



Local lawyer one of only two to earn prestigious 2009 Friend of CAGP-ACDP™ Award

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VICTORIA – (May 7, 2009) The Victoria Foundation is proud to announce that Sara Neely, LL.B., CFRE, its Director of Philanthropic Services, has been honoured by the Board of Directors of the Canadian Association of Gift Planners (CAGP) for exemplifying the organization’s spirit and vision of *inspired giving through enlightened planning*.

Sara is the founding chair of LEAVE A LEGACY™ British Columbia, is the current Program Chair of the Vancouver Island Roundtable (CAGP), has served as the Chair of the Greater Vancouver Roundtable (CAGP), as well as been part of the Education Committee for several national CAGP conferences. Sara has been instrumental in making planned giving messages part of every-day vocabulary. Sara is widely recognized as a leader in the planned giving community across Canada, and her knowledge, wisdom, and character have made her a mentor and role-model for countless individuals.

As Director of Philanthropic Services at the Victoria Foundation, Sara plays a vital role in managing estate gifts, building relationships with professional advisors, and assisting with donor and advised-fund relations.

From 1993 to 2007, Sara was Director of Gift & Estate Planning at BC Children’s Hospital Foundation which serves BC Children's Hospital, the province's only acute care health facility for children from birth to age 16. Sara was responsible for implementing and managing the activities of the gift and estate planning program, as well as participating in the overall growth and development of the Foundation. Sara began her career as a wills and estates lawyer with a Vancouver law firm.

Sara is an active member of the charitable giving community and currently serves on the Board of the Victoria Symphony. Sara has generously shared her experience by contributing numerous articles to Gift Planning in Canada and other professional publications, as well as always taking the time to help colleagues.

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For more information or an interview with Sara Neely, please contact:
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Click the link below to find out more about this Award:
http://www.cagp-acdp.org/en/friend_cagp.aspx