



Announcement of New BCNET Board Members

Vancouver, BC (September 21, 2006) – BCNET, a non-profit society that develops high-performance networks for the research and higher education communities in the province, announced today the appointment of several new members to its Board of Directors. The new members are: Howard Brunt, VP Academic and Provost with the University of Northern BC (UNBC); Jim Soles, Executive Director of Government Relations at the University of Victoria (UVic); Mark Roman, CIO and Executive Director of Computing and Systems Services, UVic; Cliff Neufeld, VP of Administration and Finance at Thompson Rivers University (TRU); Brian Mackay, Associate VP and CIO of IT Services at TRU; Chris Golding, VP of Learning and Technology Services at BCIT; Greg MacLean, Vice-President and General Manager of Big Pipe Inc.; and Ron O'Dwyer, Vice President of Sun Microsystems Inc. for Western Canada.

BCNET, collectively funded by the universities in BC and the federal and provincial governments, welcomes many of its recent board inductees from its member institutions in higher education, as well as representatives from industry and government. Brunt will contribute an extensive background in education and research, areas in which BCNET conducts its main operations. The society manages the development of BC's high-speed, dedicated Optical Regional Advanced Network (ORAN). This technology facilitates collaboration between researchers and educators across the country and globally, and has enabled projects in the areas of science, health, physics and education.

Soles, whose responsibilities as Executive Director of Government Relations at UVic include communicating the relevance of research and teaching to the government, brings experience from BC's postsecondary sector and the Ministry of Advanced Education, where he has served as assistant deputy minister.

In addition, the BCNET board welcomes the technical expertise of Neufeld, who is responsible for the development, maintenance and integrity of TRU's corporate, financial, budgeting, forecasting and purchasing systems. The induction of MacLean and O'Dwyer will also add to the presence of private sector members among the directors.

BCNET's Board of Directors serves to align BCNET's objectives with the needs of its member institutions, as well as provide effective management in support of BCNET staff. BCNET is governed by a consortium of industry and government representatives and BCNET members, each of which appoints a representative to the Board of Directors.

About BCNET

BCNET builds high-performance networks for British Columbia's research and education institutes - enabling connections, collaboration, and innovation by facilitating technological advancement. Collectively funded by BC's universities, federal and provincial governments, BCNET is a not-for-profit society that manages the development of the province's high-speed, dedicated Optical Regional Advanced Network (ORAN). The ORAN links researchers and educators in BC, across the country and globally and enables world-class projects in the areas of science, health, physics, and education. For more information, please visit our website at www.bc.net.

[For more information about this press release](#)

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