

**PARKSVILLE AND  
QUALICUM BEACH**  
*Vancouver Island's Oceanside Region*

**Immediate Release**

**Better Homes & Gardens Readers Say Parksville Beach is Tops in North America  
Parksville, BC – May 27, 2008**

Developed by the experts at Better Homes and Gardens, BHG.com is the premier home and family site on the web, and the interactive companion to the popular Better Homes and Gardens magazine. "We have a very actively engaged community and that's very important to us and we wanted to spotlight some of our reader's favourite beaches along with some of the editor's top picks," says Associate Editor, Marie Elizabeth Oliver.

Luba Plotnikoff, the Oceanside Tourism Association's (OTA) Travel Media Relations Manager, was originally contacted by Marie Elizabeth in April sharing the exciting news that Parksville's beach was among the Top Picks of Family Friendly Beaches in North America. Plotnikoff supplied the magazine with photos and editorial content to supplement the article.

"Receiving this recognition from the readers and editors of Better Homes and Gardens is a real honour and huge feather in the cap for Parksville and our entire region," said Plotnikoff, adding, "especially when we were the only beach in Canada to be recognized."

The last few months have brought outstanding media coverage to the region with the Quality Resort Bayside named #1 Quality Hotel in Canada by Choice Hotels International and Tigh-Na-Mara Seaside Spa Resort & Conference Centre receiving a number of awards including #1 Spa in Western Canada by Spas of America. Milner Gardens & Woodland was also recognized by Canadian Geographic magazine as one of the top ten gardens in the country. The Parksville and Qualicum Beach region continues to remain in the spotlight with articles appearing in major newspapers as well as national and international magazines.

"We are very pleased with the accolades our region has received lately," said OTA Executive Director, Blain Sepos, "Western Canada's tourism industry is very competitive and this recognition certainly positions the Parksville and Qualicum Beach as a top tourism destination."

To view the Top Picks for Family Friendly Beaches visit [www.BHG.com](http://www.BHG.com) 'view more slideshows' and click on Family Friendly Beaches and to check out more articles on the region visit Oceanside Tourism's Travel Media –'Inkwell' on [www.VisitParksvilleQualicumBeach.com](http://www.VisitParksvilleQualicumBeach.com)

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