



MEDIA ADVISORY

School celebrates national recognition for innovative teacher

(Saskatoon, Saskatchewan) - Monique Martin, visual arts teacher at Georges Vanier Catholic School, will be honoured Tuesday at a school-wide assembly to celebrate her receipt of a 2009 Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence. Martin is the only teacher from Saskatchewan to receive the award this year.

Media are invited to attend this event. Details are as follows:

**School-wide celebration
2:15 p.m.
Tuesday, October 27
Gymnasium
Georges Vanier Catholic School
820 Wilson Crescent**

Martin's nomination cited her ability to form partnerships with organizations in the community to provide real-life learning opportunities for her students. The following outstanding achievements were cited by the awards committee:

- Martin worked with transit authorities to put art on buses and street advertisements in Ottawa, Kingston and Saskatoon. For the Saskatoon project, Stops in History, grades 7 and 8 students created art detailing the history of the city. Martin received a Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History for this project.
- She introduces young students to film and video, helping them create original works or to record drama and dance pieces. One of these creations toured schools in Tasmania; another is featured on the Citizenship and Immigration Canada website.
- Over her 15-year career, she has secured more than \$150,000 in grants and donations to enhance her program.

The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence recognize the efforts of outstanding elementary and secondary school teachers in all disciplines who instil in their students a love of learning.

...more

cont'd: School celebrates national recognition for innovative teacher

Martin also encourages students to discover and develop their talents. The following comment, from a student, is included in her nomination. "I am an artist. I feel like an artist. I will always be an artist. I can say that because of the confidence that I have gained through Monique Martin's guidance and leadership as an art teacher."

More information about the awards and Martin's selection are available at www.ic.qc.ca

-30-

For more information, please contact:

Brian Bauche
Principal
Georges Vanier Catholic School
Phone: 659-7220
bbauche@gscs.sk.ca

Donella Hoffman
Communications Consultant
Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools
Phone: 659-7077
Cell: 229-3743
dhoffman@gscs.sk.ca