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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SYMPOSIUM HELPS YOU TAKE CHARGE OF DIABETES

Campbell River, BC (Feb 15, 2007) — In light of the increasing prevalence of type 2 diabetes, many people still think it is “no big deal” and are unaware that diabetes is a serious disease that dramatically increases the risk of heart disease, among other complications. In fact, four out of five people with diabetes will die of heart disease. The Canadian Diabetes Association is here to help with an educational symposium, “Diabetes: What’s the big deal?”

This informative symposium will help Campbell River and Comox Valley residents affected by diabetes better manage their condition in order to live a long and healthy life.

“Living with diabetes can be challenging. While there is much that health providers can do, managing the daily decisions required by this ‘big deal’ disease takes knowledge, understanding and skill. That’s what I’ll be talking about at this event -- understanding the disease and developing the skills to best manage it,” said Dr. George Sheppard, keynote speaker at the symposium.

The symposium takes place Saturday, March 3, from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., at the Coast Discovery Inn, Campbell River. Registration begins at 1 p.m. with an admission fee of \$5. Pre-registration is required by calling 250-729-3824, or by email at erin.lutz@diabetes.ca. Among the highlights will be information on the latest diabetes products, and a presentation by George Sheppard MD, the medical director of the Diabetes Education Centre and the Wound Care Clinic at Nanaimo General Hospital.

“For people living with diabetes, staying on top of the latest information and resources is vital,” said Erin Lutz, branch coordinator for the Canadian Diabetes Association’s Vancouver Island region. “This symposium will offer essential and, potentially, life-changing diabetes information and resources.”

The Canadian Diabetes Association works to prevent diabetes and improve the quality of life for those affected, through research, education, service and advocacy. With a presence in more than 150 communities, the Canadian Diabetes Association’s strong network of assistance includes volunteers, employees, healthcare professionals and partners. The Canadian Diabetes Association – Know who to turn to.

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