



Canada Lands Company to Redevelop the former CFB Chilliwack

Chilliwack, British Columbia, November 24, 2003 – Canada Lands Company (Canada Lands) today announced plans for the first phase of the *Garrison Crossing* redevelopment of the former Canadian Forces Base Chilliwack, British Columbia. To mark the occasion, Canada Lands held a tree planting ceremony, which was attended by officials from the Government of Canada, the City of Chilliwack, and Canada Lands Company.

In 1995, the Government of Canada announced the closure of several Canadian Forces Bases, which included CFB Chilliwack. Due to its size, potential value and potential influence over the local market, CFB Chilliwack (494 acres) met the definition of a “strategic” disposal under the new Treasury Board Policy on the Disposal of Surplus Real Property. The base was officially closed in December 1997.

“An important goal of the redevelopment of the former CFB Chilliwack site is to offer a boost to the local economy,” said the Honourable Steven Mahoney, Secretary of State responsible for Canada Lands. “The redevelopment of the former CFB site follows in the footsteps of Canada Lands’ successful redevelopment of the former CFB Calgary site.”

The main portion of the base is comprised of a wide variety of buildings including administrative and technical educational facilities and housing for 400 military families. The base closure also involved other parcels of land including the promontory lands, the wet gap training area, an abandoned water reservoir site and the Vandell property comprising an additional 170 acres.

In June 2000, the Government of Canada approved a divestiture plan for the lands as a result of a thorough consultative process with all stakeholders. The plan included the sale of the housing site (153 acres) to Canada Lands. The transfer of this property from the Department of National Defence (DND) occurred on December 14, 2001.

“When the Base was closed down, the City was very concerned about what was going to happen to this incredibly large site,” said Clint Hames, City of Chilliwack Mayor. “Canada Lands did such a good job with creating a positive project, communicating the vision and gathering community input, that the public was very informed and supportive. I wish all developers took that kind of care with their projects.”

“The former CFB Chilliwack has a proud Canadian military history of more than 50 years,” said Doug Kester, Vice President of Real Estate for Canada Lands’ Western Region. “One of the goals of the redevelopment of the lands will include commemorating the efforts of the many Canadians who served our country from their base at CFB Chilliwack.”

Canada Lands is a federal Crown corporation established in 1995 to create financial and community value from the properties no longer required by the Government of Canada for program purposes. The company is self-financing and implements innovative property solutions to enhance the quality of life in communities where it operates.

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:

Randy Fasan
Director, Urban Design & Planning
Canada Lands Company
1-604-775-7045
rfasan@clc.ca

Gordon K. McIvor
Vice President, Public and Government Affairs
Canada Lands Company
1-888-CLC-LAND (252-5263)
gmcivor@clc.ca