



# Media Advisory

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## For Immediate Release

June 6, 2011

### **NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE IN SERVING CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

VICTORIA – Nominations for the Representative for Children and Youth's fourth annual Awards of Excellence are now being accepted. These awards recognize excellence in British Columbia's child- and youth-serving system. Individuals and organizations whose work contributes to improving the lives of children and youth in B.C. are honoured and acknowledged.

There are seven Award of Excellence categories presented by the Representative for Children and Youth Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond: advocacy, cultural heritage and diversity, innovative services, service provision, and youth leadership. As well, a lifetime achievement award is given to a seasoned individual who has made significant and lasting positive change in the lives of vulnerable children and youth, and is both advocate and leader.

This year sees the creation of the Award of Excellence in Mentoring. The award will be given to an individual who has provided guidance and support to youth through a long-term, consistent commitment to them. This mentor will be a trusted, adult friend who has provided a mix of support and challenge by involving youth in their community and enriching their lives at the same time. Only youth may nominate in this category.

Winners will be recognized and honoured at an awards dinner in Vancouver in October 2011.

A panel of qualified individuals will assist the Representative in selecting the winners. **The deadline for nominations is August 31, 2011, at 4:00 PM Pacific Standard Time.**

For nomination forms and more information on the Representative's Awards of Excellence, please visit [www.rcybc.ca](http://www.rcybc.ca).

#### **Media contact:**

Carla Wormald  
Communications Officer  
Office: 250-356-7713  
Cell: 250-217-7280