

**September 25, 2003**

## Alliance Pipeline and the Nature Conservancy of Canada Partner on \$1 Million Commitment to Conservation in the Cooking Lake Moraine

Calgary, Alberta: Alliance Pipeline has announced a major commitment of \$250,000 over the next five years to the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) to assist in the conservation of internationally important wetlands in the Cooking Lake Moraine (CLM) east of Edmonton. The Alliance Pipeline funds will trigger matching fund contributions totaling an additional \$750,000 over the next five years through a U.S. based donor and the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The \$1,000,000 combined contributions will allow NCC to implement a long-term strategic effort to protect the area's vital wildlife habitat in partnership with other local and national conservation organizations including Ducks Unlimited Canada. Alberta accounts for 40% of the of the waterfowl production on the North American continent and the Cooking Lake Moraine is one of the most productive waterfowl areas within Alberta as it serves as a nesting and stop-over area for 240 migratory bird species.

The greatest threat to the CLM is habitat fragmentation resulting from increased residential and recreational development. At present approximately 25% of the habitat has been lost since 1950 and there is an ever increasing rate of loss.

The majority of NCC's conservation work in the CLM will be in partnership with private landowners through the use of donated conservation easements. Under legislation brought in by the Alberta Government in 1996 selected conservation groups can create a conservation easement agreement with a private landowner to limit development of the land in order to conserve the quality of its wildlife habitat. NCC registers the easements in perpetuity on the title of the property to ensure the long term success of its conservation efforts and the donated easements are then eligible for a charitable receipt.

"One of the core values that we hold at Alliance Pipeline is an ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship", said Al Edgeworth,

President and CEO of Alliance Pipeline Ltd. “Our involvement with the NCC to preserve the quality of this wildlife habitat in the Cooking Lake Moraine is a good fit for Alliance due to the location of our operational facilities near Edmonton. The fact that the NCC is able to lever our community investment is also significant. We were involved with the NCC in another multi-year project in Saskatchewan during the construction of our system and we found the partnership to be very positive. We are very pleased to be able to work jointly with the NCC, and ultimately the private landowners in the area, to ensure the long-term success of this important conservation effort.”

“NCC is very grateful to Alliance Pipeline for this outstanding contribution. The Cooking Lake Moraine is an area of Alberta that is urgently in need of conservation. We will be able to accomplish critically important work as a result of this far-sighted investment. We believe that engaging in partnerships with corporations and others is an essential part of our mission to conserve the best of Canada’s natural heritage,” said Larry Simpson, Alberta Regional Director of the Nature Conservancy of Canada.

The Nature Conservancy of Canada is a national non-profit organization that protects areas of biological diversity for their intrinsic value and for the benefit of future generations. Its plan of action is to build partnerships and use creativity in the conservation of Canada’s natural heritage by securing ecologically significant natural areas through purchases, donations, conservation agreements or other mechanisms, and by achieving long-term stewardship through management plans and monitoring arrangements. Since 1962, NCC and its supporters have conserved more than 1.73 million acres and more than 1,200 properties across Canada.

Alliance Pipeline operates a new, natural gas pipeline system extending 3,713 kilometres (2,307 miles) designed to initially offer 1.325 billion cubic feet per day of firm delivery service from the gas producing areas of northeastern British Columbia and northwestern Alberta to markets in the Midwestern United States and Eastern Canada.

Alliance Pipeline was created to align the interests of producers, shippers, consumers, marketers and the equity owners of the pipeline system. The goal was to be entrepreneurial and introduce competitive innovation to the regulated natural gas transmission marketplace.

To be successful Alliance has taken a proactive co-operative approach with landowners and communities through which it passes; has shown respect for and included the aboriginal people in the economic benefits; and has been sensitive to and taken action on concerns raised by responsible environmental groups.