



## 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-093/09**

### Highlights

Community Strategic Plan 2004 – update to 2009 Re-Vision and Re-Alignment presentation. Working on follow up with sub-committees to continue to actions forward.

Southwest Ontario Marketing Alliance (SOMA) AGM and monthly meeting held Thursday May 26 in Aylmer - SOMA and the Town of Ingersoll hosted Mr. Katsuya Yamaguchi (Japan) and Dr. Klaus Kempt (German) SOMA representatives May 11 to 15 to tour the SOMA area. A dinner was hosted by SOMA Monday May 11 at 7 pm at the Elm Hurst Inn. They toured Ingersoll Thursday May 14 from 8.30 am to 3.00 pm. They met with Town of Ingersoll staff, Chamber, BIA and other industry representatives including touring Bell Camp, IMT and Autrans, the Seniors Activity Centre and the Fusion Youth Centre. There was also follow up meeting in Toronto on Friday May 15 with Ingersoll staff, SOMA representatives, Canadian German Chamber of Commerce and other investment partners.

Oxford County EDO's will attend 4 trade Shows in 2009. Attended the APMA Conference in Hamilton on May 27, 2009. Oxford County EDO's will host Oxford County Business Tour Event Monday June 15 (evening reception) Tuesday June 17 (all day and evening) 2009. Guests will stay at the Elm Hurst and tour Woodstock, Ingersoll and Tillsonburg to see commercial and industrial areas. Site Selectors, Developers and Senior Ministry staff along with other VIP's will attend.

Working 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 in light of the economic crisis and the increasing unemployment statistics.

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

Meetings continue with Conestoga College Senior Management developing programs and exploring options bringing 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 and Conestoga College around the establishment of courses to meet the needs of the alternative energy initiatives. Attended the Bright Futures in Canada Conference May 27 in Toronto.

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

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.

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

Black Oxford Museum project – Tourism Oxford Doors Open – a Black History exhibit was held Saturday May 23, 2009 at the Museum. This exhibit will continue until June 18, 2009

Community Employment Services (Woodstock), EDO's, Heart FM, Rogers TV have developed a strategy to market and promote employment opportunities in Oxford County. (Rogers TV was in Ingersoll Wednesday April 29 at 2 pm at Fusion and ILREC to tape commercials to showcase what Ingersoll is doing in terms of partnership with ILREC, Conestoga College, Town of Ingersoll, Action Centres etc. Commercials will run April and May.)

Continuing research on Community Improvement Plan process for Ingersoll through Section 28 Planning Act. Targeting to bring a Report to Council in July.

Met with SWOX Economic Development Committee and Ingersoll Boundary Adjustment Committee.

Working with Ingersoll Fasteners, ILREC and Ministry of Colleges, Training and Universities (MCTU) staff in transitioning workers. Assisting in setting up an Action Centre.

Other key priorities remain the BIA (see BIA agenda and minutes emailed out earlier), Here In Ingersoll Summer Issue 2009 is now available and an Ingersoll Festival 2009 Poster has been completed which is being sent throughout the region. Rib Fest is set for Thursday June 18, 2009. This year there are 8 entries. Special signage has been made up for the bridge closure to direct people to the downtown.

Researching other funding opportunities and writing grants for the Economic Development, CFF, Fusion, IRTC and Arts Ingersoll. This includes the Community Adjustment Fund, Ontario Market Investment Fund and others.

Submitted two grants (letters of intent) to OTF Future Fund 2009 April 27, 2009 and to OMAFRA Main Street Ontario May 04, 2009. The OMAFRA Main Street Ontario letter of intent was accepted and a formal grant will be submitted for June 23, 2009 for \$120,000 over 3 years for the downtown.

Working with a team on the Fusion Youth Activity and Technology Centre 2009 - 2014 - 5 year Business Plan.

Made a presentation to the ITOPA Board June 02, 2009

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

**SOMA Group** – Tuesday June 29, 2009 at 10 am in St Mary's.

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

**Ingersoll BIA** – Tuesday June 09, 2009 at 7 pm in the JC Herbert Room.

- Harvest Fest – June 17 at 7.00 pm at Museum
- Rib Fest meeting – next meeting?
- Ingersoll Wedding Retailers promotion – next meeting?

**Ingersoll Economic Development Advisory Committee** – next meeting early June 18, 2009.

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