

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Middlesex County Welcomes Ontario Plants to the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex

Glencoe, Ontario – October 9, 2024 – Today marks a significant milestone for Middlesex County as the economic development team proudly welcomes Ontario Plants to the community. This new facility represents a major investment in the county and underscores the community's readiness to collaborate with innovative agri-businesses aimed at enhancing agricultural growth in the region, according to Cara Finn, Director of Economic Development for Middlesex County.

Ontario Plants is set to invest an estimated \$75 million starting with a remarkable 13-acre greenhouse, which is part of an ambitious four-phase project. Each phase is expected to create between 40 and 50 jobs, providing valuable opportunities that will improve the livelihoods of residents and bolster the regional economy, further establishing Middlesex County as a key agricultural hub in Ontario.

Middlesex County offers a unique combination of strategic location, a skilled workforce, and a supportive community. The decision by Ontario Plants to establish their facility here is a testament to the county's strengths and the collaborative efforts of Economic Development partners at all levels. From the initial collaboration between the County Director and site selection consultants to the ongoing support from the staff and Council of Municipality of Southwest Middlesex, the commitment to creating an environment where businesses can thrive is evident.

Ontario Plants' focus on sustainable and efficient growing practices aligns seamlessly with the municipality's values. As Middlesex County continues to prioritize sustainability and quality of life, the partnership with Ontario Plants is a source of pride. The state-of-the-art greenhouse facility in Glencoe incorporates the latest robotic growing techniques, advancements in biosecurity, and effective pest control methods. Notably, a 45 million-litre on-site water retention pond will capture, recycle, and reuse over 90% of rainwater from the greenhouse roofs, while a six-acre rooftop solar initiative is planned for the loading and office areas.

Warden Aina DeViet, along with the Mayor of Southwest Middlesex and both county and municipal staff and council members, were present today to tour the facility and officially welcome Ontario Plants to the community. Warden DeViet stated, "This investment goes beyond the physical; it is an investment in our community, our families, and our shared future."

For more information, please contact:

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