



BCNET AWARDS \$9,500 to 4 COOLEST APPLICATIONS CONTEST WINNERS

VANCOUVER, BC (April 29, 2004) - **BCNET** (www.bc.net), a non-profit society for the development of advanced networks within the province, announced yesterday at the 4th Annual Advanced Networks Conference, the winners of this year's BCNET Coolest Applications Contest.

Judges of the contest decided to give four awards totalling \$9,500.00 in cash prizes to the following:

- **Most Innovative - Brian Corrie**, University of Victoria (\$2000)
- **Best Broadband Potential - Daniel Vanderster**, University of Victoria (\$2000)
- **Best Chance for Commercial Success - Behnam Bastani**, Simon Fraser University (\$2000)
- **Best Overall - Stephen Montgomery**, University of British Columbia/Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre (\$3500)

*"These four outstanding graduate students have really shown the potential of advanced networks, and in particular our own provincial high-speed Optical Regional Advanced Network (ORAN)," said **Michael Hrybyk, President and CEO, BCNET**. "They have also shown us how research in this area is critical to the advancement of computer science."*

All four winners were on hand at the conference to receive their prizes and to present their projects before the standing room only audience. The four were selected as the "best of the best" from the pool of candidates from graduate school programs at BCNET Member institutions, which include the British Columbia Institute of Technology, Simon Fraser University, University of British Columbia, University of Victoria and University of Northern British Columbia.

The contest was made possible by the generous support of its sponsors: **fSONA, CREO, BC Ministry of**

Management Services, REBOOT Communications, Industry Canada, CANARIE and

BCNET.

About BCNET

BCNET (www.bc.net) is a non-profit society supporting and promoting advanced networks for the province's research and education communities. The organization serves BC's academic, research and development institutions, government bodies, community organizations and industry groups. BCNET is the province's foremost leader in advanced network technology and is leading the way for enhancing education and research capabilities over the Internet. BCNET is supported by the provincial and federal governments as well as by its regional Member institutions.

###

BCNET

Suite 3200 – SFU Harbour Centre
515 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6B 5K3
Phone: 604.822.1348 Fax: 604.822.9887
www.bc.net ~ info@bc.net