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FIRST MANITOBA BUILDING CERTIFIED BOMA GO GREEN

The Building Owners and Managers Association of Manitoba (BOMA) is proud to announce that 220 Portage Avenue in Winnipeg is the first in Manitoba to be awarded the BOMA Go Green Certification. The Royal Bank building owned and managed by CREIT Management L.P. is located in the Portage & Main business district with 180,000 square feet of office space. CREIT has pledged that all of its 17 commercial office towers across Canada will work toward Go Green status by 2007.

CREIT Property Manager Sue Ziemksi states, "Much like the early '90's when recycling was the new buzz word, "greening" of buildings is fast becoming the new mantra. The best way to prove that we were doing our part was to work toward BOMA Go Green Certification. Until you measure your performance against the very best, you truly do not know how well you are doing."

The BOMA Go Green National Environmental Certification program is a unique, voluntary program designed for existing or occupied commercial buildings of all sizes, and is offered by BOMA as a service to all member and nonmember commercial building owners in Canada.

According to Ziemksi, the certification process has heightened staff and tenant awareness to environmental issues and solutions that they can participate in and make a difference. During the past year, the building has significantly decreased its water consumption by 24%, decreased land fill waste by 13% and increased its recycling by 34%. Additionally, an energy conservation program has commenced which Ziemksi states will see "tremendous benefits" over the next several years.

"Our refreshed policies for conservation and quality teamed with our communications strategy will further place 220 Portage Avenue on the map as one that takes serious responsibility for its existence and environmentally leaves a better footprint," Ziemksi confidently states.

CREIT Management will celebrate its Go Green Certification at a tenant appreciation event from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 24th in the building lobby of 220 Portage.

In addition to the 130 individual buildings which have already achieved Go Green status, numerous major commercial real estate firms including CREIT Management L.P. have signed on as strong supporters of the Go Green program. Go Green has also become a key element in the greening of federal and provincial office buildings in Canada and a recognized benchmark for environmental leadership. Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) has adopted the Go Green Plus Program as the environmental benchmark for existing federal office buildings in Canada, and the Alberta Ministry of Infrastructure and Transportation recently announced that the Alberta Government is adopting the Go Green Program as an environmental standard for the operation of its major provincial government buildings across the Province.

The Building Owners and Managers Association is the voice of Canada's commercial real estate industry with over 2,500 members in regional associations across the country. On behalf of the building owners, managers, developers, facilities managers, asset managers, leasing agents, brokers, and the product and service providers to over 1.9 billion square feet of commercial real estate in Canada, BOMA addresses issues of national concern, and promotes excellence in the industry through information, education, advocacy, and recognition.

For more information and to apply for certification BOMA Go Green website at www.bomagogreen.com.

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