

Your Business ... Your Burlington

IKEA Canada Looks to Expand in Burlington

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IKEA Canada has outgrown its current Burlington location on Plains Road. The company has submitted plans to the City to relocate both its Canadian corporate head office, warehouse and retail store to an alternate site in Burlington. They propose to build a new facility further to the east at 3455 North Service Road, just west of the Walkers Line and Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW) highway interchange.

The proposed facility would be about 71% bigger than the current store. The new 428,500 square foot facility would include their retail store, warehouse, restaurant and Canadian corporate head office.

"The expansion of IKEA at this Burlington site is vitally important to our City's economy. We urge City Council and staff to give serious consideration to their proposal and assure IKEA's future in our community", said Mark Gregory, Chair of Burlington's Economic Development Corporation (BEDC). *"IKEA is one of Burlington's top employers. It has a major impact on our local economy. In addition, their presence in the City anchors the civic efforts to promote the City as a competitive head-office location with attractive amenities including 'big city' retailers such as IKEA."*

IKEA's relocation to a new site in Burlington would mean:

- Maintaining nearly 437 jobs.
- Creating an additional 108 new jobs within the city.
- Preserving a Canadian corporate headquarters, and iconic brand, in Burlington.
- Providing good jobs at a company frequently noted as a leading "Employer of Choice".
- Attracting a large number of visitors per year. Tourism Burlington notes that IKEA is the number one tourist attraction in Halton.
- A \$60 million project generating significant short and long-term economic and fiscal benefits.
- Building a new store with many sustainable and environmental features.

“IKEA’s proposal is about more than just building another local retail store”, noted Kyle Benham, Executive Director – BEDC. “IKEA has only five stores in Ontario. Having one here highlights the depth of the regional economy and the central position that Burlington holds. In addition, there are over 145 full-time corporate positions associated with their Canadian head office. These types of jobs are a great fit with the growth objectives contained in our economic development strategy. BEDC looks forward to working with the IKEA and the City to make the most of this opportunity.”

IKEA Canada has submitted the necessary planning applications, for review by the city and commenting agencies, with the goal of beginning construction by the end of 2011 and ideally opening the new facility in 2013.

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