



For Immediate Release

Village of Kettle Valley Donates to Local RCMP Community Policing Initiative

May 18, 2006 – Kelowna, BC: Today, the Village of Kettle Valley is proud to announce their sponsorship of the *Kelowna Community Policing Association (KCPA)* with a donation of \$1,000 toward the local Citizen's Patrol program.

"Kettle Valley prides itself on, amongst other things, the safety of our community," explains Kettle Valley Development President, Carlos Bermudez. "It is a quality that is important to us and to the many families that make Kettle Valley home. Our sponsorship of the Kelowna Community Policing program is indicative of our commitment to maintaining a secure environment for our residents."

Endorsed by the RCMP, Community Policing Offices are an integral part of the community safety initiative in Kelowna. To date there are five within the city and surrounding area. Staffed solely by volunteers, they work to enhance community safety through the management of a variety of programs including Citizen's Patrol, Neighbourhood Watch, Speed Watch, Child ID, Graffiti Eradication & Prevention and the Seniors Contact Program. "Members of the KCPA are our front-line partners when it comes to keeping our community safe and secure," adds RCMP Constable Annie Linteau.

"We have a tremendously supportive and committed pool of volunteers," explains Kelowna Community Policing Association Chairman, Nora Perehudoff. "In 2005, for example, we had over 300 residents donate nearly 20,000 hours of their time to our Community Policing programs. In some cases, volunteers also use their own vehicles and gas to get the job done."

Donations to the Kelowna Community Policing Association work to lessen the burdens on the volunteers by providing equipment and necessary training programs.



"We have asked that our donation go toward the Citizen Patrol effort in the Mission so that our sponsorship will have a direct impact on our neighbourhood," says Bermudez. "Having said that, it is our intention to continue supporting a variety of initiatives that improve the quality of life not only in our community but throughout Kelowna."

The Kelowna Community Policing Association is always looking for volunteers. Those interested can call 470-6204.