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For Immediate Release

The Regional Municipality of York honoured to receive National Purchasing Institute award

Accolade recognizes excellence in public procurement

NEWMARKET – The Regional Municipality of York has been awarded the National Purchasing Institute's *Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award* for 2007.

York Region received the award from the United States-based institute in recognition of our demonstrated excellence, innovation, professionalism, productivity and leadership in public procurement procedures and practices.

The Region is one of only two Canadian organizations to receive the accolade.

“York Regional Council and Regional staff have established rigid guidelines that meet, and in many cases exceed international standards for public procurement,” said York Region Chairman and CEO Bill Fisch. “York Region taxpayers can be confident in knowing that our purchasing policies and practices are transparent and fair.”

The National Purchasing Institute promotes excellence in governmental and institutional procurement through education, certification, professional development and networking of its membership.

“York Region is a major purchaser of goods and services and a contributor to the economy,” added Town of Newmarket Mayor Tony Van Bynen, Chair of the Region's Finance and Administration Committee. “The Region's Finance and Purchasing staff are to be commended for ensuring that taxpayers' dollars are spent wisely.”

York Region's public procurement is related to expenditures approved in York Region's annual capital and operating budgets, such as new or replacement transit vehicles, snow removal equipment, new sewage pipes and road building equipment, as well as professional engineering and management services.

All Regional purchases of goods and services are carefully scrutinized and major acquisitions and contracts are subject to an extensive bid and tender process.

York Region provides cost effective, quality services that respond to the needs of our rapidly growing communities. Regional services include: Court Services, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Family and Children's Services, Housing, Long Term Care, Planning and Economic Development, Police Services, Public Health, Regional Roads, Social Assistance, Solid Waste Management, York Region Transit (YRT) and Viva Rapid Transit and Water/Wastewater.

For more information on The Regional Municipality of York, please visit www.york.ca

