



MEDIA ADVISORY

For immediate release

March 1, 2005

Vancouver hosts B.C.'s first symposium on Shaken Baby Syndrome

For the first time in B.C., a symposium on shaken baby syndrome (SBS) will be held on Thursday, March 3, 2005 at the Chan Centre Auditorium located in the Education & Research Centre for Child Health, on the BC Children's and BC Women's hospitals campus.

WHO: The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), BC Children's Hospital, and the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome-USA (NCSBS) have brought together worldwide medical and legal experts for this symposium.

WHAT: Education and training to strengthen prevention efforts protecting children from SBS.

WHEN: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday March 3, 2005.

WHERE: The Education and Research Centre for Child Health (Chan Centre) of the BC Research Institute at 4500 Oak Street, Vancouver. Enter at gate 1 off Oak Street; turn left on Ring Road. The Centre is the first building on the left, in the Northwest corner of the Children's and Women's hospitals' site. **For media inquiries please check in at the registration desk with proof of media affiliation to receive a media kit and badge.**

WHY: In an effort to stimulate awareness and education on SBS, a violent form of child abuse. SBS is a serious problem in North America and B.C. It is the leading cause of non-accidental death in infants and is the most common cause for inflicted brain injury in the first year of a child's life. Of the babies shaken each year, nearly 25 per cent die. Of those that survive, approximately 80 per cent are left with permanent brain damage.

Please see attached program. For more information visit www.dontshake.com.

BC Children's Hospital, an agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority, provides expert care for the province's most seriously ill or injured children, including newborns and adolescents. For more information please visit www.bcchildrens.ca.

The Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) plans, manages and evaluates selected specialty and province-wide health care services across BC, working with the five geographic health authorities to deliver province-wide solutions that improve the health of British Columbians. For more information please visit www.phsa.ca.

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