

April 11, 2006

**Media release**

**For immediate delivery**

Canadian Ski Team Crazy Canuck- Dave Irwin, a brain injury survivor, will speak at **Edmonton's first annual Hawaiian Oyster Odyssey**, part of a national event hosted in eight major Canadian Cities. Joining him will be **Mr. Jim Dinning, The Honorable Mayor Steven Mandel Edmonton Eskimo great Henry GIZMO Williams, Dr. Chris Paniak- Neuropsychologist and Dr. Julianna Nagy, Physiatrist-** both of the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital.

**Brain injury is the leading cause of death for Canadians under the age of 45.**

Acquired brain injuries are the result of vehicle, sporting and recreational accidents in addition to acts of violence. A fall, stroke, aneurysm, infection, tumor, lack of oxygen from cardiac arrest, near-drowning, or substance abuse may also result in brain injury.

Shuck your winter gear for grass skirts and Hawaiian shirts to help raise funds and awareness of Brain Injury. Enjoy the mystery draws, tropical drinks, oyster bar and the chance to be entered into a national draw for a trip to two to HAWAII.

This event helps local survivors such as Wendy Mathewson- a local GOLD MEDAL winner of three events at the World Masters held in Edmonton 2005.

**“Because of the support, it has made such a difference and helped me to continue as an athlete. I volunteered for a year and half for the World Games and continue to volunteer at a local school, at a seniors residence and of course at NABIS.”**

Join our salute to brain injury survivors who will share their inspiring stories at the Hawaiian Oyster Odyssey on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> 7 to 10 pm hosted by the BANK ULTRA LOUNGE 10765 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton.

We look forward to your assistance. You will be joining our valuable supporters, in addition to our national and local sponsors, to increase awareness of acquired brain injury, to educate, and to advocate on behalf of those who need our continued assistance.

Tickets are \$100.00 (clams) and can be purchased by contacting Mary at 780-479-1757.

Sponsors include: The Bank Ultra Lounge, Bombardier, Diageo, Air Canada, Scotiabank, Parlee McLaws and CTV.

*“We have grown from one event last year to eight Hawaiian Oyster Odysseys across Canada in one year.”* Mirielle Provost – President Brain Injury Association of Canada (BIAC).

*For more information call 479-1757  
(XXX)*



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