****NEWS RELEASE TEMPLATE**

#### [Insert Company Logo]

**Media Contact:**

[NAME]

[PHONE NUMBER]

[EMAIL ADDRESS]

April DigSafe Month serves as a REMINDER for [Insert Province name] residents to always Click Before They Dig

*[Insert Stakeholder Name] encourages people to make a free locate request a week before digging to know what’s below*

**CITY, PROVINCE, (April. 1, 2019)** – With the spring digging season almost here, [INSERT STAKEHOLDER NAME] hopes this month will serve as a reminder for residents to always secure a locate request to have underground utility lines marked prior to any digging project. Each year, damage to buried utilities costs Canadians more than $1 billion.

The ClickBeforeYouDig.com web portal connects homeowners and contractors with their local One-Call Centre, which notifies the appropriate utility companies of their intent to dig. Professional locators are then sent to the requested dig site to locate and mark underground lines with flags, spray paint or both.

Striking a single line can result in repair costs, fines, inconvenient outages, cause serious injury and in rare cases, result in fatalities. Every digging project, no matter how large or small, warrants a visit to ClickBeforeYouDig.com. Installing a fence, planting a tree and building a deck are all examples of digging projects requiring a locate request.

“During Apriland throughout the year, we remind homeowners and professional contractors alike to click before you dig to minimize the risk of striking an underground utility line,” said [INSERT NAME HERE], [TITLE] for [INSERT STAKEHOLDER NAME], “It really is the only way to Know What’s Below.”

The depth of utility lines can vary for a number of reasons, including erosion, previous digging projects and uneven surfaces. Utility lines need to be properly marked because the risk of striking an underground utility line exists even when digging only a few inches.

Visit ClickBeforeYouDig.com or www.digsafecanada.ca for more information about safe digging practices.

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**internal talking points for April DigSafe Month**

Many damage prevention stakeholders often begin each meeting with a safety message. Below, the [REGIONAL CGA PARTNER] has provided talking points that can be presented at your company’s next safety meeting during April to help educate employees about ClickBeforeYouDig.com and its role in protecting the safety of workers, customers and entire communities.

Key messages:

* Every digging project requires a visit to ClickBeforeYouDig.com.
* Submitting a locate request through ClickBeforeYouDig.com a few days prior to digging notifies utility companies of the intent to dig and gives representatives time to mark the appropriate lines.
* April is the start of the spring digging season, a natural reminder for people to always click before you dig.

How Click Before You Dig works:

* Visiting ClickBeforeYouDig.com will connect you with your local one-call centre.
* Requesting locates online is a convenient way to submit a request at your convenience. A ticket confirmation will be sent via email once your request has been processed.
* When submitting your locate request, provide an accurate location and description of the planned digging site.
* The affected utility companies will be notified of the intent to dig.
* The utility companies will each send a professional locator to the digging site to identify and mark the approximate location of the underground lines.
* Once lines have been marked, you should respect the marks and dig carefully around them.
* If you must dig within one meter of a buried utility, use hand tools to carefully expose the line before digging further.

Types of projects:

* Lines need to be marked for each separate project, such as putting up a fence, planting a tree or building a deck.
* Submit your locate request a few days prior to digging to allow time for professional locators to mark the utility lines.
* Even if you’ve hired a contractor, make sure the contractor visits ClickBeforeYouDig.com to have lines marked.

Consequences:

* Every year, the estimated cost of damaging buried utilities in Canada is more than $1 billion.
* Hitting an underground utility line while digging can cause serious injuries, disrupt service to entire neighborhoods, and potentially result in fines and repair costs.
* Even minor marks or dents can compromise a buried utility's overall integrity and lead to problems at a later date.

More information:

* To learn more about damage prevention in Canada, visit DigSafeCanada.ca.

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**Internal communications template for DigSafe Month**

april is national digsafe month, a Reminder to CLick before you dig

This April is National DigSafe Month in Canada, which serves as a reminder to everyone to visit ClickBeforeYouDig.com a few days before the start of a digging project to identify the approximate location of buried utilities.

Every year, the estimated societal cost of damage to buried utilities in Canada is more than $1 billion. We at [Insert Stakeholder Name] do not want to add to that cost.

In many communities, the utility services that your family depends on, such as cable TV, high-speed internet, landline telephone, electricity, natural gas, water and sewer, are buried underground. Striking one of these lines can result in inconvenient outages for entire neighborhoods, cause harm to yourself or someone else, and require expensive repairs.

Submit a locate request through ClickBeforeYouDig.com several days before you plan to start your project and your local one-call center will notify the affected local utility companies of your intent to dig. The utility companies, or professional locators working on their behalf, will visit your planned dig site to mark the approximate location of buried utility lines with paint, flags or both. Once your site has been marked, it is safe to begin digging around the marked areas.

No matter the type of project – installing a fence, planting a tree, building a deck, or excavating a new garden area – make sure to visit ClickBeforeYouDig.com several days prior to digging to have your site properly marked, and please remind our customers, as well as your friends and family, to do the same. Always click before you dig and know what’s below.

[Email signature if applicable]