



## VANCOUVER EVENT TO LAUNCH CANADIAN INSOLVENCY FOUNDATION

VANCOUVER—(January 9, 2004)--Prominent jurists, lawyers, academics and insolvency and restructuring professionals will gather here on Friday, February 6th to mark the official launch of a foundation that will foster independent research and analysis of the bankruptcy and insolvency system, the Canadian Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Professionals (“CAIRP”) announced today.

The Canadian Insolvency Foundation (“CIF”) is a not-for-profit multi-disciplinary organization founded by CAIRP. It is dedicated to research and education related to insolvency and bankruptcy legislation and practices, both corporate and personal, and to the skills of restructuring, refinancing, corporate rescues and turnarounds. CIF is also to make reports and suggestions to Governments for improvements to laws affecting the effective operation of the system.

The CIF’s inaugural dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. at the Sage Bistro, near the University of British Columbia’s Faculty of Law (1822 East Mall, Vancouver).

The keynote speaker will be New York Law School Professor Karen Gross, the founder of the Coalition for Consumer Bankruptcy Debtor Education, which offers free financial management skills courses to individuals who have filed for bankruptcy relief in New York State. Her topic will be: “Twenty-five Years Under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code: Lessons Learned for Practitioners and Scholars Across Canada and the Globe.”

“I am delighted that such accomplished members of Canada’s bankruptcy and insolvency community, as well as international guests, are gathering to provide a memorable launch for the foundation,” said William Courage, Chair of CAIRP. “We are confident that this high-powered event will point the way to a broad-based membership in the foundation, making it the essential forum for research and discussion regarding insolvency issues.”

The dinner will follow an all-day Insolvency Law Review Conference at the UBC Faculty of Law. Mr. Justice Frank Iacobucci of the Supreme Court of Canada and eight provincial court judges will participate in the conference, which will feature panels on subjects such as “Insolvency Law Reform Update,” “Director and Officer Liability and Governance Issues” and “Hot Topics in Restructuring.” The conference, which is to become an annual event, starts at 9:00 a.m. in the Moot Courtroom.

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The Canadian Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Professionals (CAIRP) is the national professional organization representing 913 general members acting as trustees in bankruptcy, receivers, monitors, agents and consultants in insolvency matters. (There are also 430 members in the articling, life and corporate categories.)

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