

## **Media Advisory – DreamCatcher Mentoring Program Ramps Up for the 2009/10 School Year With a Mentor’s Visit to the Yukon to Meet Their Student**

During the week of September 7 – 10, 2009 media are invited to meet with Josh Silvertown, Action Canada Fellow and Executive Director of ***DreamCatcher Mentoring*** and Dr. Moira Grant (Director of Research at the Canadian Society of Medical Laboratory Science and Associate Clinical Professor at McMaster University) in Whitehorse as they launch the ***DreamCatcher Mentoring*** program for 2009/2010. As a Canadian Institutes of Health Research affiliated mentor, Moira mentored a student at Porter Creek Secondary (as a medical/research technologist) during the 2009 school year. This is the first time, a ***DreamCatcher Mentoring*** “mentor will meet face to face with her/his student”. In addition to meeting her student, Moira will be conducting science workshops in the classrooms of Whitehorse schools while helping bolster the launch of ***DreamCatcher Mentoring’s*** sixth year delivering its e-mentoring program. Silvertown and Grant will also fly to Dawson City and Pelly Crossing to meet with school representatives for the launch of the program in the Robert Service and Eliza Van Bibber Schools. In further support of this year’s ***DreamCatcher Mentoring*** Yukon tour and 2009/10 program launch, Silvertown and other ***DreamCatcher Mentoring*** supporters will visit other communities throughout the territory.

***DreamCatcher Mentoring*** started in 2005 as an Action Canada Fellows’ project. It is an innovative Canadian leadership and e-mentoring program for Northern Canadian youth. The program aims to empower youth by helping them to identify their career aspirations by connecting them with a Canadian mentor working in the students’ aspired career field. ***DreamCatcher Mentoring’s*** founders believe that an empowering, one-to-one, high-quality mentoring program gives students the confidence, skills, and drive to create attainable goals, complete their education, and work towards their dreams and aspirations. Since its inception in 2005, ***DreamCatcher Mentoring*** has engaged over 300 students in 13 Yukon schools (both rural and urban) and 1 Nunavut School. In an effort to provide northern youth with access to a diverse group of mentors, regardless of their geographical location, ***DreamCatcher Mentoring*** has developed an innovative form of online E-Mentoring, which allows students to interact with their Canadian mentors from around the globe through a secure and monitored online environment.

For further information: Josh Silvertown, Executive Director and Co-Founder, ***DreamCatcher Mentoring***, [josh@dreamcatcheryukon.ca](mailto:josh@dreamcatcheryukon.ca), 647-205-4402, or Beverly Sembsmoen, Vice-President and Co-Founder, ***DreamCatcher Mentoring***, [bev@dreamcatcheryukon.ca](mailto:bev@dreamcatcheryukon.ca), 867-334-5403; [www.DreamCatcherMentoring.ca](http://www.DreamCatcherMentoring.ca)