

**Building mid-Michigan’s “green economy”:
LCC and MSU to host forum with Ontario BioAuto Council**

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LANSING, Mich. – “Building the Green Economy: Linking Michigan and Ontario Together” will be the theme of an important Forum on Friday, April 24, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in Lansing Community College’s West Campus auditorium. Business and economic development leaders and university researchers will have the opportunity to interact with the leaders of the Ontario BioAuto Council and identify strategies to ramp up the region’s involvement in the green economy.



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“Visiting with Ontario BioAuto Council members will provide an opportunity for leaders from our region to explore new approaches to successfully compete in the green economy,” said David Hollister, president and CEO of the Prima Civitas Foundation. “And it will help us learn from their experiences working in the bioeconomy.”

The Ontario BioAuto Council provides funding to develop innovative products and processes, and uses creative thinking to meet the growing demand for affordable and sustainable bio-based products and parts. The Council has invested over \$1.25 million in companies that can demonstrate commercial applications of bio-based products, and works with universities and businesses to develop new technologies for a greener, more sustainable economy.

The public is welcome to attend the Forum to interact with the Ontario BioAuto Council and learn about the work they are doing to create a greener, more sustainable future. The Forum is hosted by MSU Center for Community and Economic Development, Lansing Community College, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, and Prima Civitas Foundation, and is funded in part by the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

Craig Crawford, CEO of the Ontario BioAuto Council, Mohini Sain, CSO of the Ontario BioAuto Council, and Hamdy Khalil, Global Director of Woodbridge Product Research and Development, will meet with members of the media at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, April 24, 2009 at Lansing Community College, West Campus Auditorium, 5708 Cornerstone Drive (corner of Sanders Road).

Copies of the Executive Summary and complete text of the Lansing Tri County Bio-Manufacturing Feasibility Study may be downloaded from <http://ced.msu.edu/>.

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The mission of the Center for Community and Economic Development is to “advance MSU’s land-grant mission by creating, disseminating and applying knowledge to improve the quality of life in distressed communities.”

Michigan State University has been advancing knowledge and transforming lives through innovative teaching, research and outreach for more than 150 years. MSU is known internationally as a major public university with global reach and extraordinary impact. Its 17 degree-granting colleges attract scholars worldwide who are interested in combining education with practical problem solving.