

## MEDIA RELEASE

### 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Welland Earth Day Celebrations – 2010

#### For Immediate Release – Thursday, April 15, 2010

**Welland** - To celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day, Welland's events will include tree planting, tours of the water treatment plant, crafts with recycled materials, and a variety of other events and eco-friendly information covering programs and incentives offered by the city's Conservation Committee and the Region of Niagara. This marks the fifth anniversary of Earth Day celebrations hosted by the city of Welland with participation from a wide range of local organizations and businesses all geared to increasing awareness and responsibility.

Earth Day activities officially begin on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at 10:00 am on Merritt Island and will run until 2:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend this free event; you are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item for the local food banks.

Earth Day, considered the birth of the environmental movement, was first celebrated in the United States on April 22, 1970, by some 20 million people. US Congress, inspired by the magnitude of this first event, subsequently passed clean air and water Acts and established the Environmental Protection Agency in that country. Twenty years later, Earth Day grew to an international event with over 200 million people – Canadians included – marking the event to celebrate the Earth and raise environmental awareness. Today, over 600 million people commemorate Earth Day by participating in community events no longer restricted to one day – it has grown to Earth Week and Earth Month – marking the increased awareness and support.

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Information: Councillor Paul Grenier (Conservation Committee Chair) – 905-321-2932

*Participants include:*

KinEnergy

CRS

Niagara Wind Power

Welland Hydro

Birds of Prey

Niagara Peninsula Conservation

Authority

Regional Municipality of Niagara

River Keepers

Bag to Earth

Vermeer's

Mad Science

Land Care Niagara (Eco crafts)

Metis Nation (Eco crafts)

In the Orchard (Eco crafts)

City of Welland Conservation Committee

Green Venture

Welland Transit

Niagara Food Markets