

## **Genworth Financial Canada Expands Homeownership Opportunities For Canadians With Less Than Perfect Credit**

**Toronto**, March 7, 2006 – Genworth Financial Canada is making homeownership more accessible than ever before for Canadians with less than perfect credit.

Today, the company introduced two new products designed to enable more people to qualify for competitive rate mortgages:

- Credit Assist™ is available to those who have experienced a credit set back and have started to rehabilitate their credit profile. Every year, thousands of Canadians experience credit set backs due to unexpected events such as job loss, illness or marital breakdown. Genworth estimates that this product could help as many as 35,000 Canadian families either realize their dream of homeownership or reduce their current mortgage costs.
- Credit Assist™ for Self-Employed is designed specifically for self-employed Canadians who may be unable to verify their income according to traditional underwriting guidelines. Approximately 25% of the Canadian working population are self-employed or on commission and this trend is expected to continue.

The products are the first offerings in Genworth Financial Canada's new suite of HomeOpeners™ low down payment mortgage insurance products designed to help first-time buyers and other Canadians achieve the dream of homeownership.

"The HomeOpeners™ Credit Assist™ products will enable borrowers with less than perfect credit to rehabilitate their credit record while making regular mortgage payments and building equity in their homes," said Peter Vukanovich, president of Genworth Financial Canada. "Our extensive underwriting experience will allow us to evaluate these loans individually, using a flexible, 'common sense' approach that will enable lenders to safely extend high-ratio purchase or re-finance loans to more borrowers."

These products are available through participating lenders. For more information contact Genworth Financial Canada at 1 800 511.8888.

### **About Genworth Financial Canada:**

Genworth Financial Canada, the private sector supplier of mortgage insurance in Canada, works with lenders, mortgage brokers, real estate agents and builders to make homeownership more affordable and accessible throughout Canada. The company combines global experience in mortgage insurance with technological and service leadership to deliver innovation to the mortgage marketplace.

Additional information about Genworth Financial Canada is available at [www.genworth.ca](http://www.genworth.ca) or through mortgage lenders.

### **About Genworth Financial**

Genworth is a leading insurance holding company, serving the lifestyle protection, retirement income, investment and mortgage insurance needs of more than 15 million customers, and has operations in 24 countries, including the United States, Australia, Canada, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and 17 other European countries. For more information, visit [www.genworth.com](http://www.genworth.com).

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