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For immediate release

## **Celebrating Skilled Trades Excellence in Halton and Exploring the Emerging 'Green Collar' Industry!**

**HALTON, ON** - The Halton Industry Education Council (HIEC) invites you to help us celebrate skilled trades excellence at the **Halton Apprenticeship Advisory Council's (HAAC) Honour Roll Awards 2010**. The celebration will take place on Thursday, May 19, 2011 from 7:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. at the Burlington Convention Centre. Tickets, which include breakfast, are available for \$40 per person or \$300 per table of eight.

Over the last 11 years, more than 60 companies have been recognized at the Honour Roll Awards for their dedication to promoting skilled trades excellence in Halton Region. These awards play an important role in Halton, encouraging companies to provide education and training to young people interested in careers in the skilled trades. This year's event will once again recognize a variety of local businesses nominated by members of the Halton community.

In addition to the awards ceremony, this year's program will feature keynote speaker **Tom Rand**, a leading Environmental Sustainability Expert & Venture Capitalist. Tom is the Lead Advisor for CleanTech Practice at the MaRS Discovery District, helping the next generation of Canadian CleanTech companies grow to global leadership. Additionally, Tom is the co-developer of The Planet Traveler hostel, located in Toronto. The building, which was completed in late 2010, has been called the "greenest hotel in North America" and generates its own energy. He is also the author of *Kick the Fossil Fuel Habit: 10 Clean Technologies to Save Our World*. Tom will be speaking about his experiences, as well as the future of the skilled trades in the evolving green industries in Canada.

Rounding out the program will be student participants from the 2011 Halton and Ontario Skills Competitions, who will be recognized for their achievements. Members from Skills Canada, a national, not-for-profit organization that works to promote skilled trades and technology careers to Canadian youth, will also take part in the program, providing information and background about these exciting skilled trades competitions.

Established by HIEC and community stakeholders in 1998, HAAC began as a grassroots effort to coordinate business, education, labour, community and government to create an environment in which the skilled trades can excel. The Honour Roll Awards was the first of its kind in Ontario, recognizing local companies each year for their demonstrated leadership in advancing excellence in the skilled trades.

For more information on the HAAC Honour Roll Awards 2010, including registration and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Ali Fraser at 905-634-2575 ext. 28 or visit [www.hiec.on.ca/haac](http://www.hiec.on.ca/haac).

### **About HIEC**

Established November 17, 1989, as a not-for-profit organization, HIEC is a joint venture among industry, education and community partners in the Halton Region. At HIEC, our goal is to enhance

career education and create the best opportunities for youth. For 21 years, HIEC has brought business and education together with the determined vision of 'Inspiring Informed Career Decisions' in Halton.

HIEC has delivered career education programs to more than 100,000 students in Halton and has five websites. To learn more please visit, [www.hiec.on.ca](http://www.hiec.on.ca), [www.schooltocareer.ca](http://www.schooltocareer.ca), [www.apprenticesearch.com](http://www.apprenticesearch.com), [www.futureforcehalton.ca](http://www.futureforcehalton.ca) and [www.EmployerRegistry.ca](http://www.EmployerRegistry.ca). HIEC is provincially recognized for its wide-reaching, informative career education programs, innovative career resource centre, and our overall commitment to helping young people make successful transitions from school to career.



We are now on Facebook! Visit HIEC's homepage at [www.hiec.on.ca](http://www.hiec.on.ca) and click on the Facebook link to become a fan!

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