

## For immediate release

### **Canadian GeoExchange Coalition to establish permanent Training and Technology Committees**

*Another important step in the transformation of the national geoexchange industry*

**Montréal, December 6, 2006** – The Canadian GeoExchange Coalition (CGC) is continuing to transform the geoexchange industry in Canada by establishing two permanent working committees that will address issues related to training and technology. On November 26, 2006, the CGC board of directors voted unanimously to establish both committees.

“Now that we have received board approval we will move quickly on this initiative as there is much work to be done,” said CGC Executive Director, Denis Tanguay. “Committee members will be drawn from our growing membership base, and we encourage those interested in this market transformation initiative to step forward,” he added.

The Technology Committee will concentrate its discussions on a variety of technical aspects of the geoexchange industry such as heat transfer fluid, environmental impacts, DX and water systems, deep well geoexchange, as well as contribute to developing funding initiatives and much needed research and development. The committee is also expected to make recommendations on improvements for codes and standards.

The Training Committee will focus mainly on the CGC’s national training programs for drillers, installers and designers. Its core mandate will be to recommend future changes to the newly developed training material. Its work will incorporate feedback from CGC trainers and trainees and address new training issues as they arise. A portion of the revenues raised through the training program will be placed into a permanent training fund that will be used to finance further training initiatives. Committee members are also expected to make recommendations on how best to invest the funds.

The committees are open to CGC members only. CGC staff will coordinate their work and will ensure that linkages between the two committees and the board of directors are maintained. The first meeting of the permanent committees will take place by conference call in early 2007. The committees will meet on a regular basis to ensure issues are addressed in an adequate and timely manner.

*The Canadian GeoExchange™ Coalition acts as the industry catalyst to unite private and public sector stakeholders, and to expand the market for ground source heat pumps and geoexchange™ technology in Canada. As the nexus of information, training, certification, standards and public awareness, our mandate is to work with stakeholders to build the necessary infrastructure to foster the growth of the Canadian geoexchange™ industry.*

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