FAIRFAX News Release

TSX Stock Symbol: FFH and FFH.U

TORONTO, October 20, 2017

Not for distribution to U.S. news wire services or dissemination in the United States.

FAIRFAX FILES FINAL UNIVERSAL SHELF PROSPECTUS

Toronto, Ontario (October 20, 2017) – Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited ("Fairfax") (TSX: FFH and FFH.U) has filed a final short form base shelf prospectus with the Canadian securities regulatory authorities.

The shelf prospectus allows Fairfax to offer from time to time over a 25-month period up to Cdn\$8.0 billion of debt, equity or other securities. Should Fairfax offer any securities, it will make a prospectus supplement available that will include the specific terms of the securities being offered.

A copy of the short form base shelf prospectus may be obtained from Fairfax, Eric Salsberg, Vice President, Corporate Affairs and Corporate Secretary at (416) 367-4941, 95 Wellington Street West, Suite 800, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5J 2N7 or electronically at <u>www.sedar.com</u>.

This press release does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in any jurisdiction.

Fairfax is a holding company which, through its subsidiaries, is engaged in property and casualty insurance and reinsurance and investment management.

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