



NEWS RELEASE – September 28, 2016

Veridian applauds Ajax business on receiving innovation and energy conservation award

Ajax, ON – Veridian Connections (“Veridian”) would like to congratulate Ajax’s Mother Parkers Coffee & Tea (“Mother Parkers”), who last week was recognized by some of Ontario’s leading electric and gas utilities for their innovation and commitment to creating a culture of energy conservation in their workplace.

The coffee and tea company was at Energy into Action to accept an EIA Innovation and Continuous Energy Improvement Award. Nominees were selected by their utility and winners were chosen by a committee comprised of representatives from various electric and gas utilities.

“Mother Parkers has done a tremendous job in reducing their electricity consumption and creating a culture of energy conservation through process and technology improvements, a corporate energy management plan, and employee awareness and training development,” said James Glasspool, Veridian’s Energy Manager. “We are extremely proud of their efforts and applaud them on receiving this noteworthy award.”

The company has been developing an Environmental Management System based on ISO 14001, and expanding it to include energy reduction projects. As a result, the company has invested in energy efficient equipment and cutting edge technology to reduce their energy use. An LED lighting retrofit project, for example, has reduced electricity consumption by 39 per cent and 15 per cent at two of their facilities.

“We believe that by acting in an environmentally, socially and economically responsible manner, we can meet the needs of today while protecting our future,” said Adrian Khan, Health and Safety Manager, Mother Parkers. “We operate our business under a number of sustainability principles that are good for the environment, our employees and our bottom line.”

The one-day information and networking event, presented by eight electric utilities and two gas companies, Energy into Action connected participants with experienced professionals on the incentive programs and tools that companies can implement to improve their energy-efficiency. The award was a new component to this year’s agenda.

Pictured in attached photo: (Left) Adrian Khan, Health and Safety Manager, Mother Parkers Coffee and Tea and (Right) James Glasspool, Energy Manager, Veridian Connections.

Veridian Connections, serving more than 120,000 residential and business customers, is about to become the fifth largest municipally owned electric utility in Ontario after the merger of large utilities west of Toronto is completed. The City of Pickering, the Town of Ajax, the Municipality of Clarington and the City of Belleville jointly own Veridian Corporation, the parent company to Veridian Connections. The utility has a successful history of effective growth through two mergers and five acquisitions, and now serves nine communities east and north of Toronto more efficiently than any other large non-contiguous utility in Ontario. Veridian has a keen focus on reliability, customer communication and helping to lower customers' electricity bills through the delivery of innovative conservation programs and reasonable rates. Veridian not only contributes to local communities through industry leading financial returns, but also helps build stronger communities through the support of youth, health, education, the arts, the environment and many charitable organizations. Industry leading employee programs, public safety and a focus on employee engagement has created an environment that has attracted seven consecutive Canada's Greenest Employer awards and one Top GTA Employer award. Veridian has now diversified into renewable energy, and will be establishing other value added offerings for its customers.

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For more information, contact:

Chris Mace
Corporate Communications Representative
Veridian Connections Inc.
905-427-9870, extension 2218
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