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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THAMES CENTRE COMPLETES EMERGENCY TRAINING SIMULATION

THAMES CENTRE – Yesterday morning the Municipality of Thames Centre conducted an emergency training simulation at the FlightExec Centre.

The training simulation was executed with the participation of volunteers and trained professionals from several organizations, including Middlesex County, CERV Middlesex, the Salvation Army, Victim Services of Middlesex-London and Auxiliary Communications Services. Observers from the OPP and Thames Centre Fire Department also participated in the simulated emergency.

“We never want to be in this kind of situation, but it’s always best to be prepared,” said Mayor Sharron McMillan, who also participated in the training simulation. “A training simulation like this allows people to refine the skills they would need in an actual emergency, and strengthens co-ordination between different organizations, so that we can continue to serve the community in an emergency.”

The details of the training simulation were unknown to participants until they arrived at the FlightExec Centre in the morning. The simulation required converting the FlightExec Centre into a Reception Centre for people in need of assistance during an emergency, which in this case combined a widespread power outage caused by thunderstorms during a heat emergency.

“This training exercise enhances preparedness and coordination among local first responders and municipal employees,” noted CAO David Barrick. “It allows staff to familiarize themselves with how to convert our facilities for emergency purposes, supporting people in need of assistance, and handling potential scenarios that could occur in an emergency situation.”

Staff also co-ordinated a simulated response with 211. 211 is a public enquiry line that residents call, text, or email (gethelp@211Ontario.ca) to get relevant and accurate information during times of emergency.

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For more information, please contact:

Michael Ramnanan

Communications Manager

Tel: 519-268-7334 ext. 258

Email: mramnanan@thamescentre.on.ca

