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Dream Brokers program launched as a Canada Games legacy

The 2005 Canada Summer Games legacy continues with the launch of the Canada Games Dream Brokers Program. Thanks to a one-time contribution of \$530,000 from the financial surplus of last year's Games in Regina, the Dream Brokers Program was officially launched in the city today.

The goal of the Dream Brokers Program is to encourage inner city children and youth to participate in sport and cultural activities and programs that currently exist in Regina. Three Dream Brokers have been hired to work with local schools to help ensure that inner city children and youth are participating in these programs and activities. The brokers will also be responsible for identifying and eliminating barriers that prevent children and youth from participating in these activities.

The Dream Brokers Program is also designed to encourage inner city children and youth to develop their own dreams and the initiative to achieve those dreams. Successful athletes and artists will be called upon as role models to discuss their dreams, the obstacles they have overcome in their lives and other life experiences.

"The Canada Games Dream Brokers Program is just another example of how cities and provinces can benefit from hosting national sporting events," said Bob Ellard, Board Chair and President of the Host Society of the 2005 Canada Summer Games. "This invaluable program will help ensure that more of our children are given the opportunity to participate in and benefit from sport, culture and recreation activities."

The Dream Brokers Program will help inner city children and youth develop life skills, leadership skills, a sense of belonging in their communities and pride in their accomplishments. It is believed that this program will also help inner city children and youth become active, responsible and contributing members of their communities.

The City of Regina, Sask Sport Inc., the Regina Catholic School Board and the Regina Public School Board are key partners in the Dream Brokers Program. A committee consisting of members from all key partners will oversee the project. The program will initially focus on children and youth ages 8 to 14 in the North Central area, with the possibility of expanding the program into the city's Al Ritchie and Core areas once the program's effectiveness has been evaluated.

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