

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## **Drug Free Kids Canada Appoints Paul Allison, CEO of Raymond James As New Chair of the Board of Directors**

***Outgoing Chair Dick Pound becomes honorary Chair Emeritus of the Organization***

**Toronto (Date):** The Board of Directors of Drug Free Kids Canada (DFK Canada) is pleased to announce that Paul Allison, Chairman & CEO of investment dealer Raymond James Ltd., has been appointed Chair of the organization effective January 1, 2017. Mr. Allison replaces outgoing Chair Dick Pound, who has been leading the efforts of Drug Free Kids Canada for the past five years. In recognition of his outstanding contributions, the Board of Directors has appointed Mr. Pound honorary Chair Emeritus of DFK Canada.

“We are grateful for Dick Pound’s enormous contributions and are fortunate to have someone of Paul Allison’s expertise joining us to continue the important work that Mr. Pound and the Board have spearheaded over the years to better educate parents and kids about the dangers of drug abuse,” says Marc Paris Executive Director of Drug Free Kids Canada. “Starting the dialogue with children is the most important step parents can take toward helping their children make better life choices. Education and ongoing communication are essential.”

Mr. Allison has over 30 years of senior level experience in executive roles in investment banking and wealth management. Currently, he is Chair and CEO of Raymond James Ltd. the Canadian arm of North American investment dealer Raymond James Financial Inc. Mr. Allison is currently an active volunteer with several organizations. Most recently, he served as Chair of the Humber River Hospital in Toronto, building North America’s first fully digital hospital. In addition, he is Chair of the Board of the Raymond James Canada Foundation. In 2014, he was recognized by McMaster University as the recipient of the Wayne C. Fox Distinguished Alumni Award from DeGroot School of Business.

“Striving toward the day when drug abuse is no longer a threat to young people is a noble goal. Unfortunately, the fact remains that young people, parents and other family members face ongoing challenges today with drug abuse,” says Mr. Allison. “I am proud to join a team of such devoted board members and staff and we will be aggressively reaching out to others in communities across Canada to join our efforts. It is critically important that we work together and invite people to join in on the conversations that will make a difference in the prevention of drug abuse among our young people.”

DFK Canada wishes to thank the executive search firm, Boyden Canada who aided in seeking out a new Chairman. “We are proud to be associated with such a great cause and knew it was critical that the new Chair appointee be a strong advocate for Drug Free Kids Canada’s mission” said Sébastien Zuchowski, Partner at Boyden. “We’re delighted with the appointment of Mr. Allison, who will continue to drive that vision forward.”

About Drug Free Kids Canada: Drug Free Kids Canada is a private sector, non-profit organization that creates and disseminates drug education and prevention messages with the help of their partners in advertising, research and media. Drug Free kids Canada also offers parents tools and practical tips on how to start the dialogue at [www.drugfreekidscanada.org](http://www.drugfreekidscanada.org)

About Raymond James Ltd.: Over the past eight years, Raymond James has grown to be the leading full service independent investment dealer in Canada with more than \$37 billion in client assets under administration and more than 450 advisors, as well as a full slate of investment banking and institutional sales and trading capabilities. In August 2016, Raymond James expanded significantly with the acquisition of MacDougall, MacDougall, MacTier, (more commonly known as 3Macs) one the most respected wealth management firms in Canada with a legacy going back to its beginnings in Montreal in 1849. <http://www.raymondjames.ca/>

About Boyden: Boyden is committed to excellence in leadership, specializing in high-level executive and board recruitment. We serve clients across the spectrum of private corporations and crown corporations as well as public agencies and not-for-profit entities, maintaining an approach that is consistently client-centric, responsive and creative. A global leader with over 70 offices across 40 countries, we are especially proud to serve clients across Canada, with an emphasis on placing board directors for national organizations. For more information, please visit Boyden’s website at: <https://www.boyden.ca/canada/index.html>

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