## **EMILY CARR UNIVERSITY**

VANCOUVER, BC, AUGUST 29, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## EMILY CARR UNIVERSITY OF ART + DESIGN APPOINTS JOHN (JAKE) C. KERR, *CM*, *OBC*, *LL.D* FOUNDING CHANCELLOR

**VANCOUVER, BC** – The Board of Governors of Emily Carr University of Art and Design (ECUAD) is pleased to announce the appointment of John (Jake) C. Kerr as the University's first Chancellor. The formal installation will take place in Vancouver, November 7, 2008.

"Our Board of Governors is honoured that Jake Kerr has agreed to serve as the founding Chancellor of Emily Carr University of Art and Design," said Dr. George Pedersen, ECUAD Board Chair. "His extensive experience in business and the arts will be invaluable as the school continues to build upon its national and international profile."

Jake Kerr is a recipient of the Order of Canada and the Order of British Columbia in recognition of his significant contributions to the country and province. In October 2000, he received an Honorary Doctor of Laws from Simon Fraser University. He was educated at the University of British Columbia and received his MBA degree in Economics and Finance from the University of California at Berkeley.

Currently, Mr. Kerr is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Lignum Investments Ltd., a privately-held investment company, and is Managing Partner of Lignum Forest Products LLP, a wood products distribution and trading company. Kerr is also Co-Owner and Managing Partner of Vancouver Professional Baseball LLP.

"I am most honoured to accept the appointment of Chancellor and believe that Emily Carr University is a fabulous institution with a distinguished past and a bright future. I hope to be able to contribute in a meaningful way in its new incarnation as a fully-fledged university," said Jake Kerr.

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Established in 1925



Kerr is currently Chair of the Board of Directors for the Vancouver Foundation and former chair of their Arts and Culture committee, as well as a Director of the Bank of Nova Scotia. He is a member of the Chief Executive Organization and Past Chairman of the International and BC Chapters of the Young Presidents' Organization. Until 2005, he served for 35 years as Chairman and CEO of Lignum Limited, one of Canada's largest private forest products companies. He began his working career in New York with the International Paper Company, and in San Francisco with a major advertising firm, Botsford.

"I am delighted that Jake Kerr will assume the role of Chancellor," said Dr. Ron Burnett, President and Vice-Chancellor, ECUAD. "Throughout his career he has demonstrated outstanding business and community leadership. This, combined with his commitment and passion for culture and the arts, makes Jake an ideal chancellor during this important stage in the evolution of our great institution."

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## About Emily Carr University of Art + Design:

Established in 1925 and based in Vancouver, BC, Canada, Emily Carr University of Art and Design is one of the world's premier art institutes devoted to excellence and innovation in visual arts, media arts and design. Emily Carr University offers Masters and Bachelor degree programs and a rich variety of continuing studies courses.

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