

For Immediate Release
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Challenging Employers to Think Beyond Stereotypes
Canada Safeway – Winners of the 2008 Best Employment Practice Award

Vancouver, BC, October 9th, 2008 – Canada Safeway wins the 2008 award for *Best Employment Practices* from the Greater Vancouver Business Leadership Network (GVBLN). The GVBLN is an organization dedicated to promoting the hiring of persons with disabilities.

Canada Safeway will be receiving the Best Practices Award at the Annual *Employer Recognition Breakfast* hosted by the GVBLN at the Pan Pacific Vancouver Hotel on November 3rd, 2008 at 8:00 am.

Mike Nash, Vice President of Retail Operations in British Columbia, speaking on behalf of Canada Safeway comments, “being an equal opportunity employer, we believe that our team of employees should reflect the customers we serve. This includes people with disabilities. Working with organizations like the GVBLN makes it easier for us to find and employ persons with disabilities who are well trained and a good fit for our company.”

The *Employer Recognition Breakfast* is a free of charge event; it will challenge attendees to “think beyond the stereotypes of persons with disabilities” and features three keynote speakers:

Dr. Jacqueline Wicki currently works as a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Chemistry at the University of British Columbia. The progression of her muscular dystrophy does not stop her from the important research she does everyday. Using a specialized wheelchair enables her to perform her laboratory work effectively.

Alexis Chicoine is the CTV Store Manager and Buyer. She is a person with quadriplegia as a result of an automobile accident. Alexis began her career with CTV as a receptionist and has progressed through the organization owing to her ability, dedication and “can do” attitude.

Jason Delesalle is person with visual impairment but that has never stopped him. He is a three time medalist at three Paralympic games. Most notably he won the Gold Medal in Pentathlon at the 1996 Paralympics. He retired from competition in 2004 and now works full time as a Person in Charge and Night Manager for Canada Safeway. In addition he is a part-time employee at Home Depot.

The Greater Vancouver Business Leadership Network is a program of the BC Centre for Ability, a not for profit organization providing community based services that enhance the quality of life for children, youth and adults with disabilities. To attend the *Employer Recognition Breakfast* or for more information please contact Mark Gruenheid by email at mgruenheid@centreforability.bc.ca or by telephone at 604.630.3037

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