



NEWS RELEASE #20

For Immediate Release

**Dated: May 26, 2006
Noon**

PROVINCE PROVIDES LOCAL BUSINESSES WITH EMERGENCY FINANCIAL RELIEF PROGRAM

Economic Development and Trade Minister Joseph Cordiano announced yesterday the Province has provided Haldimand County with \$500,000 for immediate emergency financial assistance to local businesses which are at risk of closure due to the Douglas Creek Estates blockades. Minister Cordiano indicated the money was provided while the Province works with the County and local community on a longer-term business recovery program for the area. Businesses which are generally located in the Caledonia / Hagersville Hwy #6 Corridor are eligible for assistance.

Applications for assistance can be obtained at the Haldimand Caledonia Community Centre (HCCC), 100 Haddington Street starting Tuesday, May 30th, 2006. Office hours will be Monday to Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Eligible businesses are independently owned and operated businesses with a PST, GST or Business Registration Number. The purpose of the Program is to deal with immediate needs for businesses that may close as a result of the blockades. Businesses will be required to provide supporting documentation.

Eligible costs generally include:

- Rent or Mortgage payments
- Telephone/Utilities /Maintenance
- Equipment Rental/Insurance
- Automobile (leases/loans)
- Other expenses deemed qualifying operating costs.

Claims for losses due to the power outage are not part of this assistance package.

Further information will be provided on Monday, May 29th, 2006.

Authorized by Bill Pearce, CAO

THE CORPORATION OF HALDIMAND COUNTY

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