



Linda Fegan, Director, Corporate
Communications and Marketing

Tel: (519) 740-4680 Ext. 4623
Cell: (519) 212-3409
Email: feganl@cambridge.ca

For Immediate Release

Cambridge Mayor Responds to Regional Plant Closure Food Processing Manufacturing an Integral Part of our History

Cambridge, Ontario. October 19, 2011...The following statement is in response to the national strategy announced by Maple Leaf Foods Inc. which included the shut down of a Kitchener-based food processing plant.

"The City of Cambridge and regional partners worked very hard to provide a business case for an alternative site for the new food processing facility that will go forward for Maple Leaf. Cambridge staff put together a comprehensive proposal that demonstrated a strong business case with a view to retaining the firm within the region," says Mayor Doug Craig.

"Maple Leaf has long been part of the fabric of this region and it is very unfortunate that the latest announcement means the plant will cease to operate in Waterloo Region," says Bo Densmore, Director of Economic Development for the City. While expressing disappointment that the city didn't secure the new investment, Densmore says she will be meeting with executives from Maple Leaf to review the City's proposal and rationale for the final decision to locate in Hamilton. "We wish Maple Leaf well in the new endeavour as they execute their national strategy. As Hamilton is close by and within a reasonable commuting distance from Cambridge, City staff is hopeful that there will continue to be synergies to explore including the supply of labour force and collaborative opportunities with local academic institutions focusing on related workforce development and research.

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Contact:

Bo Densmore
Director, Economic Development
densmoreb@cambridge.ca

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 2010, the population reached over 130,000 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.

You meet the nicest people in Cambridge. It's a place that understands all about coming together. There is so much more to Cambridge than the beautiful lands created at the convergence of two rivers or its logistically perfect location in the heart of Ontario's economic corridor. Cambridge is the coming together of people from diverse, close-knit and proud communities. The people of Cambridge 'do the right thing' by respecting history, family values, a sound work ethic, the arts, environment and advancement. A young city, Cambridge is a master of balancing the excitement and promise of the new with the historical significance and stability of the old. A place where coming together is just the start. Uniting together is what sets Cambridge apart. Undiscovered-Cambridge families and entrepreneurs get more for less, and sacrifice nothing.

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 potential for career growth and advancement. 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/pressroom>. To opt out of the news release distribution, please send an email to Linda Fegan feganl@cambridge.ca.