



*The **Vancouver Economic Development Commission**, an agency of the City of Vancouver, works to strengthen the city's economic future by helping existing businesses, attracting investment, researching the business environment and making policy recommendations.*

## **Media Fact Sheet**

### **City of Vancouver – Demographics**

- Regional population: 2.3 million people (2009)
- Population growth: 1.3 per cent annually in recent years; the population is expected to reach three million by 2030.
- The City of Vancouver is the region's biggest municipality in terms of population and economic activity, containing 27.2% of the region's population and 34.2% of its jobs in 2006.
- According to the OECD, Canada has the highest proportion of people aged 25-64 with a college or university certificate among OECD countries.
  - The City of Vancouver is one of the best-educated municipalities in Canada, with 39 per cent of the working age population having a university diploma or above (Canadian average: 23 per cent)
  - 63 per cent of the city's working age population has a university or college education (Canadian average 48 per cent (\*source: 2006 Census))
- 40 per cent of the region's population is foreign-born, the second-highest figure in North America
- Canadian and B.C. government policies encourage immigration of people with business and employment-related skills:
  - Half of those immigrating between 2001 and 2006 had a university degree or diploma
  - Among working age individuals, immigrants account for more than half of master's degrees and doctorate degrees.
- More than 40 per cent of the region's population regularly speaks a language other than English or French at home. Cantonese, Mandarin, other Chinese dialects and Punjabi are the most widely used non-English languages.

#### **Media Inquiries:**

Rebecca Peters

Laura Ballance Media Group

604.762.2098

[Rebecca@LBMG.ca](mailto:Rebecca@LBMG.ca)