



## NEWS RELEASE

### Former Canadian Olympic athlete shares his experiences with Francophone students

(Richmond, B.C.) April 6, 2009. On Wednesday, April 8, and Thursday, April 9, students, teachers and administrators from the Conseil scolaire francophone de la C.-B. (BC's Francophone School District – SD No 93) (CSF) will have the privilege of meeting Mr. Pierre Harvey, a prominent Canadian Olympic athlete. Pierre Harvey, an outstanding athlete hailing from Rimouski, Québec, has excelled in cycling and cross-country skiing. In 1984, he set a mark never equalled by another Canadian athlete by taking part in the Olympic Winter Games (Sarajevo) and the Summer Games (Los Angeles) in the same year. He also represented Canada in the 1976 Summer Olympic Games in Montreal and the 1988 Olympic Winter Games in Calgary.

A silver medal winner in cycling at the 1978 Commonwealth Games, Pierre Harvey also excelled in cross-country skiing at the international level. Between 1981 and 1998, he was a dominant force on the international cross-country circuit, winning three World Cup competitions including a 50-kilometre event in Holmenkollen, Norway, in 1988. His victory in the 50-kilometre competition, made Harvey the first Canadian in 100 years to win a gold medal in this distance event. Named to the Order of Canada in 1988, Pierre Harvey was inducted in the Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame in 2006.

On Wednesday, April 8, from 1 to 3 p.m., Mr. Harvey will share his Olympic experiences and discuss amateur sports with students from École secondaire Jules-Verne and École Rose-des-Vents. These presentations will take place at École secondaire Jules-Verne (5445 Baillie St. in Vancouver).

On Thursday, April 9, at 10:30 a.m., Pierre Harvey will meet with a second group of CSF students at the Four Seasons Hotel (791 West Georgia St. in Vancouver). At this gathering, he will talk about his experiences as an Olympian. On the same day, at noon, the former Olympic athlete will deliver an address to the Canadian Club of Vancouver at its annual Francophone luncheon. The theme of the address to the Canadian Club will be: "Four Olympics, Four challenges, Four Experiences!"

*Created in 1995, the Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique offers educational programs and services aimed at fostering the growth and cultural identity of the province's Francophone learners. An active partner in the development of British Columbia's Francophone community, the Conseil has presently in its system, and distributed across 78 communities in the province, over 4,200 students and 40 schools, of which 23 are homogeneous schools.*

**Reference:**

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