

PRESS RELEASE - For Immediate Release

May 11, 2015

**Fraser River Discovery Centre launches \$2.25 Million Working River Project
"Commitment from Five Inaugural Partners Means Phase 1 Going Ahead"**

New Westminster, B.C. – The Fraser River Discovery Centre today announced it is moving ahead with Phase 1 of the Working River Project thanks to the inaugural investment and partnership of 5 industry leaders – Chevron Canada, Fraser Surrey Docks, Kinder Morgan Canada, Port Metro Vancouver and Saam Smit Canada.

"We are excited to be moving ahead with this important project and proud to be doing so with some of BC's leading organizations," said Stephen Bruyneel, Chair, Board of Directors, Fraser River Discovery Centre. "The mighty Fraser has always been a working river – contributing hundreds of millions of dollars to local, provincial and federal economies each year – while at the same time being one of our most important environmental and socio-cultural treasures. We look forward to working with our partners to provide a clear and broad understanding of the importance of the Fraser River to everyone's lives."

The \$2.25 million Working River Project is a world class, education-based exhibit that will promote a factual understanding of the crucial economic role of the Fraser River while considering its environmental and socio-cultural values. Set to open late 2017 and occupy the lower floor galleries of the 17,000 square foot facility, the exhibit will follow the Centre's current approach to education and be highly interactive, supported by programming and designed to meaningfully engage visitors in exploration and discovery of the theme.

"Phase 1 of the Working River Project will involve working with our inaugural partners to further define and develop the concepts for two of the Working River Project "pods" – Infrastructure on the River, and Transportation, Materials Handling and Emergency Response," added Bruyneel. "The result will be a formal Exhibit Concept and Preliminary Design Plan that will form the basis of how we hope to further develop and realize the exhibit in the years to come."

The Fraser River Discovery Centre and will also be working over the coming months to secure the additional partners – and funding – needed to continue with the Working River Project in 2016 and beyond.

"We made the decision to proceed with Phase 1 of the Working River Project – even though it is not yet fully subscribed – because of the enthusiasm of our inaugural partners, the importance of the opportunity, and to fulfill our mandate as the "Voice of the Fraser", concluded Bruyneel. "But in order to continue, we will need more help from all of those who believe that a living, working Fraser River is something worth protecting and talking about for generations to come."

Working River Partner Quotes

Chevron Canada

"As the largest fuel manufacturer and marketer in British Columbia, and as a major commercial fuel supplier to many Fraser River businesses, Chevron is committed to world-class emergency response along with the safe handling and transportation of our products by water and land. The Fraser River is of crucial economic, environmental and social importance to BC, and Chevron is proud to support this important initiative of the Fraser River Discovery Centre." – Adrien Byrne, Chevron Spokesperson

Fraser Surrey Docks

"Fraser Surrey Docks LP (FSD) is excited to support the Working River Project in order to elevate the communities awareness of the history, importance and economic significance of the Fraser River. FSD is proud to be the largest employer on the Fraser River waterfront, with more than 300 full-time employees, having contributed over 280 million dollars to BC communities over the last 5 years through salaries, wages, taxes and the buying of local goods and services." - Jeff Scott, President and CEO, Fraser Surrey Docks

Kinder Morgan Canada

"We are pleased to support the Fraser River Discovery Centre's Working River Project. Through our more than 60 years of pipeline and marine terminal operations, we have always placed the greatest emphasis on safe operations of our assets. This education-based initiative is an important milestone in the ongoing discussion about pipeline safety and emergency response." - Mike Davies, Senior Director Marine Development Kinder Morgan Canada.

Port Metro Vancouver

"The Fraser River is as economically important to Canada as the St. Lawrence Seaway and is also critical to our environment and the habitat that lives in it. We share the goals of the Working River Project at the Fraser River Discovery Centre and are pleased to support initiatives to help ensure the river remains a sustainable economic engine and a source of enjoyment and pride." - Duncan Wilson, Vice President, Corporate Social Responsibility for Port Metro Vancouver

Saam Smit Canada

"Our company has inherited a long history of working on the Fraser River. We are very mindful of the different aspects that form a part of this ecological and economic ecosystem. The Working River Project aims to make that information accessible to the wider community and we believe this is an important step to ensure future prosperity for all who live and work on this beautiful river." - Frans Tjallingii, President, Saam Smit Canada

The Fraser River Discovery Centre Society operates the Fraser River Discovery Centre. Through interactive exhibits and engaging programming, the Discovery Centre showcases the Fraser River's role in shaping BC's ecological, cultural and economic diversity. Its mission is to be the Voice of the Fraser in presenting the stories of the Fraser River and their contribution to the life, history and future of British Columbia with the vision of connecting communities in discovery and celebration of the living, working Fraser River. The Discovery Centre is currently open Wednesday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm. Admission to the exhibit galleries is by donation.

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