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PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:  
Cathy Hansen or Robert Savignac  
International Log Builders' Association  
800-532-2900

ENHANCING THE TRADITION:  
LOG BUILDERS PREPARE FOR 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GATHERING  
*Public invited to educational seminars at Le Chateau Cartier*

Log builders, industry experts and noted speakers from Canada, the U.S. and around the world will converge on Aylmer, Quebec, April 3-6, 2003, for the 30<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the International Log Builders' Association.

In addition to a host of activities for industry professionals, there will be several educational opportunities for the public on the final day of the conference. The first, **"From Land to Lock Up,"** will offer in-depth information on how to hire a builder, what to look for in design and more. The second session, **"Building Your Own Log Home,"** is for those planning to get their hands onto the logs and build their own log home. It will be taught by B. Allan Mackie, North America's patron saint of logbuilding, and Jacques Larivière, a veteran logbuilder from Quebec. Based on nearly half a century of his own personal experience, Mackie will expound on the process of building with logs and share the rewards of "building your dream into a reality."

Three pre-conference courses early in the week will kickstart the week's activities. Industry professionals will be able to attend a 2½-day course on French scribing, a 2-day course on log grading certification and a 1½-day course on crane hazard awareness and safety. There will also be a seminar on Thursday morning, April 3, to help government officials and building inspectors understand the process of log building.

The conference officially begins on Thursday afternoon with the always-spirited Spring Log Builders' Competition, which will run concurrently with Tech Talk, a great opportunity to see the latest jigs and other industry ideas. Educational opportunities will include a workshop on hands-on log stair-building and a log hip and valley rafter layout session. Other topics to be addressed during the conference include restoration, wood properties, the thermal performance of log homes, exporting log homes, building to code, marketing and more. More lighthearted activities include a slide show showcasing some of the industry's best handcrafting work on Thursday evening; a fundraising auction on Friday evening; and Saturday evening entertainment by Canadian Folk star 'Valdy.'

Companies and publications that serve the logbuilding industry sponsor the conference every year and display their products in a trade show that runs concurrent with many of the conference events. To date, confirmed sponsors of this year's conference include The Sansin Corporation, Karma Industries, *Log Home Design Ideas* magazine, *Log Home Living* magazine, *Log & Timber Style* magazine, GSCNE/Graphisoft, Makita Tools, Husqvarna/Jonsered, GRK Fasteners, Cottage and Country Home Shows, Gudeit Bros. Contracting, Forintek Canada, and Dietrich's North America.

The International Log Builders' Association is a non-profit educational association with membership around the world. Contact the ILBA office at 800-532-2900 for further details or visit our website at [www.logassociation.org](http://www.logassociation.org). Pre-registration is required for all conference events.