

November 22, 2006

## **Alberta Environment provides \$1 million to establish endowment** *Investment will allow Alberta Emerald Foundation to expand programs that encourage environmental excellence*

Edmonton... The Alberta Emerald Foundation will set up an endowment fund to foster further environmental stewardship through a \$1 million grant from Alberta Environment. The grant will provide more support and encouragement for Albertans who engage in environmental excellence.

“We all have a role to play when it comes to protecting the environment,” said Alberta Environment Minister Guy Boutilier. “We need to see what environmental leaders are doing so that we can be inspired to take action. Any action, no matter how small, will move us toward our shared goal of preserving our beautiful province.”

Since 1991, the Alberta Emerald Foundation’s core mandate has been the recognition of outstanding environmental achievement through its premier event, the Emerald Awards. This grant is the first step in expanding the foundation’s mandate and establishing the Centre for Environmental Excellence.

“We plan to develop youth-based and outreach programming and create an extensive website database of Emerald Award projects,” said Ron Kruhlak, Chair of the Alberta Emerald Foundation’s resources development committee. “Through these initiatives, the centre will play a key role in sharing conservation success stories and getting more Albertans involved in stewardship activities.”

The Alberta Emerald Foundation was created in 1991 by Alberta Environment, McLennan Ross LLP and Deloitte & Touche Chartered Accountants. Since then, the independent charitable organization has recognized the work of more than 1,700 environmentally concerned Albertans.

For more information about the Alberta Emerald Foundation, visit [www.emeraldfoundation.ca](http://www.emeraldfoundation.ca).

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