



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Home Buyers Network Promotes ING DIRECT to New Home Purchasers

Tuesday, January 21, 2003 (Toronto, Ontario) – The New Home Buyers Network (NHBN), the largest and most comprehensive network of websites with information on finding and purchasing new homes and condominiums in Canada, announced today that they have signed an agreement with ING DIRECT to promote their financial services, including mortgages and savings account applications, on NHBN's network of websites.

"ING DIRECT is known for our high rates on savings and low rates on mortgages. Both of these are especially important to new home buyers who are saving for their down payment and searching for the mortgage that can help them attain their goal of buying a new home," said Andrew Ross, Director Online for ING DIRECT. "We are excited to be working with the NHBN network of websites to make it even easier for these new home buyers to come to ING DIRECT and save for that down payment and own their new home sooner."

"A legacy of the dot com era is a population of Canadians who value the Internet as a communications and a reference vehicle," says Sam Reiss, NHBN President. "We present these people with a website that can service all their home buying needs, while offering builders and suppliers a qualified and interested audience."

About ING DIRECT

The ING DIRECT brand stands for high value, simple to use products that help Canadians save their money by offering high interest rates on deposits, low rates on loans and mortgages, with no fees or service charges. ING DIRECT is a Canadian bank with over 700,000 accounts. ING DIRECT is the operating name for ING Bank of Canada - member CDIC. ING DIRECT is a member of ING, one of the top 20 financial services companies in the world. Customers can bank with ING DIRECT 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via www.ingdirect.ca or by calling 1-800-ING DIRECT.

.../2

- 2 -

About New Home Buyers Network

NHBN is the largest and most comprehensive network of websites with information on finding and purchasing new homes and condominiums in Canada. The websites help potential homebuyers find purchase options by specific location, type of home and price range and then generates a customized list of new home or condominium communities that meet a potential purchaser's criteria. Users can view home models, floor plans, builder profiles, site maps, gather community information, register for new home alerts, communicate with builders, enjoy virtual tours and more. The sites also allow builders and suppliers to speak directly to a targeted audience about new home products and services. The NHBN consists of several regional web sites in Ontario and British Columbia and is the largest source of new home and condo information in Canada. Plans are underway for expansion throughout the rest of Canada, the U.S. and abroad.

For more information, please contact:

Dani Stern

Wire Communications/ Public Relations OR

Tel: (416) 222-9164

E-mail: danistern@wirecommunications.ca