



## Media Advisory

### Leafy Green Infrastructure Can Prepare Cities For Climate Change

*Senior Officials Gather To Discuss Need for **Green Infrastructure Act** in Ontario at CitiesAlive – [www.citiesalive.org](http://www.citiesalive.org)*

TORONTO, ON – October 14, 2009 – Senior Officials will be discussing the need for a companion piece of legislation – **A Green Infrastructure Act** for Ontario at the *CitiesAlive World Green Roof Infrastructure Congress* in Toronto.

**Date:** Tuesday, October 20, 2009

**Time:** 3:15 – 5:00 p.m.

**Location:** Sheraton Centre, 123 Queen Street West – Huron Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

“Increasing our investment in leafy green infrastructure can significantly help cities reduce green house gas emissions and begin to adapt to the heat waves that are projected,” said Steven W. Peck, President, Green Roofs for Healthy Cities. “Cooling Ontario’s cities by 1 degree Celcius in the summer can save hundreds of megawatts of energy and millions of dollars used to power air conditioners.” he added.

“The CitiesAlive panel discussion will be a chance to hear contrasting visions of what a city with fully developed green infrastructure would look like” said Environmental Commissioner Gord Miller, Chair of the Round Table Discussion. “Is it possible to grow a green infrastructure industry and grow a green economy simultaneously!” he added.

Scientists, designers and policy makers are gathering from around the world to explore the latest developments on how green infrastructure can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and allow cities to adapt to the negative impacts of climate change! CitiesAlive is a unique, one time event co-hosted by the City of Toronto, Green Roofs for Healthy Cities and the World Green Roof Infrastructure Network.

In addition to expert presentations, panel discussions will take place on subjects such as overcoming barriers to integrated design, urban food production, Toronto’s new Green Roof By-Law and the Greening of the Toronto Waterfront. For details see: [www.citiesalive.org](http://www.citiesalive.org)

**Media Passes Available:** See [www.citiesalive.org](http://www.citiesalive.org) or contact Rebecca Black, [rblack@greenroofs.org](mailto:rblack@greenroofs.org)

### Background

About Green Roofs for Healthy Cities: Green Roofs for Healthy Cities (GRHC) was founded in 1999 as a small network of public and private organizations in Toronto, Canada. GRHC is now a rapidly growing not-for-profit industry association for green roof experts in North America. Our mission is to increase the awareness of the economic, social and environmental benefits of green roofs and green walls, and other forms of living architecture through education, advocacy, professionalism and celebrations of excellence. [www.greenroofs.org](http://www.greenroofs.org)

About the World Green Roof Infrastructure Network: Founded in 2007 by a consortium of green roof industry associations, WGRIN believes cooperative effort is needed to work for a better, more sustainable world, and that green roof and wall technology are a solution to tackling the impacts of climate change. Now boasting 11 member countries, and experiencing strong organizational growth, WGRIN targets its global activities towards strengthening

the use of green infrastructure in cities, via member networking and conference study opportunities, education, skill development, research, policy development and publicity. [www.worldgreenroof.org](http://www.worldgreenroof.org)

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