



**City of
Richmond**

News Release

6911 No. 3 Road
Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

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For Immediate Release

Richmond receives international recognition as eco-safety city

Richmond, BC — Richmond is known internationally as being a livable city. Now Richmond has also been recognized as an “International Eco-Safety Demonstrative City.”

“Richmond was one of three cities to win this prestigious award,” explains Mayor Malcolm Brodie. “What made our city stand out is the citizen leadership and participation. We are honoured to have been recognized globally for the work our community does every day to make Richmond a livable city.”

The First World Eco-Safety Assembly (WESA), organized by the International Eco-Safety Cooperative Organization (IESCO), a United Nations affiliate, presented Richmond with the award at a meeting in Cambodia in December. The directors of IESCO have been interested in Richmond since 2006 when they toured the city while attending the UN-HABITAT World Urban Forum in Vancouver.

Selection criteria for the award, which was also presented to Kansas, USA and Tongxia, China, included leadership, innovation, participation and impact. The Richmond School District also received the best practices in Environmental Education Award. Chak Au, Richmond Board of Education trustee, nominated Richmond and was in Cambodia to receive the awards.

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The First **World Eco-Safety Assembly** (WESA) was organized by the **International Eco-Safety Cooperative Organization** (IESCO), a United Nations affiliated organization established in 2006 with its headquarters in Hong Kong.

The President of IESCO is His Excellency Keo Puth Rasmey, Deputy Prime Minister of Cambodia.

The Assembly was convened in Phnom Penn, Capital City of Cambodia from Dec. 3-4. Anna Tibaijuka, Former United Nations Under Secretary-General, and 26 heads of state attended and spoke at the Assembly. Chak Au, Trustee of Richmond Board of Education was the only delegate from Canada.

For more information about the Assembly, go to:
http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/xinhua/2010-12-03/content_1329230.html

Richmond was awarded the title "International Eco-Safety Demonstrative City" along with two other cities, Kansas in the U.S. and Tongxia in China. Richmond was nominated for the award by Chak Au about 1 year ago.

The directors of IESCO have been interested in Richmond since 2006, when they had a tour of the city at the UN-HABITAT World Urban Forum held in Vancouver. They met with the Mayor and several Councilors at that time.

The selection criteria of the award were leadership, innovation, participation and impact. Richmond scored very high in all areas, but what made the city stand out was citizen leadership and participation.

For information about Kansas City and its press release about the award, go to:
<http://www.infozine.com/news/stories/op/storiesView/sid/45118>

The Richmond School District also received "The Best Practices in Environmental Education Award" at the same Assembly.