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MEDIA RELEASE

Advisory: SFU hosts international development competition and symposium to spur innovation and cooperation

June 06, 2018

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SFU International, in partnership with the British Columbia Council for International Cooperation and the University of the Fraser Valley, will host a two-day symposium and DevLab—an international development project pitch competition with a prize of \$10,000 in project seed funds—from June 6-7, 2018 in downtown Vancouver.

The symposium will feature a keynote address by [Canadian Ambassador to Algeria, Patricia McCullagh](#).

WHAT:

This event will bring together a wide cross section of stakeholders including academics, entrepreneurs, NGOs, government representatives, funders, social innovators and technology experts to explore how social innovation and new technologies can enhance the delivery of Canadian aid, transform global development and fuel innovation in support of partnerships for sustainable development.

The symposium features keynote presentations and panel discussions based on themes of: collaborations and partnerships across sectors, engaging the private sector, big data and information technology, and project delivery and impact.

WHEN:

- June 6 – 7, 2018
- 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

WHERE:

- June 6 – Room 1400, 515 West Hastings Street, Vancouver
- June 7 – Room 1200, 500 Granville Street, Vancouver

WHY:

Vancouver is a hotbed of social innovation, entrepreneurship, and technological development in multiple sectors, including information technology, biotechnology, and alternative energy.

There is increasing awareness and focus on the Sustainable Development Goals, Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy and efforts to create social impact globally.

ABOUT SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY:

As Canada's engaged university, SFU is defined by its dynamic integration of innovative education, cutting-edge research and far-reaching community engagement. SFU was founded more than 50 years ago with a mission to be a different kind of university—to bring an interdisciplinary approach to learning, embrace bold initiatives, and engage with communities near and far. Today, SFU is Canada's leading comprehensive research university and is ranked one of the top universities in the world. With campuses in British Columbia's three largest cities – Vancouver, Burnaby and Surrey – SFU has eight faculties, delivers almost 150 programs to over 35,000 students, and boasts more than 150,000 alumni in 130 countries around the world.

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Simon Fraser University: Engaging Students. Engaging Research. Engaging Communities.

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