

## **VentureLink Announces Successful Investment Exit**

TORONTO (February 17, 2006) - VentureLink LP is pleased to announce that two VentureLink Funds expect to successfully exit their investments in VFC Inc. (VFC: TSX) following the announcement that VFC will be acquired by TD Bank for approximately \$326 million.

VFC is a consumer finance corporation that specializes in the sales financing of secured automobile installment contracts, conditional sales contracts, consumer loans and leases. Over the years, VFC has financed thousands of loans for clients through its cross-Canada network of franchised and independent automotive dealerships.

TD is offering \$19.50 per share for all the outstanding shares of VFC, a \$5.35 premium over VFC's closing price of \$14.15 on February 15, 2006.

"Management of VFC has done a tremendous job of creating shareholder value," said VentureLink Managing Partner Geoff Horton. "Our investment in VFC is an example of our mezzanine investment strategy. We invested in interest-bearing debt at a very competitive rate and participated with the shareholders in value creation through our warrants and common shares."

The VentureLink Financial Services Innovation Fund holds a \$6.04-million investment in VFC in debentures, warrants and common shares, and VentureLink Diversified Income Fund has \$760,000 in similar holdings. Projected proceeds to the funds are approximately \$13.0 million which, when combined with interest payments over the life of the debentures, will result in an annual return in excess of 25%.

The VentureLink Group of Funds represents a unique opportunity for Canadian investors to combine the tax-advantaged benefits of a labour-sponsored investment fund with the diversity of an entire family of funds. VentureLink focuses on capital preservation and long-term growth potential by making equity and debt-related investments in established small and medium-size companies in Ontario. VentureLink funds give investors access to well-diversified portfolios of established companies operating in traditional industries such as financial, manufacturing and service industries as well as dynamic industries like biotechnology and alternative energy.

Additional information regarding the VentureLink Group, which had over \$200 million in assets as of January 31, 2006, can be found at [www.venturelinkfunds.com](http://www.venturelinkfunds.com).

For further information: contact: John Varghese, Managing Partner, VentureLink LP, (416) 681-6371 or 1-800-253-1043