

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 24, 2009

Canine Goose Control Team Update

In early February, the City of Parksville announced a pilot training program that will use volunteer dogs to reduce the number of geese. The process involves dogs, trained to chase but never to touch or attack the geese. This is an environmentally safe method that will be tested on the grass field on Jensen Avenue East and then at Springwood Park.

A skilled trainer, Judith Whitemarsh with Dynamic Dogs Inc is coordinating the Canine Goose Control program for the City of Parksville. The program requires a minimum of twenty volunteer dogs. Following the orientation session held on February 19, there are close to 100 dogs registered for the program.

Due to the overwhelming response of dogs and owners to the program, Judith will take the month of March to evaluate the dogs now registered for the program. The lessons and evaluations for those who are new or who missed the original evaluation dates will be scheduled in April. The dates and instructions for the first class will be available from the City during the week of March 23.

The program is off to a great start with talented and excited dogs ready to begin their jobs.

-30-

For more information:

Judith Whitemarsh	dynamicdogs@islandnet.com	250 954-2067
Peter Crawshaw	pcrawshaw@parksville.ca	250 951-2471
Debbie Tardiff	dtardiff@parksville.ca	250 954-3073