



## Town of Ingersoll – Town Hall

130 Oxford Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Ingersoll, Ontario N5C 2V3

Phone: (519) 485 0120 ext. 2225 Fax: (519) 485 3543

Email – [bmates@ingersoll.ca](mailto:bmates@ingersoll.ca) Website - [www.ingersoll.ca](http://www.ingersoll.ca)

**Name: Economic Development Department**

**Subject: Staff report – D-119/09**

### Highlights

Community Strategic Plan 2009 to 2014 Re-Vision and Re-Alignment. Working on follow up with Sub-Committees to continue to move actions forward. (Action task list available on request)

#### Southwest Ontario Marketing Alliance (SOMA)

- Monthly meeting held Wednesday July 29, 2009 hosted at the Fusion Youth Centre in Ingersoll.
- Received monthly reports from Mr. Yamaguchi and Dr. Kempt. Both consultants are working with a diversification strategy. Companies have been contacted in terms of alternative energy, bio medical and food processing. There is interest in our area from a solar manufacturing company from Japan and they will be touring our area in the next few months on a site visit. (ED department is working with Erie Thames Power / CRU Solutions on a specifics strategy in terms of process and connection impact assessment (CIP) etc. More information is forthcoming.
- Dr Kempt attending two trade shows in Germany – International Auto Show September 17 to 27 in Frankfurt and New Energy Exhibition March 18 to 21 in Husum.
- Continued communication with Canadian German Chamber Industry of Commerce. A business networking event is scheduled for August 13 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Elm Hurst Inn with SOMA members and senior German Chamber staff.
- SOMA planning to attend three more trade shows in 2009 – Traverse City Manufacturing Show August 04 to August 07, Worldwide Food Expo (WWFE) October 28 to November 01 in Chicago and South East Manufacturing Association (SEMA) November 03 to 06 in Nevada.
- SWEA Conference is scheduled for September 17 / 18 in Chatham.
- SOMA submitted a CAF grant application and are awaiting word.
- SOMA has entered into an agreement with Site Location Partnership ([www.sitelocationpartnership.com](http://www.sitelocationpartnership.com)) and individual contacts are being followed up from meetings in Chicago etc.

#### Oxford County EDO's (Oxford Connections)

- EDO's will attend Canadian Manufacturing Trade Show (CMTS) October 19 to 22 in Toronto.
- EDO's scheduled to make an updated presentation to County Council in September as a result of the June 2009 FAM Tour and the Oxford Labour Study 2009 / 2010.

Continued to work with Ingersoll Learning Employment Resource Centre and the Elgin Middlesex Oxford Local Training Board and local industry contacts in terms of skills training and education for Ingersoll residents. Oxford County EDO's and other community partners continue to meet to develop an Oxford County local work force strategy. Funding is currently being put in place for the strategy. The goals are 1. To collectively create a policy framework and a community infrastructure that support improvements in both the quantity and quality of the labour supply pool. 2. Ensuring that Oxford County including Ingersoll has the workforce it needs to achieve its economic development goals.

Fielding requests and ongoing meetings with developers and real estate agents on industrial / commercial land available in Ingersoll. (A list is available on request). Working with engineering, building and planning departments.

Met with Gene McLaren, Gary Seitz and James Timlin (Infrastructure Stimulus Funding sub-committee).

Contacting and visiting a few businesses and industries each week to meet and make contact with.

Ongoing communication with MEDT staff from London and Toronto and other Ministries on opportunities and updates. (A list is available on request).

Meetings continue with Conestoga College. Continue to develop programs and explore options to bring identified needed courses to Ingersoll. This along with other short term wins. (i.e. Actions Centres, Corporate Training and Partnership Development with the TVDSB for evening use of IDCI). Town of Ingersoll and Conestoga have begun a process to work on a coordinated business plan over the next few months.

Meetings with EARTH staff, Conestoga College, IDCI, Canadian German Industry Chamber of Commerce, Dale and Lessmann LLP and Business Consultants Glen Loo / Stephen Lauer and others on education and industrial strategies for Ingersoll. More meetings are set for August.

Meet every second Thursday with Manager of Ingersoll District Chamber of Commerce to continue to develop a working and communications strategy for 2009 and beyond.

Continuing research on Community Improvement Plan process for Ingersoll through Section 28 Planning Act. Targeting to bring a Report to Council. This is being done in conjunction with the OMAFRA Main Street Grant.

Other key priorities remain the BIA (see BIA agenda and minutes emailed out earlier), Here In Ingersoll magazine Fall 2009 issue will be out circa August 14. Harvest Fest 2009 is set for August 19 to 23, 2009.

Researching other funding opportunities and writing grants for the Economic Development, CFF, Fusion, IRTC and Arts Ingersoll. This includes Ontario Market Investment Fund and others. Waiting for word from the CAF applications, Main Street Ontario Grant application and the CFF Trillium application.

Oxford Creative Connections – volunteering on this committee and taken over as Acting Chair until AGM in February 2010. Vicki Luke stepped down due to a change in workplace with OMAFRA.

Received about 300 applications for the ED Administration Assistants position. A selection committee will look at resumes with interviews scheduled mid to late August with start date early September 2009.

### **Committee work and meeting dates**

**SOMA Group** – Monday August 24, 2009 at 10 am in Stratford.

**Oxford Connections** – (Oxford County EDO's) – ongoing meetings.

**Ingersoll BIA** – Tuesday August 11, 2009 at 7 pm in the JC Herbert Room.

- Harvest Fest – next meeting?
- Ingersoll Wedding Retailers promotion – Wednesday August 12 6.30 pm at Olde Bakery Café.

**Ingersoll Economic Development Advisory Committee** – **Wednesday** September 23, 2009 at 1.00 pm location TBA.

**SWOX Economic Development Advisory Committee** – next meeting?