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AVISON YOUNG

Media Release

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http://www.avisonyoung.com/library/pdf/Media_Releases/Temp/John_Eakin.jpg

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John Eakin and Michael Farrell join Avison Young's Vancouver, BC brokerage operation

Vancouver, BC— Mark Hannah, Avison Young Principal and Managing Director of the company's Vancouver office, announced today that commercial real estate brokers **John Eakin** and **Michael Farrell** have joined Avison Young's Vancouver brokerage operation.

Eakin and Farrell both join Avison Young from DTZ Barnicke in Vancouver and have been working as a team since 2006, focusing exclusively on the Surrey and Langley, BC industrial real estate markets.

"John Eakin and Michael Farrell are great additions to the Avison Young team and will give our company a strong presence and good representation in the Port Kells, Surrey and Langley industrial areas," comments Hannah. "With their marketing backgrounds, past successes and strong work ethic, they will be important additions to our growing industrial division and facilitate our ongoing commitment to provide the highest quality real estate services to our local and national clients."

Eakin has 13 years of experience in the commercial real estate industry. He started with Royal LePage Commercial Inc. in 1995 as a researcher and moved into brokerage in 1996, focusing on the Surrey and Langley industrial areas. For the past 10 years he was a broker with DTZ Barnicke in Vancouver.

Some of his recent significant transactions include the sale of the Ainsworth Lumber facility in Abbotsford, BC; a 10.5-acre land assembly for Day & Ross' (McCain Foods) new distribution facility in Surrey; the sale of the Jeld-Wen Windows facility in Abbotsford and its relocation to a new 126,500-sf facility in Langley; and relocations for Winroc and Diamond Delivery.

Over the years, Eakin has worked with municipal and provincial levels of government, private developers and landlords, and carried out insolvency work for several financial institutions. A graduate of the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) Marketing Management-Real Estate program in 1993, he is a member of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP) and Urban Development Institute (UDI).

"I am excited to be a part of such a dynamic real estate organization and look forward to working with the committed management team and brokers in developing ways to better serve our clients," says Eakin. "I am also pleased to be joining Avison Young at such an exciting time in its growth, and I hope to enhance the company's reputation as a leader in the industry."

Farrell's career in the commercial real estate industry began in 2006 in a brokerage role working with John Eakin. Farrell focuses on industrial real estate in Surrey, Langley and the Fraser Valley, working on behalf of local, national and international tenants, landlords, developers and investors. He has already had the opportunity to represent companies such as Challenger Motor Freight Inc., EnerSys Canada Inc., and Simmons Canada Inc.

Farrell earned a Bachelor of Commerce degree (specializing in Real Estate) from the University of British Columbia in 2004 and joined DTZ Barnicke in 2006. He teamed up with Eakin to begin building his knowledge of industrial real estate in the Fraser Valley and to hone his negotiation and sales skills. Since then, he has successfully completed the sales of freestanding industrial buildings, lease-up of industrial yard and single- and multi-tenant buildings, and tenant relocation mandates.

Farrell was a local runner-up in the inaugural NAIOP Pacific Northwest Real Estate Challenge in 2004 and recently became a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional (LEED AP). He is a member of NAIOP and UDI and will complete the Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM) designation in spring 2010.

"I see this move to Avison Young as the next step in my career as an industrial real estate specialist, after establishing a well-respected position in the marketplace," says Farrell. "I am looking forward to taking advantage of the outstanding pool of talent, resources and knowledge base at Avison Young to better serve our clients throughout Metro Vancouver."

*Founded in 1978, **Avison Young** is Canada's largest independently-owned commercial real estate services company and the only national, Canadian-owned, principal-managed real estate brokerage firm in the country. Headquartered in Toronto, Ontario and ranked among Canada's leading national commercial real estate organizations, Avison Young is a full-service commercial real estate company comprising more than 500 real estate professionals in 15 offices across Canada and in the U.S. The company provides value-added, client-centric investment sales, leasing, advisory, management and financial services to owners and users of commercial, industrial and multi-residential real estate properties.*

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