



## Press Release

### **Local Orthodontist Supports Athletic Awards Through the Schools Foundation**

#### ***\$6000 Going Towards Local High School Athletes***

**Nanaimo, BC – April 3, 2013** The Nanaimo-Ladysmith Schools Foundation (NLSF) recently received a donation from Dr. John Pappel for \$6000 towards athletic awards for students. This is the fourth year the Nanaimo orthodontist has supported the Foundation through the awards program.

The donation will be distributed to six of the local secondary schools in the Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools who will each receive \$1000 to distribute to one male and one female athlete in grades 8-12. The students are selected based on their scholastic achievement and team involvement throughout the year by the schools Athletic Director.

A former high school athlete, Dr. Pappel believes in balancing athletics with academics.

"I choose to support local students through the Foundation because I want to see students stick with athletics throughout High School, as they build confidence and open a variety of doors in the future," said Dr. Pappel. "Sports were important to my development and I want to encourage students in Nanaimo to have a balance with their academics and athletic pursuits."

This year the Foundation, through the generosity of individuals, businesses and service clubs in the community is distributing over \$296,000 in awards, scholarships and bursaries to graduating students in Nanaimo and Ladysmith. The Foundation has an over 30-year tradition of supporting post secondary education for local students.

The Nanaimo-Ladysmith School Foundation raises funds and works in partnership with teachers, administrators and counselors in School District 68 to deliver support programs that better the lives of students in need. Supplies and programs that are not covered by the school board budget are supplemented through the Foundation. In 2011/12 the Foundation invested over \$480,000 back to local students through various programs, including food programs, elementary music, student support fund, scholarships, awards and bursaries, and the Mini O track meet for special needs students.

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Dr.Pappel passes the cheque to Erin van Steen for the catch.