



CANSHIELD SOLUTIONS JOINT VENTURE MEETS GROWING DEMAND FOR DATA CENTRE AND HYBRID-CLOUD ENVIRONMENTS

PRESS RELEASE – Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada October 21st, 2020 – Leading technology solutions provider FuseForward and private funding firm Old Kent Road Financial (OKR), today announced the creation of CanShield Solutions, a joint venture designed to meet the growing demand in data centre and cloud services in Western Canada. CanShield Solutions, formerly operating under Canadian Shield Data Center, will focus on providing a full suite of cloud and critical IT solutions, including colocation, managed infrastructure, public cloud on-ramp and hybrid-cloud environments. Additionally, CanShield Solutions will continue to consult with clients regarding security, cloud migration and critical IT infrastructure.

“We’ve proven our data centre operations in British Columbia, where we’ve established an exceptional team and customer base.” said George Emery, CEO of CanShield Solutions. “Adding the expertise of FuseForward and OKR will place us in a prime position to expand our existing services, upgrade our operations and meet the needs of new clients requiring critical IT support. This is very exciting for our team and will provide an enhanced data centre solution for Western Canada.”

CanShield Solutions will continue to operate out of its existing 10,500 square foot purpose-built data centre facility in Kamloops, British Columbia. Today, CanShield’s clients benefit from a highly skilled team focused on delivering IT solutions for universities, cities, managed services providers (MSPs) and the private industry. This includes provisioning over 400 strands of fibre, redundant cooling, power management and security protocols. CanShield Solutions’ favorable location in Kamloops, a seismically stable zone, offers a direct fibre path to Vancouver and the Lower Mainland, meaning only 7-11 milliseconds in latency. This strategic edge location tied with CanShield’s services – colocation, managed infrastructure and cloud solutions – allows organizations to future-proof their technology platforms.

“CanShield Solutions ties in perfectly with our current product offerings.” said Mark Damm, CEO of FuseForward. “We’ve been building enterprise-level cloud solutions and supporting organizations with security, analytical and application infrastructure for decades. Working with the CanShield Solutions team and data centre, we can now provision highly secure and reliable IT infrastructure in Western Canada, supporting a pure hybrid-cloud platform and 24/7 network operations centre, while ensuring data residency. This is critical for the public and private enterprises we serve.”

Wes Mills, Investment Partner at OKR commented, “We’re delighted to launch this joint venture with FuseForward and the CanShield team. We see critical IT infrastructure as being at the forefront of the global economy. This venture further expands our focus on data and research-oriented companies, supporting our clients to be part of the global IT solutions landscape.”



Overview of CanShield Solutions

CanShield Solutions provides critical IT solutions, including colocation, managed infrastructure, cloud on-ramp and hybrid-cloud environments. Additionally, CanShield supports clients through consultative services looking at IT security, cloud migration and critical infrastructure. Our team consists of industry experts who strive to provide long-term value to our clients through innovative product development and exceptional customer support. For more information see www.canshieldsolutions.com.

Overview of FuseForward

FuseForward accelerates digital transformation for critical service providers including utilities, education and healthcare providers. FuseForward provides secure cloud environments, managed services and technology solutions for public sector and enterprise customers and is an Advanced Consulting and Technology Partner in the Amazon Web Services (AWS) Partner Network (APN). For more information see www.fuseforward.com.

Overview of Old Kent Road Financial

OKR is an alternative finance fund manager that specializes in providing bridge financing to technology companies across Canada. Their non-dilutive financing solutions help companies manage their cash flow needs and let them focus on growing their business without giving up control. OKR founders are entrepreneurs who are passionate about helping entrepreneurs grow and prosper. For more information see www.okrfinancial.com.

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