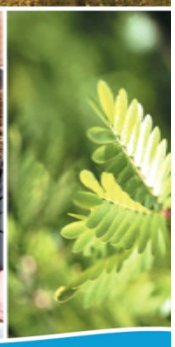

Education Forum 2010

Invest North Fraser Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 8, 2010 #10-22
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Invest North Fraser Education Forum 2010 delivers key directions

Maple Ridge, BC: Earlier this week **Invest North Fraser -** an economic initiative of Maple Ridge, Mission & Pitt Meadows, hosted Education Forum 2010. The event drew senior level decision makers from post secondary institutions, elected officials and staff from three municipalities and industry association representatives.

The Forum introduced delegates to the region and explored opportunities for post secondary education and programming in the North Fraser communities. The program included a dozen presenters who shared examples of successful, innovative partnerships and ways to 'jumpstart' the exploration of potential academic offerings. A compelling keynote entitled "*Building Community Capacity and Economic Vitality through Collaboration and Partnerships*" was delivered by Dr. Bruce Rutley, PhD, Grande Prairie Regional College - Centre for Research & Innovation.

Key messages emerging from the day included leveraging our outdoor natural assets, enhanced collaboration amongst institutions and the communities, consideration of applied research, and further exploration of ways to bring together education, tourism, forestry and agriculture.

About North Fraser

Maple Ridge, Mission & Pitt Meadows are poised for unprecedented growth. Covering almost 600 square kilometres on the north shore of the Fraser River, the region boasts some of the best outdoor recreation and the most affordable land in the region. The North Fraser region is forecast to double in population and employment over the next 30 years.

To learn more visit www.investmapleridge.ca

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Presented by: **Invest North Fraser** - *an Economic Initiative of Maple Ridge, Mission & Pitt Meadows*

MAPLE RIDGE British Columbia Deep Roots Greater Heights

DISTRICT OF Mission ON THE FRASER

PITT MEADOWS economic development corporation

Photo: Keynote Speaker, Dr. Bruce Rutley, Grande Prairie Regional College – Centre for Research & Innovation

Photo: All Speakers, starting from right to left: Dr. Scott McAlpine, Douglas College; Ms. Kate Zanon, Pitt Meadows; Dr. Michel Tarko, Justice Institute of British Columbia; Mr. Stacey Crawford, District of Mission; Mr. Robert Buller, Douglas College; Mr. Terry Hood, LinkBC; Dr. Bruce Rutley, Grande Prairie Regional College; Mr. Trevor Corkum, BC Council for International Education; Dr. Kent Mullinix, Kwantlen Polytechnic University; Dr. Pauline Chow, Douglas College; Mr. Elmer Sum, SFU – Time Centre New Venture Incubation; Mr. Paul Lawson, UBC – Malcolm Knapp Research Forest; Ms. Sandy Blue, District of Maple Ridge