
For Immediate Release

Today Marks Annual Crossing Guard Appreciation Day Do a Winter Walk and Tip your Hat to a Crossing Guard

Cambridge, Ontario. February 10, 2010...Neither rain, nor sleet, nor snow will impact the reliable services our crossing guards give to ensure community safety. To show appreciation and encourage a little winter exercise, today marks the annual Winter Walk and Crossing Guard Appreciation Day in Waterloo Region.

"This is a day to celebrate winter walking and encourage students to walk to school while also giving a big thank you to crossing guards for the important work that they do," says Mayor Doug Craig. The City of Cambridge prides itself on encouraging healthy living and this day is one way for people to leave the car at home.

Cambridge currently employs 71 crossing guards; 64 employees cover permanent locations and 7 employees are spare guards that travel around to various locations to cover duties for the permanent guards. There is a wide variety of people who perform these important jobs to support public safety.

"One of our most experienced crossing guards is 90 years old and has been a spare crossing guard for more than 26 years," says Karen Accursi, Co-ordinator of Crossing Guards at the City of Cambridge. "Rick Crossey has been a spare guard and he loves travelling to different locations throughout the City, but most of all, enjoys keeping busy! He says that is what keeps him young!"

As for future opportunities, contact Karen Accursi, Co-ordinator of Crossing Guards, 50 Dickson Street, 3rd Floor, P.O. Box 669, Cambridge, ON N1R 5W8. Call 519.740.4682 ext. 4549 or email accursik@cambridge.ca.



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Crossing Guards Come to City Hall

About 40 crossing guards joined Mayor Craig and the team for a 'coffee break' to pay tribute to their hard work. Cindy Bannister (right) has more than 15 years service, while Michele Brennan is a new employee who just started a week ago.

About Cambridge

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 2009, the population reached over 126,000 people. With a multicultural mix and a strong foundation of support services, Cambridge has a diverse economic base with leading industries in advanced manufacturing, automotive, high technology, pharmaceutical, business and financial services and hospitality/retail. The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is an employer with a progressive work environment that offers the opportunity to provide service to the community through creativity and innovation, and with opportunities for career growth and advancement.

About the Corporation of the City of Cambridge

The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is a dynamic organization filled with dedicated people who deliver vital municipal services to you. Services that residents, businesses, visitors and people like your family and friends enjoy. We're a comprehensive team of professionals: engineers, financial specialists, skilled trades, administrative experts, customer service, communications - and the list goes on.

We're proud to be part of the systems that bring you the array of services that citizens in Cambridge need:

- Parks and recreation
- Activities and programs like pools, seniors' centres, community centres, arenas and other facilities
- Sports programs and all the needs related to playing fields, like indoor soccer, baseball diamonds and other amenities
- Events
- Farmers' Market
- Cemetery services
- Road programs
- Leaf pick up services
- Winter maintenance services
- Water and sewer services
- Fire, emergency and related services
- By-laws and enforcement
- Tax administration
- Licensing for businesses, lotteries, marriage, dogs, and other services like applications for birth, death and marriage certificates, notarizing or commissioning of documents
- Archival research
- Economic Development and business support programs
- Tourism support to share opportunities to showcase the festivals and help bring visitors in to support retail and other elements of the economy
- Administration of committees, steering groups and advisory groups
- Planning and development services
- Traffic and parking services
- Ensuring the best security, police, transit, garbage, water processing service, utilities, animal control are in place.
- Libraries and galleries
- Centre for the arts
- Accessibility matters
- Council services including things like supporting the up coming needs of our residents for the Oct 2010 municipal elections

It's a multitude of services and we continue to refine and review them to ensure we deliver the services in the most effective, efficient, and proactive ways.

In 2010 we are undergoing a corporate service review. This is a further check and balance system to seeking improvements - like better technologies to simplify processes or realigning how we operate. The comprehensive review is happening this year with a view to providing a report to Council for consideration. The report will be available by year end and will be addressed by the newly elected council for the 2011 budget.

For more information on the area or the corporation visit www.cambridge.ca

The City of Cambridge press room is located at

http://www.cambridge.ca/the_office_of_the_chief_administrative_officer/corporate_communications_marketing

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