



**Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers
Media Release
For Immediate Distribution**

There are currently 25 nations operating 1192 Crime Stoppers programs worldwide. Crime Stoppers International (CSI) is an umbrella organization operated by a volunteer board of directors from Crime Stoppers programs worldwide that establishes guidelines to assure consistency. The aim of Crime Stoppers International is to establish local programs in countries around the world. Crime Stoppers Canada and the Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers Society are members of this organization. CSI hosts an annual training conference and supports regional leadership and training programs. They also sponsor an annual award program to recognize excellence in administering Crime Stoppers programs.

The Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers Society is pleased to announce that we have been the recipients of three awards presented at the Crime Stoppers International Conference being held in Jamaica:

- **Students of the Year** – Jacqui Benson and Jordan Choo. They are recent graduates from Rutland Senior Secondary School. They, along with their teacher, Mr. Brent Applegath produced three videos on behalf of Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers. The topics of the videos were determined by the students and covered the issues of graffiti, cyberbullying and drug trafficking.
- We are also pleased to announce that Jordan and Jacqui are recipients of the **BC Solicitor General’s Crime Prevention and Community Safety Award for Youth Leadership**. This award is presented to students who demonstrate outstanding leadership skills and are actively involved in crime prevention and community safety projects in their communities or schools. Jacqui and Jordan will be presented with this award on Nov 4th in Burnaby, BC.
- “Our Very Own” CHBC TV was the recipient of the **CSI 2011 TV Media Award** for excellence in producing a crime re-enactment of the Christopher Hetu homicide.
- The Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers program was the recipient of the **Productivity Award** for communities with a population base of 75,000-250,000. This award is presented for the substantial increase in number of arrests, drugs seized and stolen property recovered as a result of Crime Stoppers tips.

None of this would have been possible without the support of our community sponsors, the media, the RCMP and the citizens of the Central Okanagan. We thank you.

Gerry Guilteneane
Coordinator, Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers

"Tackling crime effectively cannot be done by law enforcement alone, the support of the public is important and this is where the bridging role of Crime Stoppers between the two can be so effective.

Working closely with agencies such as Crime Stoppers International means that police can be provided with information and tips which they may not otherwise receive which could be vital in bringing criminals to justice, no matter where they attempt to hide."

Ronald K. Noble - INTERPOL Secretary General

We would like to thank our sponsors and partners who graciously contribute to the success of the Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers Program:

