

# **NEWS RELEASE**



**For Immediate Release**

## **DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER WINS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FROM BCRPA**

*West Vancouver Community Centre honoured with Facility Excellence Award.*

**Penticton, BC (Friday, May 14, 2010)** – The District of West Vancouver has won a provincial Award of Excellence from the BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA). The Facility Excellence Award has been presented for the high standards set by the West Vancouver Community Centre (WVCC).

Conceived as a replacement for outdated and deteriorating facilities from the 1950's and 1960's, the centre presents a dynamic approach to community centre design that looks towards the future while revitalizing important public buildings. Built to meet sustainability, aesthetic, and recreational priorities, the Centre was designed to LEED Gold standards and was registered and built within those guidelines. The project introduced the first vertically bored ground source heat recovery system in BC, eventually providing 40% of the energy requirements for the whole complex. The facility provides a comprehensive mix of Community Recreation and Community Health functions in a unique "Wellness" centre within a facility where high quality architectural design has been applied throughout.

"The WVCC is at once a functional community facility and an example of architectural design excellence," states BCRPA Chief Executive Officer Suzanne Allard Strutt. "The District has created a centre that meets and exceeds social and environmental priorities. It has created a new model for the parks, recreation, and culture sector to draw inspiration from and a legacy for the community to enjoy for generations to come."

The Facility Excellence Award recognizes excellence in facility concept, design development, maintenance, or operation. The award recipient demonstrates outstanding innovation which has made, or could make, significant impact in the Recreation & Parks field. The Facility Excellence award is one of several awards presented at BCRPA's Symposium today. 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. Penticton is the partner community of this year's event.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association 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 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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