

**For Immediate Release**

**COURTYARD GROUP EXPANDS WESTERN CANADA PRESENCE WITH NEW OFFICE AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER LOCATED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**Toronto, September 26, 2006** – Courtyard Group is pleased to announce the expansion of its Western Canadian operation with the opening of a second office. Staff operating from this new Vancouver location, together with our staff in Edmonton and Victoria, will operate as a single unit serving the needs of our clients across the western provinces. The Vancouver office will be home to three staff and several associates initially. Our growth plans for this region demonstrate our commitment to serving the local needs of BC-based clients.



Based in the Vancouver office, new team member and CFO Caroline Dunn brings twenty years of financial experience to Courtyard. Caroline comes to Courtyard from Sierra Systems, where she was Executive Vice-President for Growth Strategies and CFO. Caroline provided leadership to the Financial Services Group and enhanced the company's performance by standardizing operational measures. She was responsible for corporate growth strategies and targets, and was the leader of the annual budget and the driver of many financial, strategic and operational processes including financial reporting, tax planning and compliance. Initially Caroline's portfolio at Courtyard will include finance, administration, tax, corporate planning and budgeting, reporting and IT.

Managing Partner Dave Wattling says, "I am particularly pleased to have been able to attract such high caliber talent as Caroline to join our firm. With this level of professional business acumen running our back office, we are able to focus on serving our clients' needs more effectively."

**Commitment to Transforming Health Care is paramount for Courtyard Group.**

Courtyard Group is committed to transforming healthcare - locally, nationally and globally. We are equally committed to our employees. "My role is global in nature, however, with Courtyard's commitment to transforming healthcare locally in the BC market and their commitment to employee satisfaction, I am able to fulfill my global responsibilities and not leave my beloved province," Dunn adds.

Courtyard is committed to servicing clients while enabling their talent to be geographically diverse. "We will take the best person for the job, no matter where they are located, to ensure our clients' needs are met," adds Wattling.

Courtyard Group looks forward to expanding its working relationships with BC's health care sector.

**About Courtyard Group – [www.courtyard-group.com](http://www.courtyard-group.com)**

Courtyard Group was formed in 2002 and has established a proven track record of transforming the healthcare system. Courtyard brings together a wide range of experience and multidisciplinary knowledge to address the complex challenges facing healthcare. Built on the collective experience of the partners and principals, the company has grown to almost 100 consultants operating from offices in Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto, New York City and Henley-on-Thames, UK.

The Courtyard team provides strategy, advisory, project management, change leadership and clinical informatics services to a variety of clients, with the goal of driving significant improvements in the quality and productivity of the healthcare system. Courtyard's client base includes health service delivery organizations, governments and policy makers, professional associations and suppliers to the health sector.

Courtyard's unique ability to engage clinicians in projects drives exceptional results and client satisfaction.

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