



For Immediate Release
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24th annual S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Walk with the Dragon returns to Stanley Park

VANCOUVER – Today, Mr. Ricky Wu, Co-Chair of 2009 S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Walk with the Dragon, officially announced the return of the 24th annual Walk with the Dragon to Lumbermen’s Arch, Stanley Park on Sunday, July 19, 2009.

“This year, our fundraising target is \$400,000. Proceeds are earmarked for continuance and development of non-funded or under funded S.U.C.C.E.S.S. services and programs for seniors, women, youth and families,” said Mr. Ricky Wu.

Organized by S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Foundation, the annual Walk attracts over 13,000 participants making it one of the largest community fundraising events held in Vancouver’s celebrated Stanley Park.

“With the worldwide financial crisis, 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.” Mrs. Betty Funston, Chair of S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Foundation, told the media.

“For the past 36 years, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. has become a multi-faceted service provider in settlement, counseling, group, employment, business and economic development services. Currently we have 23 locations in Metro Vancouver, one in Fort St. John and 2 overseas offices in Taipei and Seoul,” said Mr. Peter Kwok, Chair of S.U.C.C.E.S.S. “Approximately 20% of the agency’s \$30 million annual operating budget is raised from the community through donations, corporate sponsorships, membership dues, cost recovery programs and fundraising events organized by S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Foundation, such as the annual Walk with the Dragon, Charity Golf Tournament and the Gala.”

Ms. Lydia Drasic, Vice Chair of United Way of the Lower Mainland thanked S.U.C.C.E.S.S. for the long standing partnership it has with United Way of the Lower Mainland, and commended S.U.C.C.E.S.S. for its commitment to serving diverse communities in Vancouver.

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.

“Pledge collectors are entitled to one entry to the Lucky Draw for every \$20 raised. The Grand Prize is a pair of hospitality class return tickets from Vancouver to any one of Air Canada’s Asia destinations,” announced Ms. Bonnie Chao and Ms. Irene Chow, Co-Chairs of the Pledge Collection – Financial Institution Committee.

Official Walk with the Dragon T-shirts, sponsored by HSBC Bank Canada, will be given to those

who raised \$100 or more. For every \$1,000 raised, participants will be entered into the Walk with the Dragon Super Lucky Draw for a chance to win a pair of airline tickets from Vancouver to anyone of Air Canada's North America destinations, sponsored by Air Canada.

Donating to the Walk or pledging a friend can be done at www.successfoundation.ca. Pledge forms are 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 a prelude to Walk 2009, the S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Dragon Idol returns for a third year. "This year the Dragon Idol competition is concentrated on the vocal talent. The champion will be awarded the distinction of 2009 S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Dragon Idol at Walk 2009," said Ms. Clara Chow and Mr. Hans Wong, Co-Chairs of the 2009 S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Dragon Idol. Champion of the 2008 S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Dragon Idol, Vivian Tse, performed for the audience.

Mr. Kenneth Kwan and Mr. Fred Kwok, Co-Chairs of the Martial Arts Expo, introduced the Expo as another prelude event to raise the awareness of the Walk. Co-organized by S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Foundation and the Confederation of Canadian Wushu Organizations, and supported by the Smart Group Cultural and Education Foundation, the Expo will take place on Sunday, July 12 at The Centre in Vancouver for the Performing Arts.

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

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