



NEWS RELEASE #21
For Immediate Release

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REVISED AND REISSUED 3:30 p.m.

HALDIMAND COUNTY OPENS LOCAL BUSINESS EMERGENCY RELIEF ASSISTANCE OFFICE

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. Economic Development and Trade Minister Joseph 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 Highway #6 Corridor are eligible for assistance.

Applications for assistance can be obtained at the Local Business Emergency Relief Office at 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. Applications are also available on the Haldimand County Website at www.haldimandcounty.on.ca. Applications will be available on the morning of Tuesday, May 30th, 2006. For information, please contact 905-318-5367, extension 514 or 515.

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.

The grants are to cover non-payroll overhead expense costs. It does not include claims for loss of business. Claims for losses due to the power outage are not part of this program.

The application requires a listing of fixed overhead expenses. These include:

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

Businesses should also bring a copy of their Financial Statements or Income Tax Returns for 2005.

Authorized by Karen General, General Manager, Corporate Services

THE CORPORATION OF HALDIMAND COUNTY

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