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NEWS RELEASE

## FORMER STREET KID OFFERS MILLION DOLLAR CHANCE OF A LIFETIME FOR LESS FORTUNATE

Vancouver, Canada – When the head of one of the most successful and oldest post-secondary institutions in Canada decided to offer up \$1 million in free education for ten individuals looking to improve their lot in life, the gesture was made even more poignant because of the personal history of the giver. Dean Duperron is the kind of success story TV movies are made of, the 53-year old turned his hard-luck case into the kind of inspirational tale that transcends language and culture. Duperron, who was homeless and reduced to begging for change in order to survive for part of his teens, believes that education and knowledge are the touchstones of opportunity. As the President and CEO of Sprott-Shaw College, a highly successful 22 campus global organization, Duperron is now in the unique position of practicing what he preaches.

*“Obtaining an education allowed me to take control of my life and my future,” says Duperron. “I believe with the opportunity to become educated, an individual who is living in poverty or with extreme challenges has a door opened to not only change their own life but to change an entire community.”*

The innovative philanthropic program, called Class Act Canada, allows an individual to enter a 60-90 second video via the Internet outlining "what I would do with a degree/diploma from Sprott-Shaw College". The top 100 applicant finalists will be identified through a process of online public voting. A second round of public voting will then select the top twenty vote getters. A third round of voting will rank the top twenty. Judges will then select the top ten Class Act Champions. The ten deserving students from around the globe will be awarded an all-expenses paid education at a Sprott-Shaw Community College campus in British Columbia, Canada, valued at up to \$100,000 per scholarship. The prize will include a degree/diploma course at Sprott-Shaw College (BC campuses only), books and tuition, airfare to and from hometown, food and lodging, and transportation to and from the selected Sprott-Shaw College.

Today, Dean and his wife Sherri are active philanthropists and see this as an opportunity to give ten individuals the skills and tools to make a significant difference in their own, their families and their communities lives.

### Sprott-Shaw Background:

Sprott-Shaw is a 22-campus global post secondary institution with campuses in Canada, Jordan, India, China and Vietnam. The institution employs 250 people globally and educates over 4,500 students in 140 programs annually.

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