

# Champions WELLAND LEADING THE WAY

April 5, 2011  
For Immediate Release



## **City Appoints Life Sciences Champion, Rob Neill, F.C.A. to chair Building a Life Sciences Corridor Campaign**

Welland, Ontario – Welland City Council has appointed Rob Neill, F.C.A, Managing Partner of Durward Jones Barkwell & Company LLP as its Champion for “Building a Life Sciences Corridor”. As an extension of the campaign “Champions Welland Leading the Way”, the City has completed a fund development strategy that will become a regional road map that links the City’s assets with key industry sectors with potential for growth, including Business Clean Technology, Sports Tourism, Arts Recreation and Culture, Education and Health and Wellness, to create a Life Sciences Corridor.

The City and the Welland Development Commission worked together to define the Life Sciences Corridor and the assets within East Main Street, King Street, through to Ontario Road. The plan and activities have ongoing benchmarks and a new way of looking at doing business. Memorandum of agreements between regional educational institutions support enhanced programming as well as research and development that will result in a work force that is trained and ready for employment in Life Sciences and emerging Business Clean Technology Sectors.

“Mr. Neill’s background and lifelong community involvement in Welland and the region make him a natural fit. This appointment means Mr. Neill will lead the City’s fund development strategy to position Welland as the epicenter of a Life Sciences Corridor in the Niagara Region,” said City Manager, Craig Stirtzinger.

Economic Development Manager, Dan Degazio said, “This is the start to many significant projects that will be completed in the Life Sciences Corridor. Key to the success of our region is our ability to embrace the past and use this as a resource to thrive in today’s economy “.

Rob Neill is the Managing Partner of Durward Jones Barkwell & Company LLP; as a Welland native he has strong ties to the community and is an active participant in several organizations. “I am pleased to be a Champion for the ‘Building a Life Sciences Corridor’ campaign. This campaign will provide the necessary resources to ensure The City of Welland moves forward in developing a great place to live, work, invest and do business. Our goal is to continue to raise the bar on providing our residents with the quality of life we deserve. Welland is Leading the Way to a better future,” said Building a Life Sciences Corridor Campaign Chair, Rob Neill, F.C.A.

Within this position, Rob Neill will serve as chair and distinguished member of committees established by the City to implement the fund development strategies. Specific details of the launch are still underway; however, the campaign will support the Welland Community Wellness Complex (WCWC), Arenas, and The Welland International Flatwater Centre (WIFC)/ Human Performance Centre (HPC) Legacy Projects.

For more information contact:  
City Manager; Craig Stirtzinger

Tel: 905-735-1700 ext. 2122

City Clerk, Christine Mintoff

Tel: 905-735-1700 ext. 2280

Fax: 905-735-1542  
[www.welland.ca](http://www.welland.ca)



Tell us how you, or someone you know is a Champion and part of Welland's success.  
**Please submit your story at: [www.welland.ca/wechampion](http://www.welland.ca/wechampion)**