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SUSTAINABLE HAMILTON BURLINGTON – SUSTAINABILITY COLAB NEWS RELEASE

WATERLOO REGION/HAMILTON ON

Sustainable Hamilton Burlington is thrilled to announce our new membership in Sustainability CoLab, a national non-profit supporting a network of organizations building the sustainable economy in cities across Ontario.

Sustainable Hamilton Burlington joins [seven community organizations](#) from across the province that are helping businesses thrive by becoming more environmentally sustainable. Through target-setting programs, networks of local businesses are supported in setting and achieving sustainability goals such as carbon reductions, and are celebrated publically for progress made.

Since 2011, Sustainable Hamilton Burlington has been building a network of 17 local businesses who are taking action on sustainability through their *Sustainable Action Initiative* program for businesses, including the City of Hamilton (Hamilton Water), Hamilton Wentworth District School Board, Horizon Utilities, ArcelorMittal Dofasco, EcoSynthetix and other organizations in a range of sizes and sectors – all of which are working with SHB to improve their “triple bottom-line” (environmental, social, economic) performance. Sustainable Hamilton Burlington is creating a community of interest in organizational sustainability through its networking and learning events, hosting 32 events that attracted over 1300 attendees since 2011.

To take the *Sustainable Action Initiative* to the next level, Sustainable Hamilton Burlington will incorporate CoLab’s proven approach of helping businesses set and achieve sustainability targets for identified impact areas. To date, this approach has convened over 120 businesses in four cities across Canada to collectively set targets to reduce over 59,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

As a new member of the CoLab Network, Sustainable Hamilton Burlington will gain access to CoLab’s tools, resources, and tailored expertise to support the development and growth of the

Sustainable Action Initiative, while accessing a network of peers to share best-practices, challenges and innovations.

Sandi Stride, Founder and CEO notes, “This is very exciting news for Sustainable Hamilton Burlington. CoLab Network member Sustainable Waterloo Region, and its founder Mike Morrice, were the early inspiration for (then) Sustainable Hamilton: the two organizations along with Niagara Sustainability Initiative have collaborated informally for years. By formally joining the CoLab Network we have a wider base of shared resources and expertise to draw upon. We’re confident this will help Sustainable Hamilton Burlington and its members to have an even greater ability to contribute to the long-term health and vibrancy of our communities.”

Mike Morrice, CoLab’s Executive Director notes, “Sustainable Hamilton Burlington has all the hallmarks of an organization with the capacity, skills, passion, and credibility to support businesses on the journey to sustainability. We’re thrilled to work with them as they continue to work with businesses in their community to demonstrate that a more sustainable economy is possible.”

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About Sustainable Hamilton Burlington

Sustainable Hamilton Burlington is an independent, non-profit social enterprise launched in Hamilton in June, 2011. It currently has 17 member organizations. SHB provides collaborative learning events around topics of sustainability for businesses, promotes measurable action and provides recognition through its Business Report and Evening of Recognition. For more details please visit their website at www.sustainablehamiltonburlington.ca.

About Sustainability CoLab

Sustainability CoLab supports a network of community organizations helping businesses thrive by reducing their environmental impacts through target-based sustainability programs. These programs support networks of businesses and organizations to set and achieve sustainability goals. Today, the CoLab Network is made up of eight community organizations across the province, including Durham Sustain Ability, Enviro Centre (Ottawa), Niagara Sustainability Initiative, reThink Green (Sudbury), Sustainable Hamilton-Burlington, Sustainable Kingston, Sustainable Waterloo Region and Windfall Ecology Centre (York Region). Over 120 businesses and organizations from private, public and non-profit sectors are participants of CoLab Network programs, and have collectively set targets to reduce over 59,000 tonnes of GHGs.