

City of Waterloo's Green Roof Nears Completion

September 1, 2005 – The City of Waterloo is one step closer to having a new roof. But it's not going to be just any roof. With the arrival and installation of vegetation materials today, the Regina Street City Centre building will be the newest in a growing list of Waterloo buildings boasting a Green Roof.

Explains City of Waterloo environmental coordinator Karen Moyer, "There are many benefits to installing a Green Roof. There's no question that aesthetically, it looks nicer, but it also has a number of environmental and economical impacts that make it a sound alternative."

Among the benefits, Moyer cites the ability of Green Roofs to reduce cooling and heating costs and their ability to manage the flow of stormwater more effectively.

While the concept of Green Roofs is relatively new to this Region, the City of Waterloo is not alone in opting to go green. Other structures that have completed Green Roof installations include the Grand River Hospital, Perimeter Institute, a multi use building on Dorest Street, and the Accelerator Building in the Research and Technology Park, with work underway at other locations, including a Grand River Conservation Authority Dam Control House.

In 2002, the City was awarded a grant of \$25,000 from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to study the feasibility of Green Roofs on Municipal Buildings. The Feasibility Study and City Wide Implementation Plan, completed in 2004, recommended a number of municipal buildings that would be suitable for green roof technology.

The installation of the City of Waterloo's Green Roof supports the goals of the City's Environmental Strategic Plan, adopted in 2002. This project has been in partnership with Xero Flor Canada Ltd, makers of Green Roof technology with extensive experience in Europe.



For Further Information:
Karen Moyer, Environmental Co-ordinator at: (519) 747-8609