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Media Release

December 21, 2005

Fine Arts students benefit from \$15,000 Festival Christmas gift delivered by Westminster Savings Credit Union

For the 3rd successive year, the Surrey School District is delighted to announce that Westminster Savings Credit Union will be the title sponsor for the District's Fine Arts Festival des Beaux Arts. The company is contributing \$15,000 to fine arts education within the District.

The Westminster Savings Credit Union Fine Arts Festival des Beaux Arts takes place through the school year and has grown significantly since its inception more than a decade ago. More than 10,000 Surrey students from kindergarten through to grade 12 take part in the Festival in a wide variety of events.

Many of the Festival performances take place at the District's Bell Performing Arts Centre, a superb theatre with a capacity of 1,100. Other venues in 2006 include the Surrey Art Gallery, Kwantlen Park Secondary and K.B. Woodward Elementary.

All events are open to the public and are free of charge, except where noted.

Elementary Choral Festival @ The Bell Performing Arts Centre: March 1-2, & 6-9, 2006

Dance Festival @ The Bell Performing Arts Centre: April 3-6, 2006

Secondary Choral Festival @ The Bell Performing Arts Centre: April 13, 2006

Grade 8 Band Revue @ Kwantlen Park Secondary: April 26 & 27, 2006 (*Limited public seating*)

Core Music Instrumental Festival @ K.B. Woodward Elementary: May 10 & 11, 2006 (*Limited Public Seating*)

Elementary Art Show @ Semiahmoo Shopping Centre: May 15 – June 4, 2006

Secondary Art Show @: The Surrey Art Gallery: March 21-May 7, 2006

Festival des Beaux Arts @ The Bell Performing Arts Centre: May 15 & 16, 2006

For additional information on events, please call the Surrey School District's Fine Arts Department at (604)-590-2255.

"We are delighted that Westminster Savings Credit Union is teaming up with Surrey School District for the third year running," says Shawn Wilson, Chair of the Surrey School Board. "The Westminster Savings Credit Union Festival des Beaux Arts is a wonderful program that offers students the unique opportunity to demonstrate their creative skills in professional venues and the District is extremely grateful for their continued support and generous contribution."

"Our communities' well-being and success are important to the credit union," says Barry Forbes, President and CEO, Westminster Savings Credit Union. "We are committed to this through various local sponsorships and donations, Westminster Savings Foundation gifts, as well as the countless hours that our employees spend volunteering – both personally and through the credit union's staff-run Community Involvement Teams."

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The Westminster Savings Foundation was established in 1994 as a means of sharing the credit union's financial success with local charitable and non-profit groups. Since its inception, the foundation has been put over \$900,000 back into the community, focusing its funding towards groups operating within the Education, Health, Social Services, Youth, and/or Cultural sectors. Non-profit and charitable groups wishing to apply to the Westminster Savings Foundation are encouraged to visit www.wscu.com for details on funding guidelines and deadlines for applications.

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