



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Astronaut Dave Williams to speak to students at the Lester B. Pearson School Board's annual Space Day**

**Dorval QC., May 25, 2010** – Retired astronaut, Dave Williams will be greeting students via Skype to kick off the second day of the Lester B. Pearson School Board's (LBPSB) annual John Scholefield Science and Technology Day (Space Day). Dr. Williams will speak at the event on Thursday, May 27th at 10am with a message to students about the importance of science of technology. Over 2,000 elementary and high school students, teachers and administrators are expected to attend the event, which is the biggest of its kind in North America.

Offering students a unique educational opportunity, the LBPSB's Pearson Interactive Community Partnership program has partnered once again with Laurentide Aviation and St. Lazare Flying Club to celebrate a major initiative entitled Space Day, which is celebrated internationally. As a part of the LBPSB's on-going initiative to enhance the science and technology programs, over 30 community partners will come together to share their expertise with children in the areas of aviation, aerospace, science and technology.

More than 50 volunteer exhibitors will provide students with the challenges of careers in an engaging manner, where students learn real world applications of math and science, real world situational awareness, effective communications and teamwork. Exhibitors not only allow students to explore career options, but how what they learn in the classroom is actually applied in the real world and workplace.

Space Day was created by Lockheed Martin with US Senator and Astronaut John Glenn in 1997, as a world-wide education initiative to expose students to careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, using aerospace as the theme or motivator. The goal of this event is to promote math, science, technology and engineering education by nurturing young peoples' enthusiasm for the wonders of the universe and inspiring them to understand how Canada is a leader in technology and how technology is used in our everyday lives.

**Space Day will be held at the ST.LAZARE AIRPORT AND FLYING CLUB in ST.LAZARE, on May 26 & 27, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Retired astronaut Dave Williams will be available for interviews via Skype or by phone.**

The Lester B. Pearson School Board is an English school board serving more than 32,000 students and staff in 60 schools, adult and vocational centres, an International Language Centre, and an Administrative Centre on a territory from Verdun westward to the Ontario border. The Lester B. Pearson School Board is recognized locally, nationally and internationally as a

progressive and innovative public education institution pioneering a model of inclusive education and an acclaimed International Studies Program. It is also the first school board in Quebec to pilot a universally-available half-day Kindergarten program for 4 year olds and a tri-lingual International full-day Pre-Kindergarten program.

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