



# B.C. Human Rights Coalition

#1202 – 510 West Hastings Street

Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1L8

Tel: 604.689.8474; Fax: 604.689.7511; Email: [info@bchrcoalition.org](mailto:info@bchrcoalition.org)

## Media Advisory

November 27, 2006

### International Human Rights Day Event

**(VANCOUVER, Canada)** – The B.C. Human Rights Coalition and the United Nations Association of Vancouver invite our friends and the media to attend our 18<sup>th</sup> annual celebration of International Human Rights Day, Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2006, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The event provides an opportunity for those working in the human rights arena to come together and celebrate accomplishments. In addition, each year the Renate Shearer Memorial Award is presented to someone who has made an outstanding contribution in the field of human rights. This Award is a memorial to the life and work of Renate Shearer who was a champion of equality and dignity for all.

This year, the United Nations Association of Vancouver has nominated the *Creative Peace Network Society* as the Award recipient for the exceptional work they do in promoting peace and understanding between Palestinian, Arab, Muslim and Jewish communities both in Canada and in the Middle East. The *Network* is a non-governmental organization and is comprised of a diverse group of individuals committed to fostering a culture of collaboration and justice through creativity and dialogue. In 2004, the group began a program called *Peace it Together* that brings Canadian, Palestinian and Israeli youth together for two weeks in the summer. Using the arts as a focal point, the youth learn to hear others' stories, gain new communication and conflict resolution skills, and use dialogue and creativity to break down barriers and transform lives. Twenty-nine youth participated in the 2006 summer program. Their efforts cumulated in the production and public screening of eight short films dealing with the crisis in the Middle East. Reena Lazar and Adri Hamael, Co-Executive Directors of the Network, will receive the Award and speak to the work of this group.

Please join us in honouring the *Creative Peace Network Society* and in celebrating the birthday of the Universal Declaration of Rights and Freedoms.

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

JJ's Dining Room, Vancouver Community College

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – 250 Pender Street, Vancouver, BC

5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

For further information please contact:

Terri Kennedy, Communications Coordinator, BC Human Rights Coalition @ 604.689.8474 or Patsy George, Director, United Nations Association of Vancouver, @ 604.687.7115.

The B.C. Human Rights Coalition is a non-profit community-based organization. We strive to promote and strengthen the human rights of British Columbians through advocacy, education and law reform.