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BURNABY ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY INCLUSION

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BACI HOSTS ALL CANDIDATES' FORUM ON SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY ISSUES IN BURNABY

Burnaby – May 4, 2009
For Immediate Release

We are excited to announce that all twelve Candidates from the four Burnaby ridings have confirmed their attendance at an All Candidates' Forum being hosted on May 7, 2009, by The Burnaby Association for Community Inclusion (BACI).

The Forum will be held at BACI's Still Creek Centre, 2702 Norland Avenue, Burnaby, BC. Attendees will have an opportunity to meet with the candidates informally (from 6:30 pm – 7:00 pm), then participate in the Question and Answer Period (from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm).

The focus of the evening will be on social issues and community services in Burnaby and BC, with some specific questions relating to the social and economic inclusion of individuals with disabilities.

BACI's Executive Director, Richard Faucher, says, "We encourage people to attend this Forum and ask their local provincial politicians to discuss social and economic inclusion issues. While there have been strides made regarding inclusion in schools, employment, and accessibility, we look forward to the day when we can celebrate the full inclusion of all members of our community."

We are pleased to announce that the Moderator for the evening is Nancy Henderson, Executive Director, Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC BC).

The Burnaby Association for Community Inclusion (BACI) is a grassroots, non-profit organization that has dedicated over 50 years to providing innovative services to children, youth and adults with developmental disabilities and their families.

We currently serve 600 individuals with disabilities and their families in the Burnaby and Tri-Cities area by providing various recreational, training and development opportunities. Through our various EmployAbility initiatives and social enterprise programs – namely The Grape Box and The BACI Work Crew – we support the economic inclusion of people with disabilities. With our five integrated child care centres, we support over 140 children of all abilities and their families.

BACI continues to seek out opportunities to increase social awareness, and ultimately effect change, in the way individuals with disabilities are viewed in our society. www.gobaci.com