



*Community Foundations  
of Canada*      *Fondations  
communautaires  
du Canada*

**Benjamin Moore Community Restoration Program announces grants and product donations to strengthen community and heritage groups across Canada**

**April 15, 2008** – What do the repainting of a drop-in centre for women and children, the conversion of a 1907 Post office for use as a community Arts Centre, the refurbishment of the premises of a Food Bank and the restoration of a heritage barn in a conservation area have in common? They are a few of this year’s 25 heritage and community project grant recipients for the **Benjamin Moore Community Restoration Program** in association with **Community Foundations of Canada** (CFC).

“Our association with Community Foundations of Canada dates back to 1998,” says Mark Hodge, General Manager Canadian Western Market, Benjamin Moore & Co., Limited. “Since then the Benjamin Moore Community Restoration Program has awarded 126 grants, totaling \$455,000 in financial assistance and an additional \$102,000 in donated paint and materials, to 74 different communities across Canada. In 2008 we once again opened up the program to qualifying organizations in the company’s Western, Central and Eastern Markets.”

This year, the Benjamin Moore Community Restoration Program’s \$100,000 donation enabled its partner Community Foundations of Canada (CFC) to extend grants to community groups in 14 communities across Canada. Grant recipients are located from Courtenay, BC in the West to Saint John, NB in the East.

“The Benjamin Moore Community Restoration Program provides selected charitable organizations with the materials and expertise necessary to refurbish buildings and facilities of

historical interest or importance to their community,” says Faye Wightman, President & CEO of Vancouver Foundation and a Board member of CFC. “This year’s continued commitment of \$100,000, which includes \$25,000 to support CFC’s national network of community foundations, in administering the program, enabled us to reach out to communities that we haven’t approached before.”

### **Seven grants in Western Canada**

“The restoration program is enthusiastically supported by our Benjamin Moore Retailers,” says Mark Hodge. “It enables them to make a positive difference in their communities by sharing something that we are passionate about – our expertise and our products – with people who are equally committed to the community and its heritage.”

This year, a total of \$25,000 in financial support and \$4,500 in paint and other materials has been given to community groups in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. British Columbia recipients are the *Comox Valley Family Services Association*; and the *Canadian Museum of Rail Travel* in Cranbrook. In Medicine Hat, AB, the *Clay Industries National Historic Site* receives help in restoring a 1912 caboose. Two Regina, SK, organizations receive grants: the *Sâkêwêwak First Nations Artist Collective* for revitalization of the historic Leader building; and *Visitation House*, a centre for women and children. In Selkirk, Manitoba, two projects benefit from the Benjamin Moore Restoration Program grants: the *Marine Museum of Manitoba*, and the *Community Arts Centre*, located in a 1907 Post Office Building.

### **Applications for 2009 program**

The application process for the 2009 Benjamin Moore Community Restoration Program will begin in October 2008. For information regarding the communities that will be targeted next year and details of the application process please visit the CFC website: [www.cfc-fcc.ca](http://www.cfc-fcc.ca)

**The Benjamin Moore Community Restoration Program** was developed in partnership with **Community Foundations of Canada**, the national membership organization for Canada’s 160 community foundations. 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 to charities.

Benjamin Moore & Co., a Berkshire Hathaway company, was founded in 1883 and established its Canadian operations in 1906. One of North America's leading manufacturers of premium quality residential, commercial and industrial maintenance coatings, its products are distributed through a network of independent paint and decorating retailers. Be sure to visit [www.benjaminmoore.ca](http://www.benjaminmoore.ca) to locate a Benjamin Moore retailer.

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