



May 14, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE

NRT Announces two New Programs to support First Nation Elders, Youth

Today, the New Relationship Trust (NRT) announces two new grant programs. A total of \$125,000 each is allocated to a BC First Nation Youth Grant Program and an Elders Grant Program in the 2008/09 fiscal year.

“Support for Elders and Youth has been a key area of focus for NRT since our inception,” says NRT CEO Cliff Fregin. “When we consulted with First Nation communities across the province in 2006, members identified Youth and Elders as top priorities for NRT funding.” Accordingly, the NRT Board of Directors created a Youth and Elders program area, along with four others (capacity, economic development, language & culture, and education).

The new Elders Grant Program provides funding of up to \$2500 to projects that support Elders at the community level. Types of projects eligible are those that foster leadership, traditional knowledge, oral traditions, culture and language. Program information and applications are now available on the NRT web site under programs. The deadline for applications is June 13th, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

For the Youth Grant Program, NRT is currently taking applications for a Youth Advisory Committee. This committee will be pivotal in shaping the program by making decisions about program focus and by helping to choose successful applicants. Interested youth are encouraged to visit the NRT web site for program information, including eligibility criteria and application forms. Successful applicants will be expected to complete a one-year term. The deadline for applications is June 30th, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. .Once the committee is established, grants for youth will be rolled out later in 2008.

“This approach to programming for Elders and Youth represents a new strategic direction for NRT,” says Fregin. “By focusing our support at a local level, we will be able to affect change from within the communities. And by having a Youth Advisory Committee, we are ensuring that youth stay informed and involved in the decision-making process. We’re very excited about this new direction for NRT.”

- 30 -

General information:
Cheryl Cardinal, Research/Program Officer
Toll free #: 1-877-922-3338
Email: ccardinal@nrtf.ca
Web site: www.newrelationshiptrust.ca

Media Inquiries and Interviews please contact:
Cliff Fregin, Chief Executive Officer
Toll free #: 1-877-922-3338
Email: cfregin@nrtf.ca