

MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

2006 RAYMOND JAMES VICTORIA OPEN TENNIS TOURNAMENT

VICTORIA, BC – Raymond James Ltd. and theClayCourts Sport Inc. proudly announce that the largest tennis tournament on Vancouver Island, Canada will now be called the “2006 Raymond James Victoria Open Tennis Tournament.”

Over 300 players – from young kids to experienced veterans – are planning to participate from May 3 to June 4 at tennis venues throughout the Greater Victoria area.

Top level juniors will be competing to represent British Columbia in the Nationals, which are held in the summer.

For some players this will be their first tennis tournament - whether a youngster under 10 years old or a newcomer picking up the “sport of a lifetime.” Wheelchair athletes will also have an opportunity to play.

Many athletes are drawn to the tournament by the challenge of playing the top players in the province and Pacific Northwest for prize money. Yet other players attend for the sheer love of the sport and for the social aspect of mixed doubles.

Ryan Clark, executive director of Tennis BC, has seen the phenomenal interest and growth in last year’s 2005 Victoria Open and tennis on Vancouver Island. “We see the entry of such a prestigious firm as Raymond James a key step to help the region continue to be a leader for the sport of tennis.”

“Raymond James is proud to partner with theClayCourts Sport Inc. and support an event that attracts so many fine young players who strive to be the best they can be in the world of tennis,” says Steve Werner, Branch Manager of the firm’s Victoria office. “At Raymond James, we believe in investing in our communities, particularly in helping our young people reach their goals. It’s more than an investment in the future; it’s an appreciation and a salute to the determination, discipline and skill of all the athletes competing in this tournament.”

Ludo Bertsch of theClayCourts Sport Inc., organizer of the event, notes that “the 2006 Raymond James Victoria Open will provide the opportunity for players to enjoy the experience of a tournament, no matter what level they may be.”

Participants, volunteers and sponsors can check out the website www.victoriaopen.ca for more information or contact:

Ludo Bertsch, Tournament Coordinator
(250) 592-1488; www.VictoriaOpen.ca

Raymond James is a leading North American full-service independent investment dealer with an extensive presence in Canada. Its Victoria office is at Suite #1000 – 1175 Douglas Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2E1. (visit www.raymondjames.ca for more information)

theClayCourts Sport Inc. is a BC-based company that supports the sport of tennis and is proposing a new claycourt tennis facility at the former Beaver Lake School. (visit www.theclaycourts.com for more information)