



News Release

June 1, 2006

Surrey School District students garner golds in best showing at Canadian Skills Competition

Students from three Surrey School District secondary schools have proven to be the best in Canada at their respective crafts in the 12th Canadian Skills Competition. The district medaled in four events; the most gold and total medals Surrey School District students have earned at one time in the national competition.

“We’re very proud of the level of effort and skill these students have demonstrated and congratulate them and all our provincial medalists,” says Surrey School Board chair Shawn Wilson. “Their achievements also reflect the commitment and support of their instructors and parents, and it’s rewarding for everyone involved in our district trades, fine arts and technology programs.”

Approximately 600 competitors, representing secondary, post secondary and apprenticeship skills levels, participated in the Olympic-style forum in Halifax, Nova Scotia from May 23 to May 26. The participants were tested by completing a skill challenge in their respective event categories.

Surrey School District medal winners are:

Gold – 3D Character Animation
Emily Nguyen & Wesley Chandler
North Surrey Secondary

Gold – TV/Video Production
Jake Dunbar (*silver, '05; gold in '04*)
& Kyle Stewart
Elgin Park Secondary

Gold – Internet Website Design
Joel Kitching
Earl Marriott Secondary

Bronze – Welding
Joe Grunau
Fraser Heights Secondary

Enver Creek Secondary student Joel Van Dijk finished just out of the medals in fourth place in Electrical Wiring. Joel Kitching qualifies to participate in the 39th World Skills Competition in Japan, to be held November 14 to 21, 2007. There is currently no TV/Video Production or 3D Character Animation categories in the World Skills Competition.

Earlier this year, Surrey School District students won 11 medals in 10 events (out of 22 secondary school events) at the B.C. Skills Competition. Grade 8 and 9 students garnered an additional four medals in two Junior Skills events (out of four available events).

-30-

For more information, please contact:

Doug Strachan
Manager, Communication Services
604-599-7468 (office)
778-772-5032 (cellular)
strachan_d@sd36.bc.ca