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Homeward Trust Edmonton Awarded EEDC Leadership Excellence Award

Edmonton, April 17, 2012 - Homeward Trust Edmonton was recognized with the 2011 Leadership Excellence Award at Edmonton Economic Development Corporation's (EEDC) Annual Luncheon today. Hundreds gathered at the Shaw Conference Centre to pay tribute to our city's award-winning organizations.

The Leadership Excellence Award recognizes local organizations that both engage the community and act as a catalyst for change. These organizations demonstrate a proactive leadership approach, resulting in a sustained impact on the community or industry.

A community-based organization, Homeward Trust coordinates initiatives to end homeless in Edmonton through priorities outlined in the Government of Alberta and City of Edmonton's 10 year plans to end homelessness. Since 2001, Homeward Trust has provided over \$100 million in funding to 80 capital and over 100 support projects; created over 1,900 new housing units and housed over 1,750 individuals through the Housing First Support Program.

"We are so honoured to be recognized with the Leadership Excellence Award," said Susan McGee, Executive Director of Homeward Trust Edmonton. "We are fortunate to have the support of a passionate community. Everything we do is through partnerships. This is not just our award; it's the community's award."

Homeward Trust Edmonton is operated through a unique governance system, which directly involves Aboriginal communities; four of its nine board members are of aboriginal descent. Through its partnerships with community agencies, Homeward Trust develops leading programs and initiatives such as the Housing First Support Program and Find, a furniture bank that provides gently used furniture at no charge to Housing First participants.

"With the support of our community, we will continue toward our goal to end homelessness in Edmonton," said McGee. "Our work is just beginning, and we are excited to continue the journey."

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For more information:

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