



July 20, 2009

09-030

### **MAYOR FENNELL TO SPEAK ABOUT NEW WEB PORTAL AT INTERNATIONAL MICROSOFT SUMMIT**

BRAMPTON, ON: Mayor Susan Fennell will speak this week at Microsoft's Global Exchange. This annual internal summit held this year in Atlanta, Georgia brings together Microsoft staff from around the world to discuss the company's strategies and priorities for the upcoming year.

The focus of the Mayor's presentation will be on the City of Brampton's new Web Portal, the online component of the City's integrated customer service strategy and built on (Microsoft's) Citizen Service Platform.

"We are thrilled to be recognized for our online efforts," says Mayor Fennell. "The goal of this project is to ensure that the new Web Portal offers our residents, businesses and corporate partners a positive and valuable customer-focused online experience."

The project was recognized last April in Spain where the City of Brampton received an award for Best Innovation Project at the 2009 LRG (Local & Regional Government) Solution Annual Forum. Earlier this summer at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference in Whistler, BC, Mayor Fennell spoke of how this robust solutions platform will create a relevant, meaningful and engaging web experience for citizens and businesses.

The public facing Web Portal will be launched later this year. It is our goal that the site will be seen as a centre of excellence that delivers professional and efficient municipal and corporate services.

**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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