

**February 9, 2010**

## **Visual & Performing Arts Spotlight Shines on Moscrop Students**

- Grade 10 student Linette Ho has won Burnaby's Royal Canadian Legion poster contest and was presented with a cheque by two Legion members. Her poster will be moving forward in the competitions and will be judged at the BC & Yukon regional level.
- Grade 10 student Veronica Tjokro recently made her solo debut with the Vancouver Youth Symphony Orchestra at the Michael J Fox Theatre. She won this opportunity in a VYSO annual concerto competition. Veronica is one of the principal cellists with the VYSO, a youth orchestra that has been selected to perform at an undisclosed event during the Vancouver 2010 Olympics.

## **Aboriginal Voices: Stories to Video**

This fall, two classes at Byrne Creek had the unique opportunity to work collaboratively to increase the knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal people in Canada. The project began in the schools Aboriginal Literacy class where students wrote a script for a film that was inspired by the theme of cultural identity. Then students in the Industry Connect Graphics Media program brought the script to life using animation and videos inspired by Haida artist/ animator Chris Auchter. Artist in residence Gabriel Forsythe from Pacific Cinematheque oversaw the project that was made possible through an Artist's in Education grant from ArtStarts. The screening debut took place on February 3 in Byrne Creek's Centre for Dialogue.

## **Early Learning Begins at District's StrongStart BC Centres**

During Family Literacy Week, parents, children, district staff, trustees and MLA's gathered at Kitchener Elementary on January 28 for the official opening of four of Burnaby's newest StrongStart BC Centres. The newest centres include Lochdale, Chaffey-Burke, Stoney Creek and Kitchener. They bring the total number of district StrongStart BC Centres to twelve in Burnaby.