



INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT

Business Retention and Expansion

Objective To Support Economic Growth, Business Innovation and Productivity

- Board members Kevin Cowie (Chair, EDCNS) and Chris McLaughlin (GM NSCFDC) are participating in regional high-speed Internet planning sessions.
- North Simcoe manufacturers are a dynamic economic force. The 12 businesses invited to the February 3 EDCNS Manufacturer's Roundtable represent the majority of the 3,400 manufacturing jobs in North Simcoe. Most have experienced growth in employees and revenues this year and our manufacturing sector is clearly on the leading edge of innovative product development. The trend is for continued growth and expansion in the next 2-3 years. The 4 Mayors, 3 Simcoe County Economic Development representatives and Georgian College attended and supported the event hosted at Weber Manufacturing Limited Inc. A Skilled-Trades Committee was established and a meeting with the Simcoe County District School Board and Midland Secondary School were held. A second Roundtable is scheduled for May 4.

Funding Applications

County of Simcoe Transitional Funding for Economic Development

- The County opened the application intake on 26 January 2016. EDCNS has the application ready to submit to the 2016-2018 County of Simcoe Economic Development Transitional Funding.
- Financial support from all four municipalities is a requirement to receive County transitional funding.

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) Rural Economic Development program (RED)

- An application will be submitted for the 2nd intake closing April 15 for EDCNS.
- Businesses are being informed about their capability to apply to the OMAFRA business stream for 20 per cent up to \$1.5 million.

Economic Development Officer (EDO) Update, Sharon Vegh
as of February 17, 2016

Investment Lead Generation

Objective To Create Awareness and Achieve Investment

- Response to a County Request for Information (RFI) was sent for 2 locations, the Huronia Airport and a municipal site in Tay, for a 20-year lease for the feed-in-tariff program. There are 6 RFIs in the funnel sent to the County, response pending.
- Two offers have been made for the food grade certified plant with further information to come in February. An additional prospect was engaged in discussion and plans to submit an offer in February.
- Reviewed available sites for investment. Outreach to brokers in February and marketing the CCL plant in Penetanguishene to manufacturers.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Objective To Market North Simcoe & Create Investment Climate

- The Community Profile and Advanced Manufacturing Sector Profile will be merged as one document reflecting 2016 focus. The Profile and Targeted Investment Attraction Plan will be ready in Q1 2016.
- Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) inventory (Simcoe County lead) for GIS are updated on the EDCNS website monthly. North Simcoe has 3 industrial properties which are fully serviced and 5 properties on Midland lands which indicate full services "available". Brokers of these properties are being contacted. The County will be prepared to launch their land inventory at the end of March.
- EDCNS Prosperity Summit June 16, 2016 "Leveraging Relationships". A committee including County representation has been struck and a series of monthly planning meetings chaired by Roy Ellis is scheduled. The event will have a tight focus on 2016 priorities: Investment and Manufacturing with attendance by invitation only. We expect 80 to 100 guests.
- North Simcoe Tourism deputations, introduced by EDCNS, will be delivered to each municipality in February 2016 (Tay in March).
- The Agriculture Expo Agricole Association was financially supported with \$5,000 to continue planning for the August 17/18/19 2017 event in Tiny.