

Wednesday, Dec. 3
For immediate release

Corporate philanthropy during downturn

Calgary, AB – A leader in Calgary’s business community is urging corporate Calgary to keep on giving to social service organizations despite the economic turmoil.

Vermilion Energy Trust president and CEO Lorenzo Donadeo will deliver that message on **Friday, Dec. 5**, when he presents another cheque to the Vermilion/YWCA Skills Training Centre. The \$625,000 cheque is part of a combined \$4-million commitment the company and the “Friends of Vermilion” — company founders, board of directors, senior management, and staff — have made to the Skills Training Centre. The Centre gives women carpentry and life skills so they can move their families out of poverty and into independence.

Without revealing the extent to which the world’s financial crisis is having on Vermilion Energy Trust’s own oil and gas interests, the successful Calgary executive admits he and his employees are feeling its full force. “The current economic and financial crisis makes it really easy for us as a company to turn around and say, ‘Sorry, we can’t afford to give this year,’” explains Donadeo.

But as the child of hardworking Italian immigrants, who doesn’t forget his humble upbringing, that attitude doesn’t sit well with him or his staff. “During unsettled economic times like these, companies including Vermilion — who have the financial fortitude to emerge even stronger from the current financial squeeze — must continue to demonstrate leadership in the community by supporting causes they believe will help bring sustainable social change to our city,” says Donadeo.

The news is encouraging to the YWCA of Calgary, as it approaches the critical holiday donation period. “Like many other local charities, we are worried that we will not be able to deliver all our services amid a global financial crisis,” says Jill Wyatt, YWCA of Calgary president and CEO. The organization is feeling the pressure to close a \$500,000 gap before the year ends in order to meet its current fundraising goals.

The media is invited to attend the cheque presentation from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

WHAT: Vermilion Energy Trust to present the Vermilion/YWCA Skills Training Centre with a cheque for \$625,000 as part of a combined \$4 million commitment

WHO: Vermilion Energy Trust president and CEO Lorenzo Donadeo
YWCA of Calgary president and CEO Jill Wyatt

WHEN: Friday, Dec. 5, 2008
Cheque presentation will take place at about 9:50 a.m.
Donadeo and Wyatt will be available for interviews between 10:05-10:20 a.m.

WHERE: The Westin Calgary - Britannia Room
320-4th Avenue SW, Calgary

-30-

MEDIA

For additional information on this event, please contact:

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About the Vermilion/YWCA Skills Training Centre

The Vermilion/YWCA Skills Training Centre in Calgary helps give women and their children a better future. During a four-month period, students gain skills in carpentry and communications, as well as physical fitness training, for a career in Calgary's construction industry. The Skills Training Centre is a partnership between the YWCA of Calgary and Vermilion Energy Trust.

On Friday, Dec. 19, sixteen students will graduate from the Vermilion/YWCA Skill Training Centre, bringing the total number of graduates to 42, since the program first opened its doors more than a year ago. The next session starts on Jan. 5, 2009. To contact the Vermilion/YWCA Skills Training Centre, call 403-705-7526.

About Vermilion Energy Trust

Vermilion is a Canadian-based international energy producer that adheres to a value creation strategy through the execution of asset optimization programs and strategic acquisitions. Vermilion focuses on the development and optimization of mature producing properties in Western Canada, Western Europe and Australia. Vermilion also exposes its unitholders to significant upside opportunities through a combination of equity sponsorship in new ventures and managed participation in high impact projects. Management and directors of the Trust hold approximately 9% of the outstanding units and are dedicated to consistently delivering superior rewards for all its stakeholders. Vermilion Energy Trust trades on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol VET.UN. As a responsible energy producer, Vermilion is committed to investing in the communities in which Vermilion staff live and work.