, Allan Markin, Keith MacPhail, Guy Turcotte, Gary Peddle, Mike Culbert and PGA Tour Professional – Stephen Ames, along with title sponsor, Shaw Communications, the Shaw Charity Classic won the prestigious President's Award as the top event on the PGA TOUR Champions in 2017, 2015 and 2014. The Tournament has raised more than \$34 million in its first six years, with a PGA TOUR Champions record-setting donation of \$12,357,863 raised in 2018 that was distributed amongst 182 youth-based charities in Alberta. For more information on the event, please visit www.shawcharityclassic.com. Follow the Shaw Charity Classic at facebook.com/shawcharityclassic and on Twitter @shawclassic.



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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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