



For immediate release – 6 May, 2009

## Campbell River holds third annual ***Walk Away from Homophobia*** on Thursday, May 14

Campbell River—Campbell River will host its third annual ***Walk Away from Homophobia*** on Thursday, May 14. The event is endorsed by Mayor Charlie Cornfield, who will be reading a proclamation designating May 14 as ***Walk Away from Homophobia Day*** in Campbell River.

With the theme “**Homosexuality Knows No Borders,**” AIDS Vancouver Island, its partners and other organizations in Campbell River, are holding this walk to further the inclusion of homosexual persons in society, encourage understanding of sexual diversity and end discrimination on sexual orientation.

“The Walk is a moment to remember that homosexuality is a universal fact that cannot be restricted by borders. The theme “Homosexuality Knows No Borders,” draws attention to the fact that there are gay men and lesbians in all countries,” said Leanne Cunningham, health promotion worker with AIDS Vancouver Island.

The walk will begin at 5:30pm sharp at Robert Ostler Park and all members of the community are invited to participate. The walk will be followed by speeches from public officials and others, as well as entertainment presented by Youth 4 Diversity.

The ***Walk Away from Homophobia*** was created by Campbell River’s gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and queer (GLBTQ) Social/Support Group. With support from AIDS Vancouver Island, the group meets weekly in Campbell River. The support group is hosting the event to reach out to the broader community about the hardships and dangers of homophobia.

Supporting partners of the event are the John Howard North Island Society, Youth 4 Diversity from the Campbell River Multicultural Society, the BCGEU, Splashes from the River Inc., the City of Campbell River, and many individuals.

—30—

For more information, please contact Leanne Cunningham, AIDS Vancouver Island, (250) 204-2821 or send an email to: [support@crpride.com](mailto:support@crpride.com).