



**For Immediate Release – February 1, 2006**

**Charles Jago to Chair the Fraser Basin Council**

(*Vancouver, BC*) – Dr. Charles Jago, the President of the University of Northern British Columbia, has been appointed as the new Chair of the Fraser Basin Council. Dr. Jago succeeds Mr. Patrick Reid, and will begin his term officially in June 2006. The appointment was announced today by Chief Roy Mussell, President of the Fraser Basin Council Society.

"We're thrilled that Dr. Jago has agreed to be the next Chair of the Fraser Basin Council," said Chief Mussell. "He brings a wealth of experience to the Council and a great understanding of sustainability issues facing the Fraser River Basin, particularly in the Basin's northern regions. I have known Dr. Jago for quite some time and I am very confident in his abilities to lead the Council during a critical phase of its evolution as a leading organization in the advancement of sustainability in the province of British Columbia."

During his tenure of eleven years as the President of the University of Northern BC, Dr. Jago has overseen significant growth and development of the University. As a passionate advocate for the North, he played a significant role in the creation of a Northern Medical Program that is key to addressing the shortage of doctors in rural British Columbia.

"I am pleased to have the opportunity to contribute to the work of the many dedicated British Columbians who are devoted to the well-being of one of the world's most prosperous geographic regions," Jago said. "The health and prosperity of the Fraser River Basin and its tributaries are essential to the quality of the economic and social life of every citizen in the province. I am honoured to be following in the footsteps of the very distinguished previous chairs: the Honourable Lieutenant Governor Iona Campagnolo, Dr. Jack Blaney and Mr. Patrick Reid."

Dr. Jago completed his undergraduate education in Honours English and History from the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario. He attended Trinity College, Cambridge University where he achieved a PhD in Spanish History.

Dr. Jago received the Queen's Jubilee Medal (2003) and was recently named as a member of the Order of Canada (2004).

The Fraser Basin Council is a non-profit, non-partisan society established in 1997 to bring people together to find solutions to long-standing issues and conflicts, and take advantage of opportunities in the Fraser River Basin. The mandate of the Council is to ensure that the decisions we make about the Basin today will protect and advance its economic, environmental and social sustainability into the future. The Council's 36 member board includes individuals from all regions of the Basin, with representatives from federal, provincial, local and First Nations' governments, as well as from the private sector and the public at large.

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***Social well-being supported by a vibrant economy and sustained by a healthy environment***