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## Warmland Community Church's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Hockey Is Life!" Fundraiser secures Edmonton Oilers Hall of Fame hockey legend, Grant Fuhr!

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.

**February 9, 2011 – CROFTON, BC.** Warmland Community Church, working with Duncan Christian School, is once again bringing a Hall of Fame hockey legend to the Cowichan Valley! In September 2010, Warmland and DCS secured hockey legend, Mr. Hockey<sup>®</sup>, Gordie Howe, as its inaugural guest in an overwhelmingly successful first-effort. As part of its second annual "Hockey Is Life!" fundraiser, Warmland has invited Edmonton Oilers' great and Hall of Fame member, Grant Fuhr as special guest for the May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> weekend events.

"In developing this follow-up to the 2010 fundraiser, we knew we would have to bring forward another legendary hockey player for our 2011 "Hockey Is Life!" weekend," said Warmland fundraising team member, Bruce Findlay. "Grant Fuhr is a legendary goaltender, backstopping one of the greatest NHL dynasties of all time, and is a great ambassador for the sport. We are ecstatic to bring Mr. Fuhr to the Cowichan Valley!"

Planned events will include a charity golf tournament, gala dinner, silent and live auction on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, and on May 7<sup>th</sup>, events will include a street hockey tournament and public signing session with Grant Fuhr. Mr. Fuhr will be taking part in all of the events throughout the weekend.

In putting together the second annual event, Findlay noted, "While the September 2010 weekend was successful, it was a weekend full of other events, including the Great Lake Walk, the Terry Fox Run and many early-year school events. As such, we have moved the weekend to the May season to alleviate some concerns over conflicts brought forward to us."

"Meeting a hockey legend like Gordie Howe in the Cowichan Valley was an unreal experience for me," said Hockey Is Life! Golf Director, Andrew Abernethy. "As an Oilers fan, following up Mr. Howe's visit with Grant Fuhr is a thrill. As Mr. Fuhr is a scratch-golfer, adding a very exciting golf tournament to the weekend's events should make this event even more successful than the first year's. We are pleased that Duncan Christian School is joining us for the golf tournament as well."

"The golf tournament will be a show-stopper. Not only is Grant Fuhr going to be meeting and taking pictures with all of the golfers, but two foursomes can get the opportunity to actually golf with him for 9 holes each," said Findlay. "On top of that, we have two unbelievable opportunities during the golfing day on top of a slew of other fun prizes – hole-in-one contests for a chance to win a brand new car and \$250,000.00 in cash!" Abernethy added, "This will be the best charity golf event the Valley has seen in years."

The “Hockey Is Life!” name was developed from a sermon series by pastor, Scott Carruthers. “Warmland is a different kind of church – the focus is on those people who normally don’t go to church,” Scott noted. “In our first year, we started a series called “Hockey is life, the rest is details” and it was a tremendous success in showing people how relevant Christianity can be to everyone, by paralleling the great game of hockey with real life situations. I am thrilled that the “Hockey Is Life!” team is continuing to use hockey as the central focus for this event.”

“Hockey Is Life!” will occur in several locations throughout the Cowichan Valley on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011. For more information, please contact the “Hockey Is Life!” team at 250.416.6740 or go to [www.hockeyislife.ca](http://www.hockeyislife.ca).

**Warmland Community Church** is a group of believers that is focused on helping people discover and live life to the full. Based in Crofton, BC, the church is Cowichan Valley-focused, not just Crofton-focused, to reach those people who normally do not go to church. Starting in 2007 with a strong focus on children and youth, Warmland (named for the local first-nation word “Cowichan” or “Kohwutzun”, meaning “land warmed by the sun”) continues to touch lives and spread God’s word in a different kind of way. For more information, please go to [www.warmland.org](http://www.warmland.org).

**Duncan Christian School** is a not-for-profit Kindergarten to Grade 12 private school located in Duncan, British Columbia. The school, begun in 1960, offers a Christ-centered quality education using Biblically-faithful curriculum and worship. DCS aims to be a dynamic community of believers who strive to meet the needs of every child by providing a stimulating and diverse learning environment that encourages students to be disciples of Jesus Christ. For more information, please go to [www.duncanchristianschool.ca](http://www.duncanchristianschool.ca).

