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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**VANCOUVER OPERA RECOGNIZES SUPPORT OF PI FINANCIAL CORP.**

**Vancouver. BC** ~ Vancouver Opera is proud to again have the support of PI Financial Corp. as production sponsor for *Carmen*, opening this Saturday, January 24. PI Financial Corp. started its association with Vancouver Opera in 2002 as production sponsor for that season's *Carmen* and most recently sponsored *Cavalleria Rusticana/I Pagliacci* in the 2007-2008 season.

PI Financial Corp. was also a key sponsor of Vancouver Opera's ground-breaking 2007 production of *The Magic Flute*, an opera that was the end result of a three-year collaborative process with First Nations artists. **Jean-Paul Bachelier**, President and Chief Operating Officer of PI Financial Corp., said the firm was pleased to continue its association with Vancouver Opera into nine seasons. "We are proud to support an arts organization with superb production values, strong vision and leadership, and excellent management."

"The generous support of PI Financial Corp. helps us maintain our high production standards, allowing Vancouver Opera to be counted among the very best opera companies in the world," comments Vancouver Opera General Director, **James W. Wright**. "With this support, we're able to make Vancouver a centre for outstanding productions that attract the brightest Canadian and international talent. We're proud to work with PI to bring the beauty and power of great opera to Vancouverites."

PI Financial Corp. is a leading, employee-owned, western Canadian based Investment Dealer providing a full range of investment products and services for individual, corporate and institutional clients. The firm has offices in Vancouver, Victoria and Calgary, serves more than 15,000 clients and has over 160 employees.

Vancouver Opera's evocative traditional production of *Carmen* opens Saturday, January 24, 2009, with subsequent performances Tuesday, January 27, Thursday, January 29, Saturday, January 31, Tuesday, February 3, and Thursday, February 5, 2009. All performances take place at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre, Georgia and Hamilton Streets, Vancouver, B.C. and begin at 7:30pm. Tickets are available exclusively at the Vancouver Opera Ticket Centre, online at [www.vancouveropera.ca](http://www.vancouveropera.ca) or by telephone (604-683-0222). Visa, MasterCard and American Express are accepted.

Groups: For special pricing for groups of ten or more, call 604-683-0222.