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Press Release

Hamilton's Map Service Offers "Goldmine" of Information

City of Hamilton GIS Services - HAMILTON, ON – Talk about treasure maps!

The City of Hamilton has picked up 'gold' awards and other accolades this spring for Map.Hamilton.ca, a free map service on the Web that's changing the way people do business, access information and manage municipal services.

Map.Hamilton.ca uses cutting edge map technology known as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to instantly create bird's eye views of the city. The images can include pinpoint details and information about properties, taxes, business opportunities, municipal services, and more.

National and International Awards

An example of how Hamilton's mapping technology can be used to find the best locations for new public libraries earned the City a top award at an international management and training conference on GIS in Miami last month.

On the home front in May, Hamilton picked up two 'gold' awards at a meeting of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association in Toronto. The awards recognized the superior quality of the maps generated on Hamilton's Web site, the ease with which the site can be used, and the seamless way in which images and information are combined.

In Seattle on April 1, a public sector award of excellence was bestowed on the City for its outstanding use of GIS technology including automated mapping. The award was presented by the Geospatial Information & Technology Association, whose international membership includes over 2,500 companies and individuals involved in the development and use of GIS technology.

Benefits of Map.Hamilton.ca

The treasure trove of information at Map.Hamilton.ca is used by City staff for sewer, water, and road projects, urban and regional planning, emergency planning, preparedness and dispatch, economic development, taxation, municipal elections, and even tracking of public health risks such as the West Nile Virus.

Business owners can use the site to show their location to customers and to locate potential suppliers and clients. Maps can also be customized to show commercial and industrial properties of varying sizes across the city that are available for sale or lease, making it an extremely powerful tool for out of town businesses and investors looking to set up shop.

Public uses of this site include locating municipal services, verifying the location of a particular address, viewing aerial photos for land use, measuring distances and areas, obtaining tax and information for specific properties.

“What I’m most proud about is how easy the service is to use and how it benefits all members of the community,” says Al Little, manager of Hamilton’s GIS Services. The City has committed to communicate clearly and effectively with residents, and to promote growth and opportunity through state-of-the-art technology solutions. This service is a tangible contribution toward these goals.”

To access this service, open your Web browser and go to: <http://map.hamilton.ca> . On your first visit, you must download map viewing software which can be done in just a few minutes.

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