

MEDIA RELEASE

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THOUSANDS WALK FOR RECONCILIATION IN VANCOUVER

Vancouver, BC – Thousands of people came out on a rainy Vancouver morning for Walk for Reconciliation yesterday, concluding an incredible Week of Reconciliation in Vancouver and B.C., Reconciliation Canada Executive Director Karen Joseph said today.

The Walk for Reconciliation was the inspiration of Ms. Joseph's father, Chief Dr. Robert Joseph, Hereditary Chief of the Gwawaenuk First Nation and Ambassador for Reconciliation Canada. Reconciliation Canada's work will continue with dialogue circles in communities throughout BC and in other communities across Canada in the months and years ahead.

Yesterday's event included an inspiring speech by Dr. Bernice King, an American Baptist minister and the daughter of the late U.S. civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

"My father and I are overwhelmed and humbled by what we experienced on Sunday – a realization of a dream, and many months of tireless work from our staff, community partners and hundreds of volunteers," said Joseph. "The sight of tens of thousands of people walking across the viaducts in both directions, shoulder to shoulder, was an incredibly moving for us, and a powerful symbol of the journey we've been on together as a community this week."

Founded in 2012, Reconciliation Canada is building new relationships between Aboriginal peoples and all Canadians, relationships built on a foundation of openness, dignity, understanding and hope. Reconciliation Canada is engaging people from every part of Canadian society in an open and honest conversation about our diverse histories and experiences in order to build resilient, sustainable communities. Vancity Credit Union is a founding partner of Reconciliation Canada.

For more information, visit <http://reconciliationcanada.ca>.

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Media Contacts:

Lesli Boldt

Boldt Communications

M: 604-772-5682 O: 604-662-3500

E: lesli@boldtcommunications.com