

For Immediate Release

Employers Awarded for Excellence in Workforce Training and Development

Cambridge, Ontario. May 10, 2010... Cambridge City Council tonight paid tribute to local companies that demonstrated exceptional initiatives in workforce training and development. As part of the annual 'Mayor's Award for Excellence in Workforce Training and Development', three companies were recognized at tonight's Council meeting: McDonald Green Personnel Inc., COM DEV International Ltd., and Redragon Oil and Gas Systems International Inc.

"These companies demonstrated a clear commitment to their workforce development by enhancing the knowledge, performance and skill of their teams," says Mayor Doug Craig.

There are four award categories: Industrial and Manufacturing; Service, Hospitality and Retail; Public and Not-for-Profit; and Small Business. Cambridge congratulates the following companies and highlights some of the innovative initiatives contributing to their success in the awards competition:

McDonald Green Personnel Inc.: SMALL BUSINESS

- All employees are involved in the development of training for their particular departments, as well as incorporating cross-functional training
- The company uses a coaching process model that allows for continual dialogue between the employee, manager, and trainer or leader
- They round out their formal learning programs with mentoring, self-directed learning, and personal discussion

COM DEV International Ltd.: INDUSTRIAL AND MANUFACTURING

- Offers a new employee orientation program online, appropriately called "Employee Launch" which is designed like a Global Position System
- Fosters employee development to achieve a high level of awareness of their role with the products they produce, often using peer learning with high-knowledge employees and senior experience to mentor younger scientists
- Findings demonstrate that their training process has "no holes" - they truly do it all well—right across the board

Redragon Oil and Gas Systems International Inc.: INDUSTRIAL AND MANUFACTURING

- Their mission statement has training and re-training enshrined
- The company engages a training committee of three; allots five percent of the budget for training; 70 percent is in-house training
- Maintains an on-site training centre with a classroom, a one-on-one mentoring program, and a multi-level training program for new products

This is the 17th year for the 'Mayor's Award for Excellence in Workforce Training and Development' which is organized by the City of Cambridge Economic Development Division and the Cambridge Training and Development Advisory Group.

"These awards underscore the role training and development plays in driving Cambridge's economic growth and prosperity," says Cambridge's Chair of the Training and Development advisory group Paul Olinski.

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About the Cambridge Training and Development Advisory Group

Cambridge training and development advisory group defines, conducts and evaluates the process to recognize the winners of the Mayor's Award for Excellence in Workforce Training and Development. The prestigious award was established in 1994 and current members of the advisory group include: Mary Adamson, Mike Bennett, Debbie Fee, Jeff Fila, Lisa Hummel, Dave Launslager, Bryan Naylor, Joseph Ronca, Jim Rudnisky, Derek Watral, Heather Folwer and Committee Chair Paul Olinski.

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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