

Newmarket wins EDCO Innovative Community Award for Collaborative Community Ecosystem

NEWMARKET, Ontario, February 8, 2016 - The Town of Newmarket's Economic Development department was presented with the Innovative Community Award at the 2015 [Economic Developers Council of Ontario](#) (EDCO) conference on February 4 for Newmarket's [Collaborative Community Ecosystem](#) (CCE) video.

"This video demonstrates our successful collaboration efforts with community partners, enabling innovation and growth in the Town of Newmarket," says Mayor Tony Van Bynen. "The overall goal of the Collaborative Community Ecosystem is to improve sustainability, technology and the quality of life in Newmarket through unique and creative initiatives to make Newmarket an *even better* community."

The Innovative Community Award is the first of its kind, and is presented to a community that has embraced innovation. Applicants were asked to submit a video no longer than five minutes addressing the following criteria: telling of an innovative success story, the geographic region effected, economic impact, the role EDCO played in the success and the influence it will have on the future.

"Collaboration drives innovation," says Newmarket's Economic Development Officer, Chris Kallio. "We have built a robust community of private and public sector collaborators in Newmarket who meet regularly to identify and implement exciting economic development initiatives to accelerate growth. This EDCO award recognizes the unique nature of this Collaborative Community Ecosystem partnership."

The Collaborative Community Ecosystem (CCE) comprises of businesses and partners that engage with one another to generate innovative partnerships and influence creative solutions that bring success to the community. [Newmarket Hydro](#), [Newmarket Public Library](#), [Southlake Regional Health Centre](#), [Cisco](#), [IBM](#) and [Newmarket Chamber of Commerce](#) are just a few of the partners that make up the CCE. This group steps outside of traditional processes and looks at new ways to make Newmarket an *even better* community through technological advancement. Some of the major projects that the CCE are involved with include:

- ORION Point of Presence (PoP) at Southlake Regional Health Centre
- Newmarket's Gigabit Corridor – Ultra High-Speed Broadband
- Newmarket Hydro's Smart Meter Project
- CreateIT Now at Southlake Regional Health Centre

About EDCO:

EDCO is an independent, non-profit, incorporated association of persons engaged in economic development from both the public and private sectors. For more information or to preview some of the promotional submissions EDCO received from across the province, [click here](#).

For more information on the Town of Newmarket's Economic Development department, visit www.newmarket.ca/business

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Media Contact:

Name: Wanda Bennett
Director, Corporate Communications
Town of Newmarket
Email: wbennett@newmarket.ca
905-953-5300 ext. 2041



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