





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Operation Red Nose Donations to be Shared

Local Sports supporting the program will receive share of client donations.



November 13, 2008, MAPLE RIDGE – The new Operation Red Nose program coming to the communities of Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows will contribute directly to the local sport organizations supporting the safe ride home service. In its inaugural year, the organizing committee for the Ridge-Meadows Operation Red Nose program wants to see local sports share in the anticipated client donations. One-half of every dollar donated will be granted back to the local sport organization which has provided five or more road teams for any one of the nine nights of operation. In an established program like the Abbotsford-Mission program, nightly donations average over \$1,000.



"With a goal of attracting adequate volunteers to successfully deliver the Ridge-Meadows program, we wanted to find a positive way to involve the local sport organizations," explains Linda Palm, Operation Red Nose Manager. "The plan to share the donations provides a fundraising opportunity for the local clubs and puts the client donations right in the pockets of community sport organizations." Local clubs affiliated with a Provincial Sport Organization can meet the requirements to share in the client donations by coordinating 15 volunteers who have passed the necessary record checks. These volunteers can be club members, family members, friends, coaches, or club supporters.



Mary-Jane Abbott, chair of the organizing committee for the Ridge-Meadows program, is pleased with the committee's decision. "Turning funds back to youth programs is what Operation Red Nose is all about. Our sport of canoeing embraces this opportunity to raise \$400-500 over an evening. And besides, volunteering for Operation Red Nose has a reputation of being great fun!"



A kick-off event for volunteers is being held on Monday, November 24th, at the Golden Ears Winter Club (adjacent to Planet Ice) starting at 6:30 pm. Join in and learn more about Operation Red Nose, and enjoy the live comedy entertainment of "Canadian Suburban." Volunteers will be eligible for door prizes supplied by the local businesses. Refreshments will also be provided. The oversized, friendly Operation Red Nose mascot, named 'Rudy,' will also be on hand for photo opportunities! Sport representatives, community volunteers, and corporations are invited to come out to kick off the valued Operation Red Nose program for its first year in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows.



For more information about Operation Red Nose, call Linda Palm at (604) 515-NOSE (6673). Volunteer forms are available at the local Community Police Offices, ICBC, and Maple Ridge News or by downloading from the Operation Red Nose website (www.operationnezrouge.com).



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