



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BCLT Staff Joins the Board of a New National Affordable Housing Organization**

BURLINGTON, VT – Colin Bloch, Director of HomeOwnership at the Burlington Community Land Trust, was elected to the Board of Directors of the National Community Land Trust Network on July 15, 2006. The National CLT Network is a new initiative to support over 200 housing and land reform groups representing all regions of the United States and abroad.

The creation of this Network is a signal of the maturing of the CLT model as a solution to the nation's housing crisis. The National CLT Network is partnering with the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and NeighborWorks® America to establish and grow a Community Land Trust Academy to expand the capacity of nonprofits to address needs in their communities. This educational arm will introduce the CLT model to those unfamiliar, convey the history, mission and purpose of the CLT model and offer a full spectrum of trainings for affordable housing practitioners.

Bloch was elected to a two year term as Northeast representative to the National CLT Network Board of Directors at the first annual meeting. Colin has served for the past year as co-chair of the interim board for the National CLT Network and has provided technical assistance to communities building affordable housing throughout the country. The board of directors is made up of five regional representatives and ten at large members.

The Burlington Community Land Trust is the largest and one of the oldest community land trusts in the country and has received international recognition for its innovative contribution to affordable housing. With stewardship of over 850 homes, BCLT provides housing opportunity to citizens in Chittenden, Franklin and Grand Isle Counties.

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