



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Local Secondary School Recognized with National Award for Providing Inclusive Education for Youth with Special Needs.**

***Curtis Tuininga and Shannon Kumpolt of Centennial Christian School awarded the National Inclusive Education Award.***

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**Vancouver, B.C., February 18, 2009** - Staff at Centennial Christian School in Terrace will be receiving a National Inclusive Education award from the Canadian Association for Community Living and the British Columbia Association for Community Living, for creating an inspirational example of what a truly inclusive secondary school looks like. The award ceremony will be held in Victoria, in June 2009.

Because of the staff's commitment to providing an atmosphere of inclusion for all students, the Centennial Christian School has been recognized, along with three other individuals and organizations in B.C., as part of National Inclusive Education Week, celebrated from February 15 to 22, across Canada.

Christine Clark, Supported Employment Co-ordinator with the Provincial Networking Group in Terrace, says this about the staff at Centennial Christian School:

***"Staff and students realize that having students with special needs included is as good for all of them as it is for the student. Each student is loved and respected for who they are and the blessing they are to the school community."***

National Inclusive Education Week provides an opportunity to acknowledge and recognize the commitment and effort of teachers, administrators, students, and families who contribute to successful inclusion of students in schools and classrooms throughout Canada.

Inclusive school practices help provide quality education to an increasingly diverse student population, including students with a developmental disability.

**We know inclusive education works. Children who learn together in school also learn to live well together as adults and are better able to create communities where everyone belongs.**

**For more information on Inclusive Education week, visit [www.bcacl.org](http://www.bcacl.org).**