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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 27 from 8:30 – 9:30 pm. Earth Hour is a one-hour lights-out event, created by WWF (World Wildlife Fund) that mobilizes millions worldwide to show support for action on climate change. Earth Hour is designed to help show people how they can be a part of the climate solution and that everyday action can add up to make a real difference.

The City will turn off non-essential lights at various facilities during the designated hour on March 27. Lighting affecting public safety, security or service - such as streetlights, stoplights, park pathway lighting and parking lot lights at City facilities - will remain on. Public programming at recreation and community centres will also continue as normal.

“Conservation and sustainability are key priorities for the City of Brampton and we are once again proud to participate in Earth Hour. I encourage everyone to join in, remember - one hour, no power! Together we can make a difference,” says Mayor Susan Fennell.

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

Hydro One Brampton reported that the collective efforts of Brampton businesses and residents during Earth Hour 2009 resulted in a 9.3 per cent (38.4 megawatt) reduction in consumption – equivalent to removing 31,800 homes from the distribution system during that hour. This was up from a 3.2 per cent reduction in 2008.

The Earth Hour campaign was started in Sydney, Australia by WWF in 2007, 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. For more information please visit www.brampton.ca or call 311.

About Brampton: The 11th largest city in Canada, Brampton has a successful, well-diversified economy and is home to more than 8000 businesses. The City continues to retain a Triple ‘A’ credit rating by Standard & Poor, reflecting its successful economy and debt-free position. 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 known as the Flower City of Canada. Brampton has been designated as an International Safe Community by the World Health Organization. For more information visit www.brampton.ca

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Media Contact:

Gordon Smith
Manager, Media Communications
City of Brampton
Phone: (905) 874-3426
gordon.smith@brampton.ca