

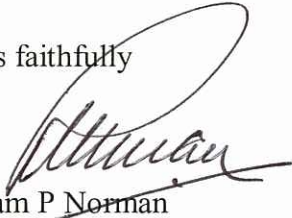
30 March 2007

COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO THE BSX MARKET

Attached is a copy of the authority we have given for Bendigo Bank to contact our shareholders regarding the merger offer from the Bank of Queensland.

The draft letter that the Bendigo Bank intend to send to our shareholders is also attached.

Yours faithfully



Graham P Norman  
Director  
East Ivanhoe community Corporation Ltd

29/3/2007

Dear Felicia,

I, Nancy Caple, Chairman of the East Ivanhoe Community Corporation, authorise Bendigo Bank to use our shareholder register to contact **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> shareholders. This authorisation to use our shareholder register would only be used in relation to this possible merger and other options that might arise.

Yours Sincerely

Nancy L Caple

Chairman

East Ivanhoe Community Corporation

<date>

### **Bendigo Bank conditional proposal from Bank of Queensland – your feedback**

On 19 March 2007, Bendigo Bank received a conditional proposal from Bank of Queensland for a merger with Bendigo Bank.

The Bendigo Bank board of directors and their advisers have now met to give initial consideration to the conditional proposal from Bank of Queensland.

Bendigo Bank will engage with Bank of Queensland to further understand the Bank of Queensland proposal and to evaluate whether it is in the best interests of Bendigo Bank shareholders.

The current proposal from Bank of Queensland is subject to a number of conditions, including the unequivocal support of the Bendigo Bank Board, Bendigo Bank shareholder approval and satisfactory due diligence by each party on the other.

The current proposal by Bank of Queensland is for a merger, by way of a scheme of arrangement.

If a scheme were to be put to shareholders, it would be voted on by shareholders in Bendigo Bank Limited.

A shareholding in a **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Company does not entitle the holder to a vote on such a scheme.

However, as a valued stakeholder in Bendigo Bank, your views are important to the Board of Bendigo Bank.

The Bendigo Bank Board values the strong support and commitment it enjoys from communities and other stakeholders including shareholders, staff, customers and alliance partners.

We believe these stakeholders have a direct impact on the future value of the business and will take into account the interests of all stakeholders in considering the proposal.

At this early stage, we are keen to obtain your feedback.

To give your feedback on the proposal, you can:

- Phone Bendigo Bank on <what number> between <what times>
- Visit [www.bendigobank.com.au](http://www.bendigobank.com.au)
- Write to Bendigo Bank Share Registry, PO Box 480, Bendigo, Victoria 3552

We look forward to your comments.

Yours sincerely,

**ROBERT JOHANSON**  
**CHAIRMAN**