



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **PNE NAMES WINNER OF THIRD ANNUAL BC'S BRIGHTEST MINDS COMPETITION**

**Vancouver, BC** – May 13, 2008 - The Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) is thrilled to announce that **Daniel Lu** and **Jonathan Shen** of the **Vancouver School Board (VSB)/University of British Columbia (UBC) Transition Program** in Vancouver have been named the top physics students in the third annual **BC's Brightest Minds competition** at Playland at the PNE. The winners were presented with a trophy and a cheque for \$3,000.

Fifty-six of the top physics students from across British Columbia competed in the event aimed at finding British Columbia's best.

*"The PNE and Playland are very happy to promote this opportunity for students to be recognized for their academic excellence,"* says PNE President and CEO Michael McDaniel, *"I congratulate every single student who participated. It truly is an achievement just to be asked to represent their school at this event."*

The BC's Brightest Minds event was developed in conjunction with the University of British Columbia's (UBC) Department of Curriculum Studies, and included intensive physics problems centered around three Playland at the PNE rides, the Hellevator, the classic Bumper Cars and the Wave Swinger. The questions, developed by UBC physicists, were kept highly guarded by the UBC team until they were given to the students at 9:00 am this morning. Each team also received a kit of items required to develop their answers. The teams were given three hours to ride the three rides and formulate their answers.

*"This year's answer's were the strongest we have seen in the three years of the competition,"* says Rachel Moll, PhD Candidate, Science Education Department of Curriculum Studies, UBC. *"These students showed a remarkable level of competence."*

Second place was awarded to **Tom Curran** and **Michael Yang** of **Vancouver College** in Vancouver. Third place was awarded to **Eric Moul** and **Tin Jasinovic** of Point Grey Secondary, also in Vancouver.

For more information about the PNE and Playland visit: [www.pne.ca](http://www.pne.ca).

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