

NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE HANDED OUT TO COMMUNITIES ACROSS BC

BCRPA presents its Provincial Awards of Excellence for innovation in the parks, recreation & culture sector.

Penticton, BC (Friday, May 14, 2010) – Communities from across the province have won Awards of Excellence from the BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA). The awards recognize outstanding efforts and innovation in the parks, recreation, physical activity and culture sector. Eight awards were presented this year in four categories:

Program Excellence Award:

- **North Vancouver Recreation Commission** for its Health and Wellness Project for Newcomers
- **City of Surrey** for its MoYO - Mobile Youth Outreach Program

PERC Award for Management Innovation and Integrity:

- **District of Kitimat**

Parks and Open Spaces Award:

- **City of Richmond** for Garden City Community Park Play Environment
- **City of New Westminster** for *Step up to 12th Street* Public Art Community Initiative

Facility Excellence Award:

- **City of Kelowna** for the H2O Adventure and Fitness Centre
- **District of Kitimat** for the Sam Lindsay Aquatic Centre
- **District of West Vancouver** for the West Vancouver Community Centre

The BCRPA Provincial Awards showcase the innovative work being done in the province. “Every year we take time to recognize and celebrate the creative work occurring within our sector,” explains BCRPA Chief Executive Officer Suzanne Allard Strutt. “Each of our award recipients has raised the standard of excellence for supporting active, healthy lifestyles within their communities and throughout the province. Their work inspires us all and plays a significant role in enhancing the quality of life for all British Columbians.”

The Awards of Excellence are presented annually at BCRPA’s Symposium. The conference brings together members of the parks, recreation, physical activity and culture sector from around BC, including elected officials, volunteers, members of the business community and others. This year’s event was held in Penticton.

BACKGROUND:

The British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) is a not for profit organization dedicated to building and sustaining active healthy lifestyles and communities in BC. Established in 1958, the Association is a central resource agency for members and stakeholders of the parks, recreation, physical activity and culture industry sector, providing leadership, training and support to help meet national, provincial and local priorities. Through a diverse network of partners and extensive programs and

services, BCRPA actively advocates accessibility and inclusiveness to recreation and physical activity and strives to bridge the gap between recreation and sport.

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