



News Release

**Community Foundation to Host Sixth Annual
Harbour Passage Garden Party**

Saint John, NB, June 1, 2009, for immediate release

Volunteers, businesses and community groups are encouraged to turn out individually or as groups to spruce up Saint John's Waterfront Trail Friday afternoon, June 5th from 1-5pm or Saturday June 6th from 9am to 12pm at the Sixth Annual Harbour Passage Garden Party. The event is organized by the Greater Saint John Community Foundation as a positive way to generate community pride. Chair Brenda Lutz, Q.C., states that this year's emphasis will be back-to-basics with a gardening-only theme. "We thank volunteers and Mrs. Lutz, who is an active gardener, and has contributed significant time, talent and gifts from her own garden for the pleasure of our community" stated Cheryl Robertson, foundation Chair.

Some developments are influencing this year's format. Factors like the annual maintenance of the Harbour Bridge, with more intensive and needed work to come in 2010, mean necessary disruptions. The City of Saint John is hoping for enhancements to Phase One, once bridge work is complete and the plans for the proposed Irving Oil headquarters at Long Wharf are finalized. The construction of recently announced interpretive centres is also being planned.

The spring tune-up is timed so volunteers familiar with the beds' landscape plans can come at their leisure, with their own tools and equipment either Friday afternoon, June 5 and/or Saturday morning, June 6. Tim Hortons will be supplying refreshments to volunteers but other valued donors/sponsors of mulch, compost, plant materials, equipment, prizes and services are being given a "holiday" this year. However, they are being encouraged to bring along a crew to get "Back-to Basics" in the garden.

A number of volunteer teams are expected, including ACAP Saint John, Saint John Kiwanis Club, Key Industries' Aktion Club, Hilton Hotel, Home Depot, Kinek Technologies, Canty Lutz Delaquis Grant, Garden Buds, Rodney Sea Cadets, ONE (Old North End) Change, Uptown Saint John's Green Feet Committee, the Saint John Board of Trade, Citizens for Fort LaTour, Enterprise Saint John, FUSION, Strong and Free, Saint John Alzheimer Society and Saint John Waterfront Development.

No fundraising is needed, just a few hours of time. With many uptown businesses' employees taking to the popular trail at lunch and break-times, it's a small way to give back for the enjoyment of being able to take a waterfront walk in the centre of the city.

The Greater Saint John Community Foundation serves as a trustee for charitable, educational and cultural purposes. It administers funds given by public-spirited individuals for the benefit of the people of this area. In 2008, it donated in excess of \$276,000 to over 70 local charities. Applications from local registered charities are received twice yearly.

"Grants of \$4.6 Million to over 270 Saint John area charities for youth, seniors, social services, health, education, heritage, the arts and the environment since 1976"

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