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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FRASER BASIN COUNCIL CELEBRATES FIFTH ANNIVERSARY**

*Vancouver, BC* – The Fraser Basin Council celebrates five years of advancing sustainability in the Fraser River Basin from its headwaters near Valemount to the River’s plume in the Greater Vancouver area.

At Open Houses at its offices throughout the Fraser River Basin, the Fraser Basin Council is marking the fifth anniversary since its establishment as an independent, non-profit organization in 1997. “This Anniversary gives us an opportunity to recognize the partnership which lies at the very foundation of the Council”, says Jack Blaney, Chair of the Council. “It is the strength of this partnership, (which includes the four orders of Canadian government, as well as private sector and civil society), that has enabled the Council to achieve so many milestones along the path to a more sustainable Basin”. Blaney adds, “In celebrating this fifth year, we are also looking ahead to see how we can apply all that has been learned to ensure the Council remains at the cutting edge in all of its endeavours”.

Some key new initiatives for the Council include helping improve the sustainability of Basin communities, facilitating a more collective approach to fisheries management in the Fraser River and its tributaries, and demonstrating the social, economic and environmental significance of the Basin’s river systems.

To locate the June Open House occurring in your area, check the Council’s website for a listing of dates and locations – [www.fraserbasin.bc.ca](http://www.fraserbasin.bc.ca) .

*The Fraser Basin Council brings people together to find solutions to advance social, economic, and environmental sustainability in the Fraser River Basin. The Council includes individuals from throughout the Fraser Basin, with representatives from federal, provincial, local and First Nations’ governments, as well as the private sector and civil society. Home to 2.7 million people, the Fraser Basin covers approximately one quarter of BC in land area and produces 80% of BC’s provincial economic output. See website - [www.fraserbasin.bc.ca](http://www.fraserbasin.bc.ca)*

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