



Township of

North Dundas

COUNCIL REPORT

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| To: | CAO, Mayor and Members of Council |
| From: | Rob Hunter, CMM |
| Date of Meeting: | November 8, 2011 |
| Subject: | Economic Development Report |

1.0 Investment Attraction

1.1 Commercial Investment Attraction

I had follow up discussions in the month of October with the senior executive that represents this national company. I also had a meeting with another party who could play a part in helping the Township of North Dundas secure this investment. I will continue to hold further discussions with all parties in the near future as we progress with this file. **(FILE ID # C-0911-AA)**

1.2 Retail Investment Attraction

I have had discussions with a business principle regarding a new retail opportunity that they are looking to establish in the Township. I provided them with the information that they had requested and hope to have a follow up meeting with them in the near future. **(FILE ID # R-1011-AA)**

1.3 Service Investment Attraction

I have had a follow up meeting with the business principle who is looking into establishing this service related business. I worked with them to clarify the zoning issues and the questions that they had at this time. This opportunity could still take a number of months before it come to fruition. **(FILE ID # S-0811-AA)**

1.4 General Investment Attraction

I recently had some discussions with representatives from the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development and Trade. I hope to have a meeting with them in the near future to continue to work on some potential investment attraction and business retention/expansion initiatives.

2.0 Marketing and Communications

2.1 Gateway Signage

Township Council awarded the Tender for the Gateway, Village/Hamlet and Park signage to Colonel's Signs in October. I had meetings with the owner of this company to finalize the contract and also to give final artwork approval for the signage. All of the signs are currently in production and will be installed by Mid-December.

2.2 Website

I continued working on the Township website needs assessment. Once completed the information gathered during this needs assessment will help guide what, if any strategies for the website could be developed in the future.

2.3 Networking

a) I attended the Dundas Federation of Agriculture (DFA) October Regional Meeting along with Councillor Armstrong. The members of DFA were very happy to have Councillor Armstrong and myself in attendance at the meeting.

b) I attended the October North Dundas Chamber of Commerce meeting. During the meeting we discussed the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) Customer Service Standard. The Act requires any business that provides goods or services to members of the public and has at least one employee to comply with standard starting January 1, 2012.

c) I attended the United Counties of SD & G Economic Working Group meeting to review the branding options for the establishment of a new Economic Development brand for SD & G. The group provided feedback on these initial concepts and hope to meet with the consultants again in the near future to see what they are able to develop based on the feedback that has been provided.

3.0 Research and Information Management

3.1 Community Profile

The working version of the community profile is complete. The only item left to be incorporated into the document is the contact information for the newly elected MPP Jim McDonell. I hope to have his permanent office address and contact information by the end of this month.

4.0 Planning and Infrastructure Development

4.1 High Speed Internet

I put together an information sheet on current and future broadband internet service offerings in the Township of North Dundas. This information sheet was provided to the residents in Harmony as we have recently fielded a number of questions in regards to broadband services in Harmony. If any residents have questions, they have been encouraged to contact me to discuss them.

5.0 Community Revitalization

5.1 Main Street Revitalization

I started working on laying the groundwork for the recruitment of retail and service companies based on the information contained within the *Market Threshold Business Mix Analysis* reports that were completed for both the Village of Winchester and the Village of Chesterville. Specifically, I am looking at seeking companies that will help fill the gaps in the retail and service offerings in both these villages.

6.0 Economic Development Strategy

I put together an RFP document that has been provided to the SD & G Economic Development office in regards to the Economic Development Strategy deliverables we wish to have included in the North Dundas strategic plan document. The Counties are looking to have the consultant hired soon to ensure that the Economic Development Strategy process is completed by the end of the 1st Quarter in 2012.

7.0 Other Economic Development Activities

7.1 Retail Holiday Act Bylaw

The Retail Holiday Act By-law was passed by Council at the October 11, 2011 Council meeting.

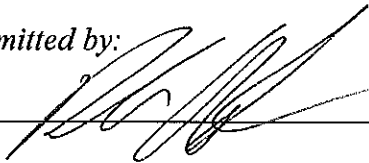
7.2 Organization Membership and Event Attendance

a) I attended the Economic Development Association of Canada Conference on in early October. The conference sessions were well presented and informative.

Some of the session highlights at the conference were:

- i) Key Performance Indicators (KPI) project that was undertaken by the EDAC
- ii) New Communication & Social Media within Economic Development
- iii) Canadian economics and how they relate to sector strategies
- iv) Manufacturing & Small Business; Tourism; Agriculture & Innovation

Submitted by:



Approved by:

