

Scotia Capital and institutional investment community raise more than \$1 million on Invest in Kids Day

TORONTO, March 9, 2004 -- On Thursday, February 26th, Canada's youngest children were the investment of choice for Scotia Capital Inc. and the institutional investment community. For the third consecutive year, Scotia Capital hosted Invest in Kids Day, and will donate \$1,031,000 raised from institutional equity trading commissions to help Canada's children get the best possible start in life. This brings the three-year total to \$2,549,000.

"We are once again delighted with the support of the institutional investment community in helping us secure more than \$1 million. We are thrilled to have raised such a significant contribution to help with the ongoing initiatives of Invest in Kids," says Jim Mountain, Managing Director and Head, Institutional Equities, Scotia Capital. "All great investments require an early start and a solid foundation to build on. Children are no different. The earlier you begin investing in their development, the greater the returns."

Funds raised will, in part, support Invest in Kids' research and parent, public and professional education initiatives, designed to strengthen the parenting knowledge, skills and confidence of Canadians.

"We are immensely grateful for Scotia Capital's continued support and are still marveling at the astounding response of the investment community," says Nancy Birnbaum, President and CEO, Invest in Kids. "The funds raised will go a long way towards helping ensure that all children, no matter their socio-economic background, have the opportunity to grow to be emotionally, socially and intellectually healthy."

About Invest in Kids

Invest in Kids is a national, charitable organization dedicated to ensuring the healthy social, emotional and intellectual development of children from birth to age five. Invest in Kids translates the science of parenting and child development into easy-to-understand, engaging, relevant resources for parents and professionals—aimed at strengthening the parenting knowledge, skills and confidence of all those who touch the lives of our youngest children.

About Scotia Capital and Scotiabank Group

Scotia Capital is a leader in the corporate and investment banking industry, with a presence in major financial centres around the world. Scotia Capital is a member of the Scotiabank Group. Scotiabank is committed to supporting the communities in which we live and work, both in Canada and abroad. Recognized as a leader among Canadian corporations for its charitable donations and philanthropic activities, in 2003 the Bank provided \$30 million in sponsorships and donations to a variety of projects and initiatives, primarily in the areas of healthcare, education and social services. Scotiabank is on the World Wide Web at www.scotiabank.com.

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