

NEWS RELEASE



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SURREY FITNESS PROFESSIONAL WINS PROVINCIAL AWARD

BCRPA presents Kim Bond with award at annual conference.

North Vancouver, BC (Saturday, October 1, 2011) – The BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) has presented Surrey resident Kim Bond with one of its prestigious annual Fitness Leadership Awards. Bond has won the Program Director/Manager of the Year Award for inspiring staff and volunteers to be involved and do their best, and for her contribution to professional credibility and the promotion of fitness leadership.

Bond is the owner and group fitness director of Live2Play Fitness Studio. She continues to work as a personal trainer, helping people achieve their fitness goals while also managing staff, training new fitness leaders and finding ways to help move the fitness industry forward in both professionalism and standard. Bond helped to bring the pre-choreographed program "R.I.P.P.E.D. to Canada and launched its first training session in April 2011. She also re-wrote and expanded the Hilltop Academy 340 hour Fitness Leadership Diploma program into a 400 hour program. Her efforts to educate, motivate and inspire people from all walks of life to embrace healthy and active lifestyles have extended to the community through volunteer work as well. She has performed various warm-ups throughout the community and is an active coach for the Steve Nash Youth Basketball League coaching a grade 6-7 mixed team.

BCRPA Chief Executive Officer Suzanne Allard Strutt says. "As a program coordinator at Hilltop Academy and as an industry expert helping Canadian Fitness Education Services to revise its teaching materials, Kim has made significant contributions to fitness leader education and the fitness profession. With this award we are celebrating her dedication to excellence that is not only an asset to her clients and students; it lends great credibility to her work to maintain and improve the fitness sector as a whole."

The annual BCRPA Fitness Leadership Awards highlight the outstanding efforts of the top fitness professionals (Fitness Leaders) from around the province. The awards recognize professional commitment through community and industry involvement. The categories are: Fitness Leader of the Year, Educator of the Year, and Program Director of the Year.

The awards ceremony will be held on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011 from 9:15am to 10:15am at the Capilano University Sportsplex. The event takes place as part of BC Fit '11 – BCRPA's annual fitness conference, which brings together hundreds of registered Fitness Leaders from across BC to discuss fitness and health-related topics and to provide professional development opportunities.

There are currently more than 5,400 Fitness Leaders registered with the BCRPA. They work in public and private facilities, including recreation centres, gyms, pools, health clubs and spas, and outdoor settings. They assist individuals and groups in becoming strong and mobile and staying healthy.

Photo available upon request.

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, providing leadership, training and support to help meet national, provincial and local priorities. The BCRPA identifies and promotes the highest professional standards for fitness leaders in BC through its Fitness Registration Program. The program is the sole provider of the National Fitness Leadership Alliance (NFLA) nationally recognized fitness leadership performance standards in BC. Through a diverse network of partners and extensive programs and services, the BCRPA actively advocates accessibility and inclusiveness to recreation and physical activity.

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