



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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### Landmark LEED Office Tower to Rise in Downtown Pickering

Pickering, ON, May 8, 2009 – The City of Pickering is proud to announce the receipt of a site plan application for the construction of a new “Class A” office tower. This one-of-a-kind project in the east GTA will kick start the transformation of Pickering’s downtown.

With direct access to Highway 401, the new office tower will overlook the Pickering GO station with stellar views of Lake Ontario. More importantly, this 132,000 square foot project will be built to LEED Silver standards, making it one of the most visible examples of sustainability in Ontario. In addition, as the Province has named Pickering’s downtown an *Urban Growth Centre* in its Places to Grow program, the new office tower will be a major catalyst for additional redevelopment and downtown intensification.

Further, Metrolinx has designated Pickering’s GO station and downtown environs as an *Anchor Mobility Hub*; which would see the transformation of this area to an actual destination with enhanced commercial, retail, transit and cultural opportunities. As such, the City is proposing to link the new office tower to the GO station via a pedestrian bridge that would span the highway. This would create a more cohesive downtown while also increasing transit ridership. The City has submitted an application to the Canada Infrastructure Stimulus Fund for Federal and Provincial assistance to construct this fully enclosed and accessible pedestrian bridge.

Construction will start in July 2009, with occupancy slated for early 2011. Further project details will be announced at a press conference to be held at City Hall Pickering in June. Currently, there are available office space and commercial/retail leasing opportunities. For leasing information, please contact John Pretsell, Vice-President Leasing, 20 Vic Management Inc. at 416.681.9006 or [jpretzell@20vic.com](mailto:jpretzell@20vic.com).

“The office tower is the realization of Pickering Council’s vision; and will help usher in a new era of sustainability and economic prosperity for the City of Pickering,” said Mayor Dave Ryan. “With the transformation of our downtown core; expansion of our EN3 (Energy, Environmental, Engineering) cluster; and impending creation of 35,000 new jobs in Seaton; the City of Pickering is evolving into one of the most significant business centres in the entire Province.”

In addition to the new office tower, Pickering is enjoying a recent streak of positive economic development news. For example, SNC Lavalin Nuclear Inc. opened a new office in February; Norwegian powerhouse Aker Solutions is relocating its Toronto operations to a new \$18 million facility this spring; and Purdue Pharma will break ground shortly on a new \$32 million expansion. Next month, the City will be announcing the expansion of an American company into Canada via its new national base of operations in Pickering.

*As the gateway to the east GTA, Pickering (population 94,000) is strategically located where Toronto, York and Durham Regions meet and has been recognized by Profit magazine as one of the ten best cities in Canada for growth companies. Pickering's downtown has been named by the Province of Ontario as an Urban Growth Centre and future Anchor Mobility Hub. The City of Pickering is considered a municipal leader in fiscal management, service delivery, sustainability and the environment. In 2008, it received the FCM-CH2M Hill Sustainable Community Planning Award. With its direct access to major highways, educated and skilled labour force, prime employment lands, a world class EN3 (Energy/Environmental/Engineering) sector, and supportive municipal government, Pickering offers unrivalled competitive advantages for business.*

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