

PSA Media Advisory



For Immediate Release

Richmond Aboriginal Leadership and Life-skills for Youth (RALLY)

Starts January 15, 2009:

- WHAT:** RALLY program for Aboriginal Youth
- WHEN:** Begins, January 15 and runs through March 31
- WHERE:** Richmond Youth Service Agency with frequent outings and weekend camps
- WHO:** Aboriginal youth aged 14-24
- WHY:** An opportunity for Aboriginal youth to gain leadership and life skills. Youth will connect and make relationships with other Aboriginal youth their age and develop tools for success that will lead them to achieve their future goals. A variety of themes will promote self confidence and awareness as well as to encourage a personal empowerment through cultural and recreational components.

DETAILS:

Richmond Youth Service Agency is pleased to provide this opportunity for Aboriginal youth in the community. The program is designed to provide (15) youth participants with leadership and life skills training, all activities having cultural and recreational components. Areas of programming will include cooking classes with a traditional First Nations chef, carving lessons with a traditional master and teacher, leadership workshops and retreats, Ancient Aboriginal Games training and recreation, attendance at Gathering Our Voices Youth Conference in Kelowna, an overnight outing to Horne Lake, Powwow dancing, and a winter excursion day of snowshoeing at Grouse Mountain. There will also be smaller activities which include: a resume workshop, skill-building sessions, traditional painting, family nights and an opportunity for youth to obtain their Food safe certification.

INTERVIEW / PHOTO OPPORTUNITY:

Representatives from: Richmond Youth Services Agency - Marshall Thompson, Executive Director and Jelica Shaw, Aboriginal Youth Centre Coordinator.

To register as a participant or for further information, contact Jelica Shaw at 604-271-7600 ext. 102 or visit www.rysa.bc.ca.

Agency Profile:

RYSA has been providing support and programs in the Richmond community for over 33 years and providing support for Aboriginal People in Richmond for over 10 years. We are committed to meeting the needs of all children, youth and families in Richmond.

For further information contact Jelica Shaw at RYSA 604.271.7600 Ext 102 or visit our website at www.rysa.bc.ca