



December 3, 2002
For immediate release

**International scientists to attend Toronto workshop
on reducing damage caused by natural disasters**

TORONTO, ONTARIO – The Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the University of Western Ontario will be hosting a unique workshop, "Mitigating housing losses in extreme natural events" this week in Toronto.

The workshop is another initiative put forward by the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction (ICLR), in its ongoing efforts to reduce fatalities, injuries and property damage caused by natural disasters in Canada. Internationally renowned housing safety researchers will be attending the workshop to discuss their latest research and findings.

The conference will also highlight the announcement that the Canadian insurance industry, through the ICLR, will be making a two-year financial investment in housing research.

Improved awareness of disaster prevention is a core objective of ICLR. Conferences and workshops are held on a regular basis across Canada to provide a forum for members of the insurance industry to interact directly with researchers from around the world as their findings are discussed.

All media are invited to attend the workshop on Wednesday, December 4th between 8:45 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., in the Basement Theatre located at the offices of Royal & SunAlliance Insurance Company, 10 Wellington Street East, Toronto, Ontario.

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Established in 1998 by Canada's property and casualty insurers, ICLR is an independent, not-for-profit research institute based in Toronto and at the University of Western Ontario in London, Canada. ICLR is a centre of excellence for disaster loss prevention research and education. ICLR's research staff is internationally recognized for pioneering work in a number of fields including wind and seismic engineering, atmospheric sciences, water resources engineering and economics. Multi-disciplined research is a foundation for ICLR's work to build communities more resilient to disasters.

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