

MEDIA RELEASE

Vance Badawey, M.P.

Niagara Centre

Chris Bittle, M.P. St. Catharines

June 1st 2016

General Electric Selects Welland as site for new "Brilliant Factory"

For Immediate Release

Welland, ON- Today, GE Canada has announced the selection of Welland, Ontario as the location for its new multi-modal "Brilliant Factory".

This facility will initially manufacture GE Power's world-class reciprocating engines, components for compression, mechanical drive and power generation. As well, the facility will also manufacture components for GE transportation diesel engines. This is a first-of-its-kind facility in Canada and will combine decades of experience in building innovative industrial machines and cutting-edge data science along with analytics expertise to enhance efficiency and streamline production.

Shortly after the announcement, Vance Badawey, Member of Parliament for Niagara Centre remarked, "With GE Power's new "Brilliant Factory" our community will see 150 direct new good-paying jobs be created in phase 1 within the Niagara Region to strengthen the middle class and help those working hard to join it. By focusing on exporting from Canada to the world, GE is also growing the Canadian economy. This new business is great for Welland and the Niagara Region"

Upon hearing of this important investment in Niagara, St. Catharines Member of Parliament Chris Bittle noted "Today's announcement by GE will have a significant impact on the entire Niagara economy. Primarily through the creation of much needed skilled labour jobs. However, more importantly, the export potential will see St. Catharines and the Niagara Region as a whole placed on the world stage"

Export Development Canada (EDC) will provide key support in helping GE get the products build at this new facility to markets around the globe. Niagara Centre M.P. Badawey added "In today's global marketplace communities need to ensure they are competitive in supplying the global supply chain. GE could have chosen any city in Canada, any city in North America for this factory but they chose Welland within the Niagara Region because all levels of government are working together to create jobs," stated Badawey. "I am happy that the Federal government's Export Credit programs, as well as additional opportunities through Niagara's Foreign Trade Zone and Economic Gateway designations are able to help the City of Welland, the Region of Niagara and Ontario attract new businesses and more jobs to our community"

The facility is expected to be up and running by 2018 with phase 1 resulting in the creation of the initial 150 jobs. "I am very excited to see this new facility open and have an initial tour. The products created and tested at this facility will have a sizable impact in the green energy and power generation sector and will continue the transformation of Niagara into the key advanced manufacturing hub in Canada" M.P. Bittle added.

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Further Information Contact:

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Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

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Rural Programs Branch

May 30, 2016

File Number: RED3-07054

Brynne O'Neill, Planner Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake 1593 Four Mile Creek Road Niagara-on-the-Lake, Virgil, ON LOS 1T0

Dear Brynne O'Neill:

Thank you for submitting your application entitled "Minimizing Youth Displacement in Niagara-on-the-Lake" to the Rural Economic Development (RED) Program.

Funding decisions are based on the merits of each individual application in comparison with other applications and the expected long-term results of each project for resolving barriers to economic development in rural Ontario.

Based on the information provided, we regret to inform you that your application will not be funded under the Rural Economic Development Program.

The RED Program is not accepting applications at this time. Please monitor the RED website for updates at http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/rural/red/index.html.

Should you have any questions regarding this decision, please contact the Rural Economic Development Program at <u>RED@ontario.ca</u> or at 1-877-424-1300.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Bousfuld

Jennifer Bousfield, Manager Program Operations

