

**DOUGLAS COLLEGE TO HOST BADMINTON IN RICHMOND, BC**

January 29, 2007

One look at the 15 state of the art dedicated badminton courts in the newly built **Richmond Pro Badminton Centre** changed the way Douglas College thought about hosting college badminton tournaments forever.

Head Coach, Al Mawani, summed it up by saying, “Why are we importing badminton sport courts from Alberta for our championships when we have such a great facility here in Richmond.” Mawani who is the Technical Director of Badminton BC as well as the 2007 Badminton Canada Games Coach knows what it takes to put on a top notch tournament. His suggestion to move the Provincial and National College Badminton Championships from the college gymnasium in Coquitlam to Richmond was supported enthusiastically by Centre owner, Richard Ong, as well as Hosting BC which is financially supporting the hosting of the CCAA (Canadian Colleges’ Athletic Association) National Badminton Championships.

On the athlete side, Mawani’s Douglas College Royals are undefeated in BCCAA (British Columbia Colleges’ Athletic Association) league play, his 2007 Canada Games Team is playing host to Team China in a series of matches around the Lr. Mainland February 5-8 and his success with badminton at all levels over the past 20 years is overwhelming.

For both **the BC Colleges’ Provincial Championships (Feb 17-18) and the CCAA National Badminton Championships (March 8-10)**, held at the Richmond Pro Badminton Centre, Douglas College student-athletes are expected to bring home the GOLD. Look for strong performances from Team Captain, Lyndsay Thomson, sophomores Alvin Lau and Charmagne Yeung, as well as freshmen Richard Liang, Andy Cheong and Melodie Liang.

Capilano’s Kiran Bogavelli and Langara’s Toby Ng and Ian Wou should ensure that the BC team has one of the best squads in years to face perennial power houses of Alberta and Ontario.

For further information, contact Lou Rene Legge at 604-527-5043

