

mediarelease

August 17, 2005

"It's back on"
PRESS CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE 2005 LANDSLIDE
IN THE DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER**

Thursday, August 18, 2005 – 10:00 a.m.

On January 19, 2005 a landslide occurred in the Blueridge/Seymour area of the District of North Vancouver, killing one resident and seriously injuring another. Over 100 homes were evacuated.

All media are invited and requested to attend a press conference held by the District of North Vancouver regarding an important announcement pertaining to the January 2005 landslide. District Mayor Janice Harris and staff will be on hand to provide the media with information and to answer questions.

The Press Conference will be held:

Date: Thursday, August 18, 2005
Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: District of North Vancouver Municipal Hall
355 West Queens Road
North Vancouver, B.C.

ALL MEDIA ARE REQUESTED TO ATTEND THIS PRESS CONFERENCE.

Please scroll down for a District of North Vancouver Media Release. More information will be provided at Thursday's Press Conference.

For more information, please call District of North Vancouver Communications Office at 604-990-2459.

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For Immediate Release

August 17, 2005

District of North Vancouver to purchase nine homes affected by landslide

North Vancouver, B.C. The District of North Vancouver has announced the purchase of nine homes affected by January's landslide after a geotechnical investigation confirmed that these properties have either a lower than acceptable factor of safety or may be affected by future landslides.

The homes will be purchased at full market value, which is estimated to total approximately \$6 million, allowing these residents to relocate to equivalent housing. This figure includes all fees for removal, restoration or other remedial work, legal fees, etc.

"Because of the risk, we felt that it would be in the best interests of public safety for the District to purchase these homes," said District Mayor Janice Harris. "This will allow the families to move forward and also allow for further remediation in the area. Our priority remains ensuring the safety of our residents."

In January 2005, a landslide occurred in the Blueridge/Seymour area of the District of North Vancouver, killing one resident and seriously injuring another. Over 100 homes were evacuated.

Following the landslide, the District undertook a thorough geotechnical study of the slide area to determine which improvements would be required to stabilize the slope. Numerous remedial measures have already been carried out, including installation of a debris basin at the base of the slope, removal of unsafe trees, modifications to roof and foundation drainage to homes at the top of the slope, and installation of piezometers to measure ground water levels.

"Our immediate goal is to make the affected area as safe as possible for residents," said Chief Administrative Officer James Ridge. "The next step is to complete a Slope Management Plan for the entire escarpment. We plan to implement that soon and partial, benchmarking results are expected by the end of the year. The District is working towards community acceptance based on understanding of where we stand on safety, what we are doing to address these issues and the role that residents have to play in this."

Adds Mayor Harris, "I would like to commend our staff who has worked tirelessly behind the scenes on behalf of these residents. Their efforts helped affect the financial assistance for these homeowners and the continuing implementation of the Slope Management Plan."

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**For more information, contact the District's
Communications and Community Relations Office at 604-990-2459**

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