

For Immediate Release

Cambridge Fire Department Cautions Residents To Avoid Parking on Streets

Cambridge, Ontario. February 5, 2009... When seconds count for emergency crews to respond on the scene, the Cambridge Fire Department (CFD) is asking residents to assist by keeping their streets open to allow unobstructed access for emergency vehicles. CFD is suggesting that citizens avoid parking on streets where the volume of snow makes it difficult to navigate emergency vehicles, particularly on narrow roadways.

"Snow accumulation and added vehicular parking on the streets will cause impediments to emergency services. We are finding it extremely difficult to respond to emergency calls when cars block the roadways," says CFD Chief Terry Allen.

The average fire truck is 8 ½ feet wide and up to 46 feet long which means that negotiating through some narrow streets can be very difficult. Last year, CFD responded to over 5,947 emergency calls.

"I sometimes hear residents say that in the event of an emergency, they could move their vehicles quickly. The reality is that the added seconds or minutes can make all the difference in public safety," adds Chief Allen.

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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
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