



## MEDIA ADVISORY

### Vancouver Agreement Wins United Nations Award

For Immediate Release

May 6, 2005

**VANCOUVER** - The Vancouver Agreement, an urban development initiative of the governments of Canada, British Columbia, and Vancouver today was named recipient of a United Nations Public Service Award.

The Vancouver Agreement was one of eight winners around the world and was awarded the top prize in the category for "Improving transparency, accountability and responsiveness in the public service". The Vancouver Agreement was cited for its innovative partnerships between government agencies, and with community groups and business.

The award ceremony will take place at U.N. headquarters in New York on June 23 to celebrate United Nations Public Service Day. The Vancouver Agreement will make a presentation at that time. Details on who will make the presentation will be announced later.

The Vancouver Agreement was formed in March 2000 in order for the federal, provincial and city governments to better work together and coordinate resources to implement a comprehensive strategy promoting and supporting sustainable economic, social and community development in the city. The initial focus is the Downtown Eastside, which includes the Chinatown, Gastown, Strathcona and Victory Square neighbourhoods. Through the Vancouver Agreement, the government partners support positive solutions to the economic, social and public safety challenges in the area through innovative community development projects.

Last September, the Vancouver Agreement received the highest award for innovative public service management from the Institute of Public Administrator's of Canada. The news release can be found at

<http://www.vancouveragreement.ca/Attached%20Documents/Awardpublicservice.pdf>.

Complete information about the Vancouver Agreement, including a short video and a report highlighting the first four years of activities, can be found in English, French and Chinese at <http://www.vancouveragreement.ca>.