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For Immediate Release

## First Community Exercise for New Emergency Operations Centre at Cambridge City Hall

Cambridge, Ontario. September 15, 2008...City Hall will be the location of the upcoming test of the Cambridge Emergency Plan as the City and its community partners come together for "Exercise EOC" this week.

In keeping with the practice of continuous refining and testing of the emergency plan, and to maintain compliance with provincial Emergency Management legislation, the Cambridge Emergency Management Programme Committee has arranged for "Exercise EOC" to take place on Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. "Exercise EOC" involves City staff and outside community organizations that form the Community Control Group (CCG). Representatives from every City department along with the Mayor, Chief Administrative Officer, Clerk, Public Information Officer and the Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) will participate.

CEMC Doug Tennant notes that partner organizations such as Waterloo Regional Police Services, Region of Waterloo Public Health, Emergency Medical Services, Ministry of Natural Resources, Cambridge and North Dumfries Hydro, Canadian Red Cross, Cambridge Amateur Radio Club and Waterloo Region Social Services will participate in the half day exercise.

"It's all about partnership," says Tennant. "These partners will come together to review the City of Cambridge Emergency Response Plan, tour the facility and test the technological and infrastructure components of the new building to ensure smooth transition to new Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). This exercise allows us to seek out and provide continuous enhancements to our emergency management capabilities."

Cambridge City Hall officially becomes the primary EOC in November 2008, making the current location at the Cambridge Fire Department Headquarters on Bishop Street the secondary EOC for the City. The EOC is used as a headquarters for the Community Control Group and its many Support Agencies to manage strategic operations, information flow and coordination of community services that are required during an emergency. City Hall is a perfect EOC location as it is built above the flood plain, has a 7-day backup diesel generator and other technological and infrastructure features that support emergency management activities.

The City of Cambridge Emergency Response Plan is on line at -  
<http://www.cambridge.ca/relatedDocs/Emergency%20Response%20Plan%20-%20Website%20Copy%202008.pdf>

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**MEDIA BRIEFING INVITE:**

Immediately following the CCG meeting on September 17th, you are invited to a briefing on "Exercise EOC". Slated for 4:30 pm at City Hall, the CEMC and Public Information Officer, will provide an overview of the exercise and some of the areas that will be further refined. Some members of the community control group may be available. Please advise Linda Fegan if you require a photo of the fuller group and a request will be forwarded to the group.

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The City of Cambridge is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. It is strategically located astride highway 401 in Southwestern Ontario, part of Canada's Technology Triangle. In 2008, the population reached over 125,000 people. With a multicultural mix and a strong foundation of support services, Cambridge has a diverse economic base with leading industries in manufacturing, automotive, high technology, pharmaceutical, business and financial services and hospitality/retail. The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is an employer with a work environment that offers the opportunity to provide service to the community through creativity and innovation, and with opportunities for career growth and advancement. Based on the 2007 BMA Management Consulting Inc Municipal Study, the City of Cambridge is one of only four municipalities in the province that is debt free.

For more information on the area or the corporation visit [www.cambridge.ca](http://www.cambridge.ca)  
The City of Cambridge press room is located at <http://www.cambridge.ca/article.php?sid=176>

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