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**Re: The International Water Centre of Excellence ( IWCE)**

Water is quickly becoming one of the world's key commodities and the next 2 decades will bring a focus to the provision of water worldwide that was never imagined even 10 years ago.

The International Water Centre of Excellence ( IWCE) led by the water technology industry, the City of London, LEDC and Western University will make London, Ontario the leading site for industrial water treatment technology commercialization, validation and testing in Canada. As one of the key nodes in the Southern Ontario Water Congress (SOWC) supported by FedDev Ontario, this world unique facility will provide the critical link between the private and public sectors as part of a strategic initiative with industry, academic institutions, municipalities and the Ontario and Canadian governments to strengthen Canada's position as a global leader in water and wastewater treatment technologies.

The new IWCE at the Greenway Pollution Control Plant in London, Ontario will address comprehensive water treatment issues from research to full scale validation, a combination which is unique in the world. While this is already a strength in Ontario, the absence of full-scale testing facilities worldwide is often limiting to developers of new environmental technologies. Hence, these facilities would provide accelerated growth potential for Ontario companies.

Building on existing critical mass and strengths in London and at other Ontario companies and institutions, research programs and technologies investigated will address water and wastewater treatment and optimization, water recycling, bio-solids reduction, energy recovery from biogases, nutrient removal and compound recovery, to name a few. These technologies will usher in a new era of treatment technologies, focused not only on pathogen destruction but also on the effective treatment of toxic compounds in water, such as pesticides, pharmaceuticals and endocrine disruptors, which pose new risks to the global ecology and the sustainability of water supplies worldwide.

The Centre will include:

- On-site access to all aspects of a high-capacity sewage treatment plant
- Training and education facilities for scientists, engineers, and plant operators
- Large-scale pilot plant demonstration capacity
- Full scale technology demonstration and testing capacity
- Space available for rent/lease to the private sector in technology development/testing
- Access for international regulators and testing agencies for full-scale testing of new technologies

The provision of water treatment technologies to the world will be a growth industry that Ontario is particularly well-positioned for. Two of the leading Ontario companies are located in London including Trojan UV, and Purifics ES who both see this centre as an important part of the research programs in coming years, securing local employment and economic development.

This project will consist of the design and construction of a comprehensive technology development and research facility, including advanced laboratory facilities and testing facilities which will provide unprecedented access for scientists and engineers from Western, the SOWC, the City of London, and industry to pursue industrial scale-up testing of emerging treatment and distribution technologies.

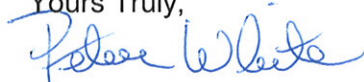
The facility will provide open access to other industrial, governmental, and non-governmental organizations, to attract the scientists, engineers, technicians, and technologists from across Canada and around the world who will form the next generation of wastewater treatment experts and companies.

When the IWCE was first envisioned, one of the key areas that Western, LEDC and the City worked towards was obtaining financial support from other levels of government. This had been a request of Council and something that after significant effort by the IWCE Board was achieved with the multi-million dollar FedDev Ontario supported funding. FedDev Ontario Minister Gary Goodyear was personally involved in the overall planning for the SOWC, and he was an ardent supporter of the London node. We would also like to thank MPs Ed Holder and Joe Preston who helped us in many ways in getting this unique project funding approved.

The London Economic Development Corporation is pleased to see the plan move ahead and we are very excited that we will have both a unique and world leading facility when complete that will allow London to further develop its world leading position in water.

This ability to provide research, product development and expertise will provide many economic development opportunities for the city, and provide us with an outstanding platform to work with the water industry worldwide.

Yours Truly,



Peter White  
President and CEO