



Community Foundations
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MEDIA ADVISORY

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS SET TO RELEASE LOCAL AND NATIONAL VITAL SIGNS REPORTS

OTTAWA (Sept. 25, 2007) – Community foundations in eleven cities and regions across Canada are releasing their annual *Vital Signs* report cards, aimed at measuring the vitality of their communities, on Tuesday October 2nd, 2007.

The reader-friendly report cards track quality of life in key areas such as the gap between rich and poor, health, housing, and the environment – transforming local facts and figures into research you can read on the bus.

Community Foundations of Canada, the national membership association for the country's 159 community foundations, will also issue a national *Vital Signs* report tracking nation-wide trends, sharing success stories, and encouraging deeper discussion and debate.

Community foundations in eleven cities and regions are releasing local *Vital Signs* reports, giving each foundation, its donors, and the community-at-large valuable insight into the community's strengths, challenges and opportunities:

- Victoria
- Vancouver
- Calgary*
- Medicine Hat*
- Red Deer*
- Ottawa
- Toronto
- Sudbury*
- Waterloo Region* (Ontario)
- Montreal
- Saint John*
*(*denotes a community releasing its first Vital Signs report)*

The national *Vital Signs* project is based on *Toronto's Vital Signs*® an extremely successful indicator report developed by Toronto Community Foundation that was first published in 2001.

About community foundations

Community foundations build and manage permanent endowments to support local priorities. They use their deep knowledge of community needs to connect donors to the causes and organizations that matter most to them. With more than \$2.7-billion in assets, the community foundation movement is one of Canada's largest grantmakers,

providing more than \$137-million in grants last year to thousands of charities.

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See www.vitalsignscanada.ca for local *Vital Signs* media contacts.

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