

## **Alpine Financial Group Announces Major Acquisition of New Brokerages**

**CALGARY, ALBERTA--(Jun 3, 2004)** - Alberta-based Alpine Financial Group announced today their part in a \$12.9 million deal resulting in Alpine's acquisition of three new brokerages in Red Deer, Lethbridge and Edmonton, formerly part of the Toronto-based Vector Intermediaries Inc. network.

"This acquisition is one of the most substantial acquisitions in Alberta in recent years and represents the beginning of a new and exciting phase for the Alpine Financial Group," said President Ken G. Hughes today from Calgary.

"Our vision is to create an Alberta-based network of insurance brokerages and financial service providers that will grow with the long term economic prospects in the province of Alberta while providing our customers with superior products and services from a strong Alberta-based business," said Hughes.

Alpine Financial Group has purchased Garnett Dadswell Insurance Services in Edmonton, Dadswell Forster Insurance Services in Lethbridge, and Wiseman Coupland Insurance Services in Red Deer.

The Alpine Financial Group provides its customers with a strong Alberta-based financial network.

"This is the first phase in an exciting future for The Alpine Financial Group and its customers," stated Hughes.

Alpine Insurance and Financial Inc. is a private company building on the foundation of its original brokerage in Canmore, Alpine Insurance. Alpine's President is Ken Hughes, a fourth-generation Albertan who is the former Member of Parliament for Macleod riding south of Calgary, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister in the former Progressive Conservative federal government.

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### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Alpine Insurance and Financial Inc.**

**Ken G. Hughes**

**President**

**(403) 714-1724**

**or**

**Spotlight Strategies Inc.**

**Jason G. Hatcher**

**Media Inquiries**

**(403) 829-6796**