MEDIA ADVISORY

Annual Vaisakhi Day Celebration To Take Place In Surrey

For Immediate Release (April 21, 2011)

SURREY, BC – One of the largest free family events in the region – the Surrey Vaisakhi Parade will take place on Saturday, April 23, 2011 to commemorate one of the most important religious events on the Sikh calendar. Bringing together an estimated 100,000 people from all cultures and religions, this community-organized event is free and open to all.

"Vaisakhi is a cultural celebration of the harvest and New Year, and is an important day marking the Anniversary of Khalsa, dating back to 1699," says Moninder Bual, spokesperson for the Gurdwara Sahib Dasmesh Darbar Temple, organizers of the colourful and celebratory event, which has been running for the past eleven years in Surrey. "This is the largest Vaisakhi Parade outside of India and we are proud of the tradition of great family entertainment and community engagement it represents."

Parade Route: The Vaisakhi Parade is scheduled to begin at approximately 9:30am at Gurdwara Sahib Dasmesh Darbar, located at 12885-85 Avenue. The Parade will conclude there at approximately 4:00pm (see map for route).

Spokesperson: Moninder Bual, Dasmesh Darbar Temple

Main Stage Timeline:

- 11:00am-11: 45am- traditional Sikh hymn singers
- 11:45am-12: 45pm- ceremony honoring community volunteers
- 12:45pm-1: 30pm- speaker series

<u>Media Parking: Sinclair Elementary School located in the 7400 Block of 128th Street.</u>

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For more information visit <u>www.surreyvaisakhiparade.ca</u>. To arrange an on-site interview on the day of the event, please contact:

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