



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SOLD OUT Attendance at Canada's Preeminent Venture Capital and Private Equity Conference  
The Honourable Ed Stelmach to speak at CVCA's 2009 Annual Conference**

**Calgary, Canada, May 27, 2009** – CVCA - Canada's Venture Capital & Private Equity Association today announced that a record number of private equity and venture capital investors will be assembled in Calgary today until Friday May 29<sup>th</sup> at the Hyatt Regency Calgary at the CVCA's 2009 Annual Conference.

Over 500 participants from the private capital industry across Canada and around the world will explore all the key facets of industry investing, fundraising and performance in today's economy. Renowned speakers from North America and Europe will share their experiences and thoughts on subjects such as: fund raising and perspectives from limited partners and general partners, the role of private markets in the investment portfolios of leading pension funds, opportunities in the Canadian energy sector and the role of private equity in the M&A market and debt markets.

"Our CVCA Annual Conference is the premier event for venture capital and private equity investors in Canada, and it is great to see such a high level of interest in our market today," said Gregory Smith, CVCA's President, "at a time when economic circumstances are resulting in organizations cutting back on their commitments to conferences, our success pays tribute to the diligence of our organizing committee under the Chairmanship of Ross Bricker of AVAC Ltd. as well as the quality of our speakers and panelists.

On Friday May 29<sup>th</sup> Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach will address the Conference with his speech titled 'The Alberta Approach to Building Long-Term Prosperity'.

CVCA's luncheon keynote speakers is Thomas J. Barrack who is the Founder, Chairman, and Chief Executive Officer of Colony Capital, LLC, a private equity real estate company head-quartered in Los Angeles, California. As Chairman, Mr. Barrack has invested approximately \$38 billion in assets around the globe and has produced IRR's in excess of 20 percent for over 17 years. The dinner keynote speaker is Timothy C. Draper, Founder and a Managing Director of Draper Fisher Jurvetson, who was #7 on Forbes Midas List and #52 on the list of the most influential Harvard Alumni and was named Always-On #1 top venture capital deal maker for 2008.

Other high profile speakers include Leo de Bever, Chief Executive Officer of Alberta Investment Management Corp. Marc Beauchamp, President & Managing Partner at NOVACAP, Michael Nobrega, President and CEO of OMERS, Don Listwin, Founder & Executive Director, Canary Foundation and Mark Wiseman, Senior Vice President, Private Investments, Canada Pension Plan Investment and senior professionals from Grove Street Advisors, ONEX, Thomas H. Lee Partners, RBC Venture Partners, Vertex, EDC, Manulife Financial, CIBC Commercial Banking, Collier Capital, ARC Financial, KERN Partners, TorQuest Partners and Teachers Private Capital.

“The CVCA is the voice of Canada’s growing Venture Capital & Private Equity Industry, and the Annual Conference provides our industry with a unique networking platform to share opinions and learn from each other’s experiences.” said Ross Bricker, Chair of the 2009 CVCA Annual Conference and President & CEO of AVAC Ltd. “We are thrilled with the quality of our speakers and the sold out attendance.”

#### **CVCA**

The CVCA - Canada’s Venture Capital & Private Equity Association, was founded in 1974 and is the association that represents Canada’s venture capital and private equity industry. Its over 1800 members are firms and organizations which manage over \$75 billion of capital designated to be committed to venture capital and private equity investments. The CVCA fosters professional development, networking, communication, research and education within the venture capital and private equity sector and represents the industry in public policy matters. For the full conference agenda visit

<http://www.cvca.ca/news/events/2009AnnualConference.aspx>

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