

**Governor General's Medal of Bravery Award Announced for
Blackcomb Helicopter Pilot,
Steve Flynn**

January 16, 2008

Earlier today, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, announced 21 Decorations for Bravery. The recipients will be invited to receive their decorations at a ceremony to be held at Rideau Hall later this year. Among those named was Blackcomb Helicopter founder, pilot, and now General Manager Steven Murray Flynn. The Citation honouring Steve (who shares the honour with Vincent Lawrence Massey of Whistler and Paul Anthony Skelton of Pemberton) reads as follows:

“On March 5, 2006, helicopter pilot Steven Flynn, search and rescue technician Vincent Massey and mountain rescuer Paul Skelton teamed up to rescue a stranded ice sailor who had broken through the ice on Green Lake, in Whistler, British Columbia. As he drove past the scene, Mr. Flynn soon realized that responding emergency personnel needed assistance and that a helicopter rescue was needed. He rushed to a nearby heliport where he met with Messrs. Skelton and Massey. All three boarded a helicopter and, within minutes, they flew to the scene. While Mr. Flynn performed a precision hover, allowing the craft to get close to the ice, Messrs. Skelton and Massey reached for the hypothermic victim and pulled him safely into the helicopter.”

We are told, from other sources (that would be Emma Haggart), that it was said by those present, “that if Steve Flynn had been 10 seconds later, the victim would have gone under the ice and there would have been no hope of survival.”

Acts like these are never performed for the medals or honours that follow but it gives all of us enormous pride to see one of our colleagues so deservedly recognized by the Government of Canada. Steve will claim that it was all in a day's work but from our perspective, we see an outstanding act of courage and decency.

On behalf of the owners and staff, congratulations and thank you, Steve.

**Jason McLean
President and Chief Operating Officer
The McLean Group of Companies**