

Canada's Technology Triangle Inc & Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics win Global City Award for Waterloo Region

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Toronto, Ontario – Through the efforts of two powerful groups – Canada's Technology Triangle Inc & the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics – the Waterloo Region is reshaping the Canadian "brain drain" and becoming an international "brain gain" region, earning the Canadian Urban Institute's 2009 Global City Award to be granted June 5 at the Urban Leadership Awards in Toronto.

"Together these two groups have managed to transform the Cambridge-Kitchener-Waterloo region into a global centre of excellence. Their combined efforts have created a global identity for three cities and enhanced the region's reputation, attracted high-tech businesses and improved the region's place in the world," said CUI President and CEO Glen Murray.

About 500 elite members of Canada's who's who of city building will gather in Toronto on June 5 to honour Canada's Technology Triangle Inc (CTT) (<http://www.techtriangle.com>) and the Perimeter Institute, (www.perimeterinstitute.ca) as well as 17 other groups and individuals (www.canurb.com/awards/ula/leadershipawards2009.php) across the country who are making Canadian cities exciting and dynamic places to live and work.

"Part of the secret to the region's success on the international stage is how well the players work together on the local scene," said CTT's CEO John Jung.

"We're still small enough that people can rally and build coalitions to make things happen here. We pool our resources between the local municipalities, the local businesses and the institutions and that allows us to showcase our communities on the international market in a way that few other places can. Our key is the collaborative nature of the way we work to and the fact that we have a strong foundation of technology that dates back over the decades," said Jung.

The Perimeter Institute exemplifies a unique balance in the region - advancing fundamental knowledge that can lead to new innovations. Propelled by a private-public partnership involving personal philanthropy and all levels of government, the institute is attracting highly qualified researchers from around the world, is pursuing long-term research that may lead to scientific breakthroughs of global impact, and is providing outreach activities to the region, the country and beyond.

"The acknowledgement of the CUI's Global City Award supports our belief that cutting edge research and innovative outreach programs have an important role to play in contemporary urban centres. PI's structure, activities and long-term goals are a model for excellence, now being noticed and copied by other centres around the world" said John Matlock, Director of External Relations and Outreach at Perimeter Institute.

The Urban Leadership Awards (ULA) Program honours Canadian individuals, groups and organizations that have made significant contributions to improving the quality of life in Canada's cities and urban regions. The 2009 ULA's have been made possible by the generous support of a variety of corporate sponsors including Gold Sponsors Loblaw Properties Ltd., Scotiabank, TD Bank Financial Group, the Ontario Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, Environics, the City of Toronto and the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE). Community Builder Sponsors include Toronto Hydro, Local 27 of the Union of Carpenters and Allied Workers, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Great West Life, London Life and Canada Life Assurance Companies.

The judges for this year's awards included Canadians who have dedicated their lives to public service and who have detailed knowledge of the local stories and triumphs of Canadians in their home communities. Under the chairmanship of the Hon. David Crombie, the committee included; Al Duerr, former Mayor of Calgary; Newfoundland's Dr. Linda Inkpen; Dr. Antonia Maioni, Director of the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada; John Kim Bell, founder of the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation; Ms. Mitzie Hunter, a Vice President at Goodwill Industries; and, Dr. Nola Kate Seymoar, President and CEO, International Centre for Sustainable Cities, based in British Columbia.

The Canadian Urban Institute (CUI) is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in urban areas across Canada and throughout the world.

For more information or interviews:

Janis Lynch, Manager Urban Leadership Awards, Canadian Urban Institute
p: 416.365.0816, ext 283, c: 416-986-1771, jlynch@canurb.com

Xiaopu (Iris) Fung, Marketing & Communications Officer, Canada's Technology Triangle Inc
p: 519-747-2541, ext 405, xiaopu@techtriangle.com

Angela Robinson, Communications Coordinator, The Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics
p: 519-569-7600, ext 5051, arobinson@perimeterinstitute.ca

Some Facts on CTT and the Perimeter Institute

Canada's Technology Triangle Inc

- Canada's Technology Triangle (Waterloo Region) derived its name from the longstanding reputation the region has for innovation, established by resident businesses. Canada's Technology Triangle came to be used in the 1980s and the global recognition of its high technology cluster in the 1990s validated the name.
- CTT Inc is the not for profit, public-private regional economic development partnership marketing the Waterloo Region of Ontario including the cities of Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo. Its mandate is to attract new businesses, investment, and talent while promoting regional economic growth.
- CTT has become the "go to" organization for businesses looking for a new location.
- It works in partnership with all municipal economic development agencies of the three cities.
- CTT specializes in external marketing building on the region's strengths and by promoting the area's universities and colleges that provide an available talent pool for employers. It advances opportunities for technological/manufacturing convergence and cost-competitiveness, based on solid research and trends analysis.
- Companies in the region include RIM (Blackberry), Open Text, DALSA, COM DEV, Christie (digital projection) and Toyota's first, outside-Japan, luxury class car production.

Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics

- Located in Waterloo Region, the Institute was created in 1999 through a personal donation of \$100 M from Mike Lazaridis, Co-CEO of RIM, He has since contributed an additional \$50 M and, over the last 10 years, all levels of government have also invested.
- PI is an independent, non-profit, scientific research organization where international scientists cluster to push the limits of human understanding of physical laws and develop new ideas about the very essence of space, time, matter and information.
- The research builds upon two great 20th century advances involving Einstein's theory of general relativity describing physics on the largest observable scales of stars, galaxies and the universe itself, and the quantum theory which describes the behaviour of matter and energy on the smallest scales in the atomic and subatomic worlds where fundamental particles move and interact with each other.
- Investigations into foundational areas can be transformative and, ultimately, provide the fundamental knowledge necessary to advancing society with all manner of new technologies.
- PI is home to 85 resident researchers and hosts a visitors program that attracts hundreds of other leading scientists from around the world each year