



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**April 10 2012 –10:00 AM  
Council Chamber, Township of Perth South**

**Members Present:** Councillor Robert Wilhelm, Councillor Vince Judge, Councillor Walter McKenzie, Councillor Bob McMillan and Warden Ian Forrest

**Staff Present:** Bill Arthur, Chief Administrative Officer, Kristin Sainsbury, Economic Development Coordinator and Pauline Walkom, Recorder/Administrative Support Clerk

ABSENT: None

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Robert Wilhelm called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and verified quorum was present.

Carried

**2. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST** and general nature thereof  
No Disclosures stated.

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Warden Forrest  
Seconded by Councillor McKenzie  
THAT the Agenda for April 10, 2012 be approved;

Carried

**4. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Moved by: Councillor Vince Judge  
Seconded by: Councillor Walter McKenzie  
THAT the minutes of the March 13, 2012 Economic Development Committee meeting minutes be approved;

Carried

**5. REPORTS**

**5.1 Economic Development General Report**

**5.1.1 Rural Economic Development (RED) Program Update**

Claims have been received for Township of Perth East. Municipality of North Perth claims will be forwarded shortly. March 31, 2012 was the eligibility deadline. Kristin Sainsbury advised that a claims summary will be available at the next meeting.



## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Individual Municipalities should be applying for next Program submissions. County of Perth will not be submitting on their behalf.

### **5.2 BR & E Project Update**

Kristin advised that Jordan Hypes, BR & E Coordinator has completed 25 interviews to date in different sectors.

### **5.3 Perth County Regional Food Hub Project**

A meeting with a project advisor will be held on April 13, 2012. The Steering Committee will meet by the end of April 2012.

### **5.4 Perth County Kitchens**

A March Break camp was submitted for a pilot in 2013 instead of a summer camp due to time constraints with application approval and hiring.

### **5.5 Newcomers Strategy/Labour Market (RED program)**

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) staff advised no funding for training or a consultant. Staff support is available.

### **5.6 New Business “Welcome Wagon**

Information packages will be sent out to communities to use as resources.

### **5.7 Canadian European Free Trade Agreement**

Information was forwarded to Council.

### **5.8 Shop Local Campaign**

This will be planned next year.

### **5.9 Social Media Sites** – The number of users has been increasing monthly.

A brochure was forwarded to all Municipalities and Chamber of Commerce. Discussion was held on having a skills matching component on employment website.

### **5.10 Perth County Visitor’s Association (PCVA)**

A meeting was held last month with Perth County Visitor’s Association. Bill Arthur and Kristin Sainsbury attended meeting. A survey will go out electronically to members.

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**5.11 Perth County Spring Works**

Perth County Spring Works will be presenting “Hermione Presents” and are looking for sponsorship. The workshops and training have a rural focus.

It was agreed that \$500.00 should be provided to Perth County Spring Works to be used for busing; or to assist with reducing the costs for rural students to attend the function.

**5.12 Growing Good Food Ideas Video Update**

The County of Perth videos will not be shown at event launch on April 10, 2012. Two videos “Innovative Food and Farming in Perth County” and “Perth County Markets” were shown to Committee members.

**5.13 Unemployment Rate Update for information:** The March rate should be announced shortly. February Unemployment rate is 4.2%.

**5.14 Other Activities – On going projects – For information**

Moved by Councillor Bob McMillan

Seconded by Councillor Vince Judge

That staff report prepared by Kristin Sainsbury dated April 3, 2012 Economic Development General Report 5.1 to 5.14 be received;

Carried.

**6. Lower Tier Economic Development Minutes**

Discussion was held in regards to busing for workers in Milverton to take them to workplace (Eg Spinrite).

Moved by Councillor Walter McKenzie

Seconded by Warden Ian Forrest

THAT the Minutes of Municipality of North Perth – March 5;  
and Municipality of West Perth – March 14 be received;

Carried.

**7. Lower Tier Update –**

**7.1 Cooper Standard in Mitchell Announced Layoffs of over 100 local jobs.**

An update was given on the employee contract and concessions made.

**8. Correspondence – None**

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**9. Other Business -Conferences**

**9.1 Canada 3.0 in Stratford April 24 and 25, 2012 –Technology Conference.**

Kristin will be attending Conference on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

**9.2 Transforming & Revitalizing Downtown Summit – Hamilton – June 6 and 7**

Kristin advised she would be attending. She will forward to lower tiers for information.

**9.3 Southwest Economic Alliance Assembly – June 13-14, 2012**

Councillor Bob Wilhelm, Councillor Vince Judge, Bill Arthur and Kristin Sainsbury will be attending conference. June 13 is when the annual meeting will be held. It was noted that Thursday reception and annual meeting (June 13) is at City Hall with June 14, 2012 assembly at the Rotary Complex.

**9.4 Technical Training Group**

Technical training is considering a 10 week program with 12-15 students. Technical Training was looking for a \$1,000 contribution towards cost of program.

It was decided to defer item to next meeting. Kristin Sainsbury will invite Technical Training to next meeting to obtain more information.

**10. New Business - Website update**

Councillor Bob Wilhelm asked for the Economic Development section of the Perth County website to be updated. Kristin will review and make necessary changes.

**11. CLOSED MEETING - None**

**12. NEXT MEETING:** May 8 at 10:00 A.M. Perth County Court House, 1 Huron Street, Stratford – Board Room



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13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councillor Vince Judge

Seconded by Warden Forrest

THAT the meeting adjourn at 11:36 A.M.;

Carried.

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Councillor Robert Wilhelm, Chair

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Pauline Walkom, Administrative Support  
Clerk/Recorder