

City Hall

www.kitchener.ca

City's outdoor pools to open for summer season

City of Kitchener outdoor pools open for the season in June and aquatics supervisors are preparing their staff for intensive training to ensure that all swimmers are safe, and aware of what it takes to keep families safe around water.

All of the city's outdoor pools will be open by Saturday, June 20, weather permitting.

Safety in and around water is key to a safe and fun summer. Wearing a lifejacket while out on the water saves lives. Whether on boats, sea-doo's or canoes, or participating in any water-related program, all boaters should wear a lifejacket or personal flotation device (PFD). For swim times, visit www.kitchener.ca

Architects selected for KPL expansion project and underground parking garage

City councillors moved the Kitchener public library's (KPL) central library renovation and expansion project – and the nearby underground parking garage project – forward, awarding the consulting services for the design and construction of both facilities to Levitt Goodman Architects, in association with The Walter Fedy Partnership and Phillip H Carter Architect, at a cost of approximately \$1.757 million.

The remainder of the consultants' fees will be split between the Province of Ontario and the Region of Waterloo, who have partnered with the city and the KPL to construct the new three-level, 412-space underground parking structure that will meet the needs of the library and the

Civic District as a whole.

"A public library is not just a warehouse of books. It is a community place where people gather to learn, share, listen and be heard. Such a place requires not only an innovative design, but also one that takes into consideration the community that it serves. Levitt Goodman and the team they have assembled were a unanimous choice," said Dan Carli, chair of the KPL board.

The consultants and architects will be responsible for providing standard architectural services throughout the project – including program development, schematic design, design development, construction documents, construction procurement, LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification, construction/contract and post-construction administration.

The KPL will oversee the design and development of the library space; and the parking structure will be coordinated through the city's transportation planning section with input from the library and parking partners.

While the project is being designed, tendered and constructed as one project, the library renovation and expansion project and the underground garage will be funded separately.

Following years of financial planning for the central library expansion, last fall city council voted to contribute approximately \$35.8 million in capital funding toward the project from the city's economic development investment fund (EDIF). The project is also expected to receive an additional \$4 million through the KPL board's capital fundraising campaign.

Since then, the parking partnership between the

province, the region, the KPL and the city also formed. The cost-sharing formula between the four parties will reflect the percentage of total spaces allocated to a given partner. The KPL's 112 spaces represent 27.2 per cent of the total 412 spaces.

Mexico: World of Opportunities for the Automotive Sector

The cities of Kitchener, Cambridge and Waterloo in partnership with the Ministry of International Trade and Investment, will present a seminar for businesses that are interested in exploring opportunities in Mexico on June 17, 2009 at the Kitchener Holiday Inn, Salon A.

Javier Lopez, Senior Economic Officer in Ontario's International Marketing Centre in Mexico City and Dr. Armando Bravo, Director, Mexican Institute for the Automotive Industry Development will provide complete information about the automotive industry in Mexico and how Ontario companies can become involved.

Guillermo Larios, Trade Commissioner at the Canadian Embassy in Mexico will highlight the results of a recent market study that identifies the needs in the Mexican automotive sector and why Ontario companies should be looking at this market and EDC will inform about the special financing programs available to do business with Mexico.

"We encourage all local manufacturers involved in the automotive industry to come out and learn about the opportunities"

For more information or to register contact Jacqueline Haynes, City of Cambridge, haynesj@cambridge.ca

Waterloo Region

www.region.waterloo.on.ca

Take the Commuter Challenge

Never enough time to exercise? Frustrated by fluctuating gas prices? Looking for ways to reduce your carbon footprint? Take the Commuter Challenge, on until June 6, 2009 to save money, build a healthier lifestyle, and cut greenhouse gases. You can carpool, bike, walk, or take transit to work and register your trips at www.commuterchallenge.ca.

"The Commuter Challenge is an opportunity to try something new and explore other options for transportation," said Regional Chair Ken Seiling, who will be doing just that when he leaves his car at home on June 3.

"We at the Region are investing in sustainable transportation, and everyone in the community can play a part by thinking outside the box about your travel choices."

Participating in the Commuter Challenge is easy. A number of organizations across the region have already signed up, including Babcock & Wilcox, Maple Leaf Consumer Foods, Wilfrid Laurier University, and many others. All businesses and employees within Waterloo Region who participate are eligible to win numerous prizes, totaling \$1,000 in value.

In 2008, more than 2,250 employees from 76 organizations in Waterloo Region actively participated in

Commuter Challenge, helping us rank first among Ontario communities. Businesses and individuals should go to www.commuterchallenge.ca and sign up under the community of Waterloo Region. During Challenge week, commuters can track their progress online, including calories burned, money saved, and emissions reduced by taking these active commuting methods.

Wise travel choices are available across the region. Grand River Transit (GRT) is offering 2 for 1 Transit on Clean Air Day, Wednesday June 3, 2009. You and a co-worker, friend or family member can ride for one paid fare*.

Since every GRT bus is equipped with an easy-to-use bike rack, commuters can bus to work and cycle back home or combine both for one trip. Travel fast between Waterloo, Kitchener, or Cambridge with the iXpress service or try our new transit service in Elmira. Call GRT at 519-585-7555 or use the EasyGo trip planner at www.grt.ca to find out which transit route is best for you. Interested in carpooling? Find a commuter in your area with the free, online ride-matching service at www.carpoolzone.ca. When it comes to walking, just tie up those shoe laces and take the first step!

Continue your sustainable commute or make the Commuter Challenge the start of a whole new trend. Let's all give our cars a vacation!

** Does not include transfers, charters, or MobilityPLUS*

Eco-Fest - A fun-filled day to celebrate our environment!

Plan on attending Eco Fest - Saturday, June 6, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), 57 Erb Street W, Waterloo.

A day of fun and interactive learning, sharing, music and celebration. Meet over 20 environmental groups from your community. Check out workshops and displays on:

- bicycle maintenance;
- composting;
- car-sharing;
- WRDSB Eco-schools;
- eating local;
- saving energy and water at home;
- recycling - and much more!

For more information on this free event, call 519-883-2008 ext. 5147, or visit www.region.waterloo.on.ca