



# Brampton

## Media Release

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### **CITY OF BRAMPTON JOINS IN FOR EARTH HOUR**

*In support of the global Earth Hour campaign, residents and businesses are urged to turn off the lights*

BRAMPTON, ON: The City of Brampton is gearing up for Earth Hour on Saturday, March 28, 2009. A world wide initiative launched by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the global conservation organization, it will be lights-off between 8:30 and 9:30 pm at City facilities for all non-essential lights. Lights affecting public safety, security or service – such as streetlights, stoplights, parking lights at City facilities and during ongoing programs at recreation centres – will remain on.

“Responsible environmental practices are a top priority for the City of Brampton and we are once again proud to participate in Earth Hour. It symbolizes our commitment to protecting the environment and to finding solutions for climate change. I encourage everyone to join and remember - one hour no power! Together we can make a difference,” said Mayor Susan Fennell.

In partnership with Hydro One Brampton, the Peel District School Board and the Region of Peel, the City of Brampton is encouraging all residents and businesses to join the campaign and turn off the lights and non-essential appliances during this time.

Last year, the collective efforts of Brampton businesses and residents during Earth Hour 2008 resulted in a 13.3 megawatts or 3.2 per cent reduction in electricity consumption. This is enough electricity to power more than 4,000 homes for an hour.

The Earth Hour campaign started in Sydney, Australia in 2007 by WWF, when 2.2 million people and 2,100 Sydney businesses turned off the lights for one hour. This campaign has now spread to major cities worldwide making Earth Hour a global movement. In 2009, Earth Hour aims to reach one billion people in more than 1,000 cities in an effort to show that it's possible to take action on global warming. For more information please visit [www.brampton.ca](http://www.brampton.ca) or call 905-874-2000.

**About Brampton:** The 11th largest city in Canada, Brampton has a successful, well-diversified economy and is home to more than 8,000 businesses. The City continues to retain a Triple 'A' credit rating by Standard & Poor for the third consecutive year, reflecting its debt-free position, exceptional liquidity levels and excellent economy. The City's 2009 operating budget is \$400.8 million and approved funding for its overall capital program stands at \$700 million. Brampton celebrates its diverse population that represents people from more than 175 distinct ethnic backgrounds who speak over 70 different languages. Offering more than 6,000 acres of parkland, Brampton takes pride in being the Flower City of Canada and won the 2008 International Communities in Bloom competition. It is also the first city in the GTA and one of only 10 in North America to have been designated as an International Safe Community by the World Health Organization. For more information visit [www.brampton.ca](http://www.brampton.ca)

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