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**Science Fair Foundation
of British Columbia**

Founding Patron
Dr. Michael Smith (1932 – 2000)
Nobel Laureate

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Science savvy students prepare for Youth Science Month

BC students vie for a chance at the Canada-Wide Science Fair

VANCOUVER, BC: The Provincial government has declared March as “Youth Science Month.” British Columbia’s future leaders of science and innovation are preparing to showcase their own creative science concepts and theories province-wide this March. With the support from the Science Fair Foundation of BC, communities from four regions of the province will hold local science fairs during March where scientists in Grades 7-12 will compete for the ultimate chance to represent their region at the Canada-Wide Science Fair, held in Winnipeg, Manitoba May 9 - 17, 2009.

“Their ideas are fresh and entertaining, their methods of delivery are colourful, and their overall style is sometimes off-the-wall; but make no mistake—the science behind these projects is sound,” says Patti Leigh, Executive Director, Science Fair Foundation of BC. “Science fairs are a first step in securing a science-literate culture of critical thought in our province, and this year’s inventive offerings assure us that we’re well on our way.”

Eye-catching project titles include: “Driven to Distraction” (talking and texting on a cellular phone while driving); “Free-Range vs. Factory-Farmed Chicken” (bacterial and PCB content in chickens); and “Let Play Light the Way” (an innovative approach to lighting a playground).

“The chance to travel to Winnipeg and take part in such a significant event as the Canada-Wide Science Fair is a great motivator for many participants,” explains Leigh. “But Science Fairs are certainly more than just competition among students; they are a forum for thought, analysis and inspiration for the community at-large.”

Scheduled regional science fairs include:

EAST KOOTENAY
CRANBROOK

March 6 - 7, 2009
College of the Rockies

CENTRAL INTERIOR
PRINCE GEORGE

March 7, 2009
University of Northern BC

NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA
FORT ST. JOHN

March 10, 2009
North Peace Senior Secondary

FRASER VALLEY
ABBOTSFORD

March 31 – April 3, 2009
University of the Fraser Valley

All media are invited to attend these highly visual, highly energetic events.

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For more information:

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British Columbia regional science fairs are supported by the Science Fair Foundation of British Columbia, a non-profit organization whose vision is to sustain and enhance the science culture of the youth of British Columbia.