



Greening business and commercial space in Toronto – a Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) Earth Day Backgrounder

(Toronto, April 21, 2010) BOMA Toronto's Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Program's incentive initiative has substantial incentive dollars in 'green' capital available to commercial building owners, operators and tenants for electricity conservation retrofits, in the City of Toronto (416 area code).

The CDM Program currently involves over 383 projects, with energy savings equaling the consumption of 26,300 Ontario homes, eliminating 31,000 tonnes of emissions and creating approximately 1,700 Ontario jobs. This represents more than \$105 million in capital investment.

BOMA is a strong supporter of environmentally sustainable building and energy conservation, which is evident through its BOMA BEST Program. BEST stands for Building Environmental Standards. BOMA BEST not only provides building managers with an environmental management tool and detailed recommendations for areas of improvement, but also with its four levels of building certification and an online assessment tool, which provides detailed benchmarking data and guidelines for operating their properties in a sustainable and energy efficient manner.

Undoubtedly, lights left on are a visible sign of energy use, but the average BOMA certified building consumes roughly 11 per cent less energy than it did a decade ago. Some BOMA buildings have adopted aggressive energy management strategies and undertaken building retrofits to reduce their energy use by as much as 30 per cent.

BOMA Toronto President, Chris Conway, summarized by saying, "The BOMA BEST Program is a clear indication of the support commercial property owners show for sustainable development as well as energy efficiency and conservation. While Earth Day focuses attention on green initiatives, energy conservation is a year-round commitment for us and I am very proud of the efforts being put forward by our members."

For further information, or to arrange interviews, please contact:

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Details about BOMA Toronto are available at: www.bomatoronto.org

Details about BOMA BEST are available at: www.bomabest.com/about.html

Details about BOMA CDM are available at: www.bomacdm.com/

*Established in 1917, the **Building Owners and Managers Association of the Greater Toronto Area** - BOMA Toronto - has grown along with the evolution of the institutional, commercial and industrial building sector. Its territory includes all of Ontario except for the Ottawa Capital Region. BOMA Toronto has grown to over 800 real estate professional members representing 80 per cent of all commercial and industrial real estate companies in the GTA and beyond. These individuals are the leading building owners, property and facility managers, developers, leasing agents, and service providers. BOMA Toronto is also prominent on the national and international stages. It is an affiliate of the 17,000-member BOMA International organization, a federated member of BOMA Canada, and the second-largest local BOMA Association in North America.*