



# Press Release

## **NEW PROGRAM GIVES PORT COQUITLAM GROUPS A CHANCE TO SHINE**

**Port Coquitlam, BC – January 2, 2009...** Port Coquitlam community members now have another reason to attend a City Council meeting: a new program that will showcase a different community group, school or organizations at each meeting.

The Council Community Connections program is an initiative of the new Council Community Connections Task Force, established in December to identify and coordinate opportunities for Port Coquitlam citizens and groups to connect with City Council and the community at large.

“So many talented and engaged individuals, groups and organizations call Port Coquitlam home,” Mayor Greg Moore said. “This community showcase will support their efforts while also building PoCo Pride and celebrating the social, cultural, active and creative diversity of our community.”

The Council Community Connections program does not replace the current opportunity to appear as a delegation before City Council. Rather, it is intended to give Port Coquitlam community members a chance to celebrate and share their achievements and initiatives as part of civic life.

“We invite Port Coquitlam groups to apply for this opportunity to generate some local excitement and interest in what they do,” said Erin Moore, co-chair of the task force.

Potential presentations could include a dance school promoting an upcoming show, a sports group showcasing an upcoming tournament, a charity discussing its latest fundraiser, a school drama class performing a skit or a non-profit recreation program looking for participation.

“The possibilities are endless. The task force is excited to see what kinds of exciting and creative presentations our community comes up with,” said Donna White, the other task force co-chair.

Applicants must be Port Coquitlam residents or represent a Port Coquitlam school, youth group, non-profit and/or recognized community group, association or activity. Presentations must be less than five minutes in length, be feasible within the space and technical constraints of the Council chambers, and must not be intended for pecuniary or professional benefit.

Further information and application forms are available in brochure format at Port Coquitlam City Hall or online at [www.portcoquitlam.ca/communityconnections](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/communityconnections).

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