



Town of Ingersoll – Town Hall

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Name: Economic Development Department

Subject: Staff report – D-076/09

Highlights

Community Strategic Plan 2004 – update to 2009 Re-Vision and Re-Alignment presentation.

Monday May 11, 2009 at 7.00 pm at Town Hall in Council Chambers - Stephen Lauer and Beth Davis - Priority Grow Ltd to present final draft to Council. On behalf of the steering committee, we would like to thank the over 70 Ingersoll volunteers who contributed input and time to achieve the final draft. This is a significant contribution which should be noted.

Southwest Ontario Marketing Alliance (SOMA) met Thursday April 09 - SOMA confirms a FAM / Business Tour with Mr. Katsuya Yamaguchi (Japan) and Dr. Klaus Kempt (German) representatives May 11 to 15 to tour the SOMA area. There will be a dinner hosted by SOMA Monday May 11 at 7 pm at the Elm Hurst Inn. They will tour Ingersoll Thursday May 14 from 8.30 am to 1.30 pm. Plans under way to tour local industries and meet with local business etc.

Oxford County EDO's will attend 4 trade Shows in 2009 and will host the Oxford County Business Tour Event set for Monday June 15 (evening) 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.

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 met Tuesday April 28 in Woodstock 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.

The Town of Ingersoll, the Ingersoll District Chamber of Commerce and Fusion Youth Centre hosted a **"Manufacturing in Action"** day for schools for **April 22, 2009**. 160 students will toured 10 Ingersoll industries to learn more about the manufacturing sector and trends and opportunities. It was a great day for both students and industries. There was a positive response from industry. Thanks to Mayor Holbrough for officially welcoming the students.

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 ERT staff and Conestoga College around the establishment of courses to meet the needs of the alternative energy initiatives.

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. (Meeting with Chamber Land Development committee Tuesday April 14. 2009).

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 is being set for Saturday May 23, 2009 at the Museum. (More details to follow)

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.)

Continuing research on Community Improvement Plan process for Ingersoll through Section 28 Planning Act.

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

Attended the Canadian German Industry Chamber of Commerce Economic Developers networking event April 30 - May 01, 2009. Follow up with German Chamber staff, Conestoga College and a legal firm from Toronto specializing in international trade and development. Next meeting is set for Friday May 15 in Toronto.

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 Spring Issue 2009 is now available and an Ingersoll Festival 2009 Poster has been completed which is being sent throughout the region. Rib Fest Thursday June 18, 2009.

Researching other funding opportunities and writing grants for the Economic Development, CFF, Fusion, IRTC and Arts Ingersoll. This includes the 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.

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

Attended the Volunteer Recognition evening Thursday April 23, 2009

Committee work and meeting dates

SOMA Group – Tuesday May 26, 2009 at 10 am in Aylmer. This will be the SOMA AGM

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

BR+E Oxford Tourism Project 2008 – Project complete. Report will go to County Council in May or June. Actions will be to form a working committee which will include EDO's to coordinate things like signage etc. First meeting is Wednesday May 13 at 1 pm.

Ingersoll BIA – Tuesday May 12, 2009 at 7 pm in the JC Herbert Room.

- Harvest Fest – next meeting?
- Rib Fest meeting – next meeting?
- Ingersoll Wedding Retailers promotion – next meeting?
- Canterbury Folk Festival meeting – TBA

BR&E Ingersoll 2008 – Final Report pending

Fusion Business Advisory Committee – next meeting in late May.

Ingersoll Economic Development Advisory Committee – next meeting early June.

SWOX Economic Development Advisory Committee – next meeting?

Arts Ingersoll – next meeting?

Oxford Creative Connections Inc. – Tuesday May 19 at 1.30 pm at Fusion

Fusion Centre Management Team – Thursday May 07 at 11 am at Fusion

Ingersoll Recreation Trails Committee – Thursday May 28 at 7.00 pm JC Herbert Room.

- “Dinner / Dance under the Stars” is being scheduled for June 20, 2009 with the CIB committee

Oxford Trails Council – Monday June 02 at 6.30 pm in Woodstock

Ingersoll Youth Action / Advisory Committee – Tuesday May 19, 2009 from 3 to 5 pm in JC Herbert Room

Black History Museum committee – Thursday May 07, 2009 at 5.30 pm at the Museum

Communities in Bloom meeting – Wednesday April 29 at 6.30 pm in the JC Herbert Room

Ontario Municipal Cultural Planning Partnership meeting – next meeting?

Habitat for Humanity Ingersoll 2009 project – next meeting?

Future events

Manufacturing Transition Workshop May 21, 2009 at London Convention Centre

Rebecca Le Heup, Executive Director of the Ontario Culinary Tourism Alliance will be facilitating a strategic planning meeting for development of an Oxford program to build upon the success of last year's Oxfordlicious promotion, as part of Oxford Fresh. Wednesday May 13 from 14pm at the Oxford County Administration Building, in Room 129B

Skills London Oxford Middlesex Elgin (SLOAME) May 13 from 8 am to 6 pm Conference / Exhibit Fair

Beyond the City Lights Tourism Conference May 25, 2009 from 9 am to 4 pm at Walters Theatre