HSBC - Helping our communities, customers and employees thrive Tuesday, May 07, 2019 12:06:00 PM (GMT)

VANCOUVER, May 7, 2019 /CNW/ - HSBC Bank Canada's 2018 Public Accountability Statement (PAS) is now available online at https://www.about.hsbc.ca/hsbc-in-canada/community. The report describes the bank's community investment programs, contribution to the economy and initiatives that are making it easier for our customers to reach their financial goals.

2018 highlights

- Over 135,000 people and 315 businesses impacted through our community investment
- 990 hours spent by employees in HSBC's Sustainability Training and Leadership programs
- Recognized by the Government of Canada for the third straight year for *Outstanding Commitment* to creating a diverse and inclusive workplace

"We continue to build long-term, sustainable relationships with customers and charitable partners that make a real difference in the lives of Canadians," **said Sandra Stuart, President & CEO, HSBC Bank Canada**. "And our employees are the foundation of these relationships. In 2018 they spent thousands of paid work hours volunteering through HSBC-led partnerships or with charities of their choice."

Community

In 2018, HSBC donated over \$3.8 million to registered Canadian charities, which in-turn helped people and businesses across Canada access a wide range of programs linked to future skills, sustainable networks and entrepreneurship and sustainable finance.

One of these partnerships is with Enactus Canada. With HSBC's support, Enactus will help student teams establish and grow more than 180 businesses. This support will also provide six student bursaries and 12 project grants for teams. HSBC employees also act as advisors and judges at Enactus events including this week's National Exposition in Vancouver.

Our people

HSBC's success is built on our ability to attract, develop and retain a diverse workforce comprised of the best and brightest talent. Our Board of Directors and executive committee remained gender balanced for the sixth year in a row. This year, we introduced the Caribbean and African Network for Diversity and Inclusion to join our seven other Employee Resource Groups in championing education and awareness and facilitating open discussion to improve our workplace culture.

We're working hard to ensure that HSBC remains a place where diverse viewpoints and life experiences are valued and celebrated, and that we have a robust and diverse pipeline of future leaders to support our ongoing growth.

Our business

In 2018, we continued to invest in our business to improve our customers' banking experience and ensure they have the financial tools they need to thrive. For example we introduced:

- Wealth Compass, a cost-effective online way for customers to start investing in their future, from the comfort of their home, with the reassurance of knowing the recommendations are reviewed by qualified professionals,
- a suite of products and services crafted specifically for small business owners; and
- upgraded our online platform for corporate customers.

We also authorized more than \$71 billion in debt financing to almost 10,000 Canadian businesses of all sizes, including over \$1.3 billion in sustainable finance to assist our customers in their transition to a low-carbon economy.

About HSBC Bank Canada

HSBC Bank Canada, a subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc, is the leading international bank in the country. We help companies and individuals across Canada to do business and manage their finances internationally

through three global business lines: Commercial Banking, Global Banking and Markets, and Retail Banking and Wealth Management. The HSBC Group is one of the world's largest banking and financial services groups with assets of US\$2,659bn at 31 March 2019. Linked by advanced technology, the HSBC Group serves customers worldwide from offices across 66 countries and territories in Europe, Asia, North and Latin America, and the Middle East and North Africa.

For more information visit www.hsbc.ca or follow us on Twitter: @hsbc ca or Facebook: @HSBCCanada.

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