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The Economical Insurance Group Recognized for Excellence in Pandemic Planning

Waterloo, ON – On June 7 at the World Conference on Disaster Management in Toronto, Ontario, The Economical Insurance Group® (TEIG®) was presented with the *APEX Award* for Pandemic Planning Excellence – a new national award designed to honour organizations that develop and execute industry-leading pandemic preparedness programs.

Named second winner in the large business category, TEIG's pandemic response strategy won praise from the Evaluation Committee for showcasing its exceptional capacity to "protect people and minimize business interruption" during pandemic crises.

"This award truly belongs to our whole company," said Jennifer Hubbard, head office human resources manager and one of TEIG's leading emergency preparedness advocates. "Our pandemic planning and emergency response initiatives have had unanimous support from every part of the organization – all regions, all business units, all levels," she said. "Our emergency response team has really demonstrated what it means to use care, foresight and decisiveness to insulate against pandemics and other health scares."

TEIG's pandemic response strategy was established in 2006 and deployed for the first time when the H1N1 flu emerged in 2009. It continues to evolve and improve. "You're never done planning for crises like these," said Hubbard. "There's always more you can do, and TEIG's staff members deserve every bit of protection and support we can give them."

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Media Contact:

Matthew Bondy
Communications Specialist
The Economical Insurance Group
519.570.8500 ext. 42552
matthew.bondy@teig.com

About The Economical Insurance Group

Founded in 1871, The Economical Insurance Group® (TEIG®) is one of Canada's largest property and casualty insurers, with \$4.6 billion in assets and a surplus exceeding \$1.1 billion. Canadian owned and operated, TEIG provides a wide range of insurance products throughout North America. TEIG Member Companies include Economical Mutual Insurance Company® (including Western General® Farm Division), Waterloo Insurance Company®, Perth Insurance Company®, The Missisquoi Insurance Company®, Federation Insurance Company of Canada™, Family Insurance Solutions and The Mattei Companies.