



Pacific National Exhibition

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEWS RELEASE

PNE AWARDS JUNE 2006 MIRACLE MILE BURSARY TO NEW WESTMINSTER'S KHRISTINA BLAJKEVITCH

VANCOUVER, B.C. - The Pacific National Exhibition's June 2006 Miracle Mile Athlete Bursary has been awarded to Khristina Blajkevitch of New Westminster, for her incredible achievements in the sport of tennis.

An eighth grade French Immersion student from École Glenbrook Middle School, Khristina is a squad member of Team Canada U14 and has been a member of Tennis BC since 2000. Most recently, she became the first female British Columbian to win national tennis titles in both singles and doubles in more than twelve years! She is currently one of the top players in U14 girls in Canada.

Khristina's short-term goals include training hard to win titles at the 2006 Indoor and Outdoor Nationals. In the long run, Khristina is committed to winning a gold medal for Canada at the 2012 Summer Games in London, England.

"We are thrilled to award our June 2006 Miracle Mile bursary to Khristina Blajkevitch, an up-and-coming Canadian tennis star," says Michael McDaniel, President and CEO of the Pacific National Exhibition. *"I hope this acknowledgement of her already substantial achievements in tennis will be another source of encouragement for her continued training and dedication to this sport."*

Khristina spends 18 to 20 hours per week on the courts, Her focus, drive, and determination are noted by her coaches and her competitors. In addition to living and breathing the sport of tennis each and every day, Khristina also finds time to give back to her community by participating in fundraising projects for many causes including war veterans, her school, and a local animal shelter. Khristina recently appeared on the cover of New Westminster's *Active Living Guide* and hopes to continue to promote tennis in her community in the future.

For more information on the PNE's Miracle Mile Bursary visit www.pne.ca or call 604-251-7708.

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Owned by the City of Vancouver, the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) is a healthy and vibrant non-profit charity organization dedicated to providing over 3 million visitors a year with first-class cultural, sporting and family entertainment events. Founded in 1910, the PNE operates from a 114-acre site at Hastings Park, a multi-facility venue in Vancouver where the organization operates four activity streams: an annual 17-day Fair, Playland Amusement Park, maintenance and care of the Hasting Park site and management of the site's year-round facilities. These facilities are utilized to celebrate a variety of hockey, amateur sporting, music, community, social, cultural and commercial events throughout the year.

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