

**Windsor Essex
Development
Commission**

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MEDIA RELEASE

The Windsor Essex Development wants to promote the work of local Researchers and Developers

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Windsor-Essex – The WEDC is compiling a list of significant and leading edge R & D technology and engineering activities taking place in the Windsor and Essex County region

Rakesh Naidu, WEDC director of business attraction, said it is critical to have an inventory of these activities.

“We need this in order to showcase our skills to the world and to promote growth in our region,” said Naidu. “These activities are the foundation for future growth and prosperity.”

Naidu said they need help locating people involved in R & D.

“The challenge is that this has never been done before, so we need help to track down all the companies and organizations,” said Naidu. “We are inviting anyone whose work falls into the R & D category to get in touch with us as soon as possible.”

The WEDC has received a Community Investment Support Program (CISP) grant to complete the inventory and the study is to be completed by March 31, 2008. The CISP study will:

- Develop a complete inventory of R & D activities in Windsor and Essex County, including both public and private research initiatives;
- Identify the type(s) of research being undertaken, the expertise being employed and the unique capabilities being put to work at each research facility;
- Provide a report documenting and showcasing the R & D capabilities occurring in the region, which will be used as a basis for creating a program to attract additional R & D, design, technology and engineering investment to the region.

Participating organizations will become part of a database to identify entities and skills to be showcased as we promote our region and continue to transform our local economy to knowledge based industries. Participation is key to ensuring that this initiative is successful.

Information on how to join the list and a short questionnaire can be found at www.windsorresearchanddevelopment.ca

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