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Media Release

To: The Media

From: Elizabeth Williams, Manager of Sports Tourism

Date: September 20th, 2008

Subject: Nanaimo Rescue Station and Community Paddling Dock Open House

The volunteers from Auxiliary Coast Guard, Nanaimo Canoe and Kayak Club (NCKC) and the City of Nanaimo are extremely excited to celebrate the opening of the new Nanaimo Marine Rescue Station and Community Paddling Dock. The community is invited to attend the open house which will take place on Saturday, September 27, 2008 from 1:00 – 3:30pm at the Community Paddling Dock and Nanaimo Marine Rescue Station located at the Brechin boat launch.

Councillor Larry McNabb, Parks, Recreation & Culture Chairperson, is “very pleased to have worked with these community groups on this project. Without their contribution projects like this would not happen. This facility is another great community asset”. Steve Jackson, who volunteers with Nanaimo Auxiliary Coast Guard says “We’ve been working on this project for close to six years and after many hurrles we have finally made a reality of providing a volunteer marine rescue station for the Nanaimo area that will serve the community for many years to come”. In addition to the marine rescue station the community paddling dock is also open, Michael Folkes, of the NCKC added “This dock is a wonderful new facility and will allow us to share the sport of paddling with residents of Nanaimo and Vancouver Island. So come out and give it a try!”

Public will have an opportunity to tour the new marine rescue station, check out the rescue boats, visit the boating safety trailer, and enjoy a hot dog, chips and a drink(\$3), provide by the Cedar Beavers. The Putka mascot will also be onsite with Bobby the Safety Boat, so bring the kids. Public will also have a chance to try their hand at paddling outriggers with Nanaimo Canoe and Kayak Club.

For more information please call Parks, Recreation and Culture at 756-5200.