

For Immediate Release  
July 15, 2009

## **S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Walk with the Dragon**

**Vancouver** – Since 1986, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Walk with the Dragon, organized by S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Foundation, is a 7-km walk held each year on the third Sunday of July at Lumbermen’s Arch, Stanley Park, Vancouver. With over 13,000 participants annually, making it one of the largest community fundraising events in Metro Vancouver, it also consists of a carnival which promotes health, multiculturalism and community participation.

The 24<sup>th</sup> annual S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Walk with the Dragon will return to Stanley Park on Sunday, July 19 from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. Highlights include lion dance, stage entertainment, game and food booths, Kids Corner with inflatable games and balloon twisting.

“Our goal is to raise \$400,000 with the proceeds to go to S.U.C.C.E.S.S. to maintain and enhance non-funded or underfunded services and programs, namely services for seniors, women, youth and families,” said Sing Yeo and Ricky Wu, Co-Chairs of the 2009 S.U.C.C.E.S.S Walk with the Dragon.

Albert Chong, a graduate of “S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Youth Leadership Millennium” – a comprehensive leadership training program that helps young people develop leadership and life skills, shared his “SUCCESS Story” on how the program helped him in his personal development. His story is a testimony to the importance of S.U.C.C.E.S.S. programs in our community.

In their remarks, Premium Sponsor, HSBC Bank Canada and Water Stations Sponsor, Vancity urged the community to follow their lead and support the Walk by collecting pledges and joining the event on July 19.

“Under the current global recession, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Foundation is in even more dire need of the community’s support and encouragement to raise funds for S.U.C.C.E.S.S.,” Betty Funston, Chair of S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Foundation, told the media. “This year we have organized a series of companion events such as the Martial Arts Expo, Dragon Idol and Anthony Lun Charity Concert, to increase the Walk’s awareness and revenue.”

“Although the majority of our operating budget comes from grants of various levels of government, there is still the need to raise the remaining balance from the community to support non-funded or under-funded services through donations, corporate sponsorships, membership dues and cost recovery programs and fundraising activities, such as the annual Gala Dinner, Walk with the Dragon and Charity Golf Tournament,” Peter Kwok, Chair of S.U.C.C.E.S.S. stated.

On event day, families and groups are invited to follow the 100-foot colourful S.U.C.C.E.S.S. dragon, one of the longest dragons in North America, for the 7km walk around the Stanley Park seawall. Fitness, fun and philanthropy come together to make it a fun outing for families and friends.

Support Walk 2009. Sign up online at [www.successfoundation.ca](http://www.successfoundation.ca) to collect pledges from friends and families anywhere in the world. Pledge forms are also available at all S.U.C.C.E.S.S. offices and selected branches of major financial institutions, including BMO Bank of Montreal (Chinatown Branch), HSBC Bank Canada, RBC Royal Bank, Scotiabank, TD Canada Trust and Vancity.

As an adjunct event to the Walk, the Anthony Lun Charity Concert 2009 will take place at 7:30pm on Friday, July 31 at the Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts. Anthony Lun is one of the Asia's premier singers and also a prolific songwriter, arranger and musical director. Enquiry: 608-408-7228.

S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Foundation, incorporated in December 2001, is a charitable foundation responsible for raising funds for S.U.C.C.E.S.S. and its affiliated organizations to support their mandates for the betterment of the community. For more details, please visit: [www.successfoundation.ca](http://www.successfoundation.ca)

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