

Merging Technology & Energy for Sustainability

Collective Arts Brewing located at 207 Burlington St East is a craft brewery that aims to fuse the creativity of craft beer with the inspired talents of emerging artists and musicians. The company was founded on the belief that creativity fosters creativity, and that creativity yields delicious pints. As Collective Arts reputation and sales continued to rise, the need for mission critical energy and telecommunication services became essential to meet the demands of a rapidly growing business.

The Hamilton-based HCE group of companies stepped up to meet this challenge. HCE Energy has been providing District Energy solutions that include power, heating and cooling services to commercial and government properties in the downtown core since 2002. In 2015, HCE Telecom was incorporated with the mandate to deliver community based fibre optic Internet, voice and managed network solutions throughout Hamilton and surrounding regions.

In 2017, HCE Telecom completed its first fibre optic build within the Hamilton Port and started to provide blazing fast Internet and voice services to Collective Arts. HCE has since continued to build fibre optics throughout the industrial heart of Hamilton and to the Water Treatment facility located on Woodward Avenue. In 2018, HCE Energy completed its newest District Energy System located at Pier 10 which is a 2 megawatt (MW) combined heat and power system. This system provides both electricity to the grid while the resulting heat from this process is used to supply hot water and steam for heating which can be utilized by nearby Port tenants.

Collective Arts was the first company to utilize this heating capacity to power their expanding brewery. By using steam supplied by HCE Energy, Collective Arts was able to avoid making a large capital investment into a larger boiler system and instead focused on continuing to grow their brand at home and abroad.

One of the ways Collective Arts has been growing their brand here in Hamilton is through events held on their property including the Liquid Arts Festival which takes this year on June 14th & 15th. The festival showcases international breweries, muralists and emerging bands and is held onsite in their facility parking lot off Burlington St East. Based on the positive experience of working with HCE, Collective Arts chose HCE Telecom to deploy a popup Wifi solution during the Liquid Arts Festival. This turnkey Wifi solution provided secure and reliable data connectivity throughout the event for the staff and point of sale applications.

Like Collective Arts, HCE believes in fostering creative outcomes that address businesses mission critical needs.