

**Concordia University enters exclusive partnership agreement with Wellington West**

*First Quebec University to give alumni access to professional investment advice*

TORONTO, January 29, 2008 / CNW - Wellington West Holdings Inc., a privately held, employee-owned financial services firm, today announced the signing of an exclusive partnership agreement with Concordia University in Montreal. The five-year agreement will provide alumni with access to the exclusive ClearSight Investment Program from Wellington West. This program provides more than 120,000 alumni with access to top advisors, premium investment products and straightforward pricing.

"Alumni will now have exclusive access to some of Canada's top investment advisors through the ClearSight Investment Program from Wellington West," said Michael Burns, president of ClearSight. "The program offers alumni the same level of advice and service that is normally and increasingly only available to high net worth investors."

Wellington West investment advisors are hand-picked to work with alumni in the program. Each client is matched with an investment advisor whose credentials, experience, objectivity and track record are best suited to meet the individual's investing profile and objectives.

"Concordia University is keenly interested in offering its alumni services and benefits that can be delivered by a firm with outstanding credentials and a proven track record for success," said Alumni Association President Sean Sprackett. "We are confident that Wellington West, a leading Canadian brokerage firm, will provide a superior offer that will benefit our alumni, as well as ongoing support for activities that help us advance the university's mission."

The partnership agreement grants Wellington West exclusive sponsorship and advertising rights. As a new and valuable source of revenue for Concordia, Wellington West's contribution will assist the institution with its mandate by supporting alumni events and activities.

**About Concordia University**

Concordia University's reputation as one of Canada's most dynamic and innovative universities has its roots in more than 180 years of academic excellence and student success. These traditions of individual empowerment, discovery and leadership building were developed by the University's founding institutions - Loyola College and Sir George Williams University - and are advanced locally and beyond. Concordia has adopted an international approach to learning, research and social responsibility that informs the 250 undergraduate programs and more than 100 graduate programs, diplomas and certificates offered across its faculties and schools. Today, Concordia boasts a total enrollment of more than 44,000 students and more than 140,000 alumni.

## **About ClearSight Inc.**

ClearSight Inc. is a subsidiary of Wellington West Holdings Inc. It is responsible for the ClearSight Investment Program. To date, Wellington West has exclusive partnerships with 22 leading educational institutions in Canada, representing more than two million alumni. For more information please visit: [www.clearsight.ca](http://www.clearsight.ca).

## **About Wellington West**

The Wellington West group of companies provides full-service brokerage, financial planning, asset management and capital markets services. Principal among its operations is Wellington West Capital Inc., a member of CIPF and a full-service investment dealer with offices across Canada, and Wellington West Capital Markets Inc., an industry leading provider of equity research, institutional sales and trading and corporate finance for small and mid-cap corporations. In the 13 years since its inception, the employee-owned Wellington West has become one of the largest and fastest-growing independent full-service investment operations in Canada with more than \$9.6 billion in assets under administration. Among its many corporate achievements, Wellington West has earned one of the top two spots as Best Employer in Canada for the past three years, named one of Canada's Fastest Growing Companies in 2007 and one of Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies for 2006. In addition, Wellington West retained its No.1 ranking for a record fourth consecutive year in the 2007 Brokerage Report Card survey and was named No.2 Independent Investment Dealer in the 2006 Financial Post / Starline Top Analyst Awards.

