



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

John R. Williams

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**CITY OF QUINTE WEST PRISM PROGRAM WINS
TRI-COMMITTEE “IT PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD”**

Mayor John Williams and members of Council are very proud to announce that the City of Quinte West has been awarded the Tri-Committee of Ontario’s “2008 IT Project of the Year Award” in recognition of the City’s innovative PRISM program (PRISM-GIS and PRISM-911).

This is the second major Provincial Association award in 2008 for the City’s PRISM program. The City of Quinte West was awarded the 2008 E.A. Danby Award for Municipal Administration (Municipal Population 20,000 or more) by the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario in May.

The objective of the Tri-Committee of Ontario’s IT Award is to create a specific opportunity for the Public Works profession to celebrate its’ successes in the field of Information Technology accomplishments. The Region of York won the inaugural Tri-Committee IT Project of the Year Award in 2007.

The City’s **Protective Response Interactive Systems Management (PRISM)** program has been in development by City Staff since October, 2006. PRISM utilizes GIS software from ESRI Canada and Latitude Geographics of Victoria, BC, telephony messaging software from VoiceGate Corporation of Richmond Hill and audio/visual communication software from Microsoft. The PRISM program was further advanced by a grant from GeoConnections in 2008. The PRISM application provides emergency response administrators and field staff with a web based GIS tool that allows for open communication and collaboration between a command centre and staff in the field. PRISM also features a municipal interactive Community Notification System (CNS) application called PRISM-911. PRISM-911 is the first known Canadian made emergency response GIS generated telephone notification application in the Country. PRISM-911 can begin an emergency call out campaign within 15 minutes of the City being made aware of any emergency within its boundaries.

PRISM-GIS and PRISM-911 has given the City of Quinte West the ability to initiate emergency notifications within minutes of the event with a seamless web application that is unrivalled anywhere in Canada. During the recent flood event on the Trent River, City staff further advanced the PRISM system capability to allow staff to initiate the system without being in city hall where the system is physically located. This too, is a Canadian first and may be the first of its kind in North America. PRISM-911 is now a full 24/7 municipal service available to City Officials, Fire Departments and Quinte West OPP.

Mayor Williams and Council would like to thank the Quinte West GIS & IT Team that has worked together to develop this Award winning program.

About Tri-Committee of Ontario: The Tri-Committee of Ontario, constituted by its three (3) parent Organizations: Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA), Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) and Ontario Public Works Association (OPWA), strives to create opportunities and partnerships to further the use of Information Technology in the Public works Sector.

The Tri-Committee of Ontario endorses and hopes to further the objectives of its parent associations with specific emphasis on facilitating the transformation of the Municipal Public Works service delivery resulting from the information technology environment. The Tri-Committee expects to achieve this goal by encompassing the tools, techniques and standards required to enable a successful "digital" organization for Municipal Public Works.

For more information, please contact:

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