



"A Canadian Tradition Since 1883"

www.cjfl.net

The Canadian Junior Football League is proud to announce the 2009 recipient of the Past Commissioners Community Service Award. This award is given annually to an outstanding young man playing football for a CJFL team as well as contributing to his community.

"The Canadian Junior Football League provides the opportunity for young men aged 17 to 22 to participate in highly competitive post-high school football that is unique in Canada. The goal of the league is to foster community involvement and yield a positive environment by teaching discipline, perseverance and cooperation. The benefits of the league are strong camaraderie, national competition and life-long friends."

CJFL Past Commissioner Doug Ferne will present Curtis Vissa of the Vancouver Island Raiders with the Past Commissioners Award at the Intergold Banquet of Champions Friday November 13th in Nanaimo British Columbia.

This year's recipient epitomizes our mission statement.

Curtis Vissa has not only been an outstanding offensive lineman for the Vancouver Island Raiders of the British Columbia football Conference but also as a consummate teammate and a valuable contributor to his community.

2009 is Curtis's fourth and final year with the Raiders. His junior career includes 2 national championships, 4 BCFC titles, 2 BCFC all star selections and is the outstanding offensive lineman for the BCFC in 2009.

Football is only one side of Curtis Vissa's positive input and it is his community involvement that truly exemplifies his commitment to others.

This year Curtis is the recipient of the British Columbia Football Conference Ron White Award. Well deserved recognition for an individual who truly loves the game, the people involved and the friendships created.

Curtis understands the importance of community support to the team and is constantly finding ways to give back to the community. He created Raider Day at the Boys and Girls Club of Nanaimo, where he and his fellow teammates would go to the club to play games and read to the boys and girls, encouraging them to be active and providing positive reinforcement.

Curtis is a volunteer coach for the Nanaimo Redman bantam football team. He is also an active volunteer at several area elementary schools organizing events, flag

football games and creating the opportunity to share his experiences with young players who may be playing the game for the first time.

A fully certified personal trainer and group trainer, this summer Curtis co-organized a Boot Camp for Breast Cancer dedicating numerous hours to this special event in which all funds raised were donated to breast cancer research.

Curtis has always been school conscious and will be the first player to earn his degree through the Vancouver Island Raiders Scholarship Program with his Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Sport, Health and Physical Education. He intends to enter the Education Program to continue his studies leading to being a teacher and administrator.

When his playing career ends Curtis still wants to continue to be an integral part of the Vancouver Island Raiders and plans to take on the role of organizing volunteer events for the team. In talking about his time with the Raiders Curtis relayed the following.

“I feel that every junior player needs to volunteer, not to satisfy the needs of the team but to better their community and have a positive impact on those he shares his time with. Junior football players are a special breed and the more we can share with those around us the better everyone can become”.

Jack Emerson Low
Media Coordinator
Kak20@rogers.com