



[www.creaturesofhabitat.ca](http://www.creaturesofhabitat.ca)

For Immediate Release

Date: (to be emailed)

## MEDIA ADVISORY

**SAANICH & SIDNEY, VICTORIA, BC:** Media are invited to cover the inaugural special-invitation-only “Creatures of Habitat-Days of Action-2009” where all of SD#63 Grade Six students will converge for a day of action on wellness. Students will engage in stream bed restoration, beach clean-up, ivy-pulling and tree-planting in green spaces around the Peninsula to explore the challenges to wellness, both personal and environmental, on the Saanich Peninsula.

The initiative is to educate and create proactive actions of responsibility in our leaders of tomorrow. This education-rich incentive was created by the SIWC, who partnered with (alphabetically) Peninsula Streams, Riverbank Designs, The Roy Group and School District #63.

Date: Earth Day, April 22

Time: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Locations: Mary Winspear Centre, Sidney  
Various field trip locations around the Saanich Peninsula

Other Info: Live entertainment and other activities include: environmental theatre skits; ‘green’ Jeopardy game; Community mapping and wellness and First Nations games.

### BACKGROUND:

Creatures of Habitat-Days of Action-2009 unfolded in the fall of 2008, when 5 motivated individuals (Ian Bruce, Anne-Marie Daniel, Britta Frombach, Susanne McMillan, and Tina Pierik) committed to affecting change for the future of their community. The Earth Day activities are the third phase in this initiative.

- Phase One invited students to design a Saanich Peninsula Environmental Superhero, which was launched at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sidney Health Fair. The winning design will be brought to life and finalists will be published in the Peninsula News Review on April 15, 2009.
- Phase Two is “Community School Interviews,” which helps students develop inquiry skills through interviewing Saanich Peninsula local “wellness heroes” ([http://www.csinterviews.ca/cs3/clients\\_march.html](http://www.csinterviews.ca/cs3/clients_march.html)).

The *Creatures of Habitat* logo was designed by prominent local Coast Salish First Nations artist, Chris Paul. The frog is a creature of great importance in Northwest Coast art and culture. As a creature that lives on water and land, Frog is revered for his adaptability, knowledge and power. A great communicator, Frog often represents the common ground or voice of the people. The pressure on our children to solve the problems related to personal and environmental health cannot be underestimated. By providing tools, support, entertainment and an orientation we help to build their capacity to respond and show the communities’ commitment to lead the way. When our communities support our young people, they can be heroes today.

**Organizations supporting Creatures of Habitat include** Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Coast Capital Savings, VanCity, The Victoria Foundation, Victoria Airport Authority, Town of Sidney and District of North Saanich.

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To arrange interviews or access to the events, please contact:

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