



County of Simcoe
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MINUTES

SUBJECT: Local Immigration Partnership Business Development Sub-Council

MEETING DATE: February 14, 2013 **TIME:** 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

LOCATION: Simcoe County Administration Centre, 1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON
(Midland Penetanguishene Boardroom)

CHAIR: C. Oosterbaan (County of Simcoe)

ATTENDANCE: C. Benedetti (Orillia Area Community Development), A. Dorsey (Barrie Public Library), N. Gavarre (City of Barrie), M. Kuzma (Nottawasaga Futures), S. Lee (LIP), C. Oosterbaan (County of Simcoe), L. Thompson (City of Orillia), R. Milne (Coun. of New Tecumseth), R. Wisken (LIP), D. Myers (recording secretary)

1. Welcome – C. Oosterbaan welcomed the group.

2. Entrepreneur Survey

The survey has been internally approved. The data analysis of the study will be part of the work load of the research analyst summer student.

C. Benedetti, M. Kuzma, A. Dorsey, T. Plaxton-Smith, and C. Greer have volunteered to administer the survey by phone. A phone script will be provided to introduce the study to participants. The survey will be distributed to sub-council members once the phone script has been approved.

Timelines were discussed for survey, debriefing, disseminating, and analyzing data. Members who have utilized the survey will offer feedback on the actual content/wording at the next meeting.

A \$25.00 incentive stipend for doing the survey will be provided to immigrants. The form will be provided to survey administrators (each member doing up to 5 interviews). Invoice paperwork must be returned for processing by the deadline of March 31, 2013. Survey administrators who interview more than five newcomers should contact R. Wisken or S. Lee to discuss honorarium availability.

3. Directory Update

Changes have been done from previous meeting suggestions and a draft copy was distributed. The final draft was reviewed and revisions were made in the meeting. The Simcoe Muskoka Work Force Development board will receive this portion of the directory mid-February 2013. The publish date is by March 31, 2013 with distribution in April. The directory will be translated in other languages (English, French and 3 others).

4. Ethno Cultural Meeting

The LIP has begun to work with the Ethno Cultural associations and groups. The goal is to provide information on community information and services as well as build capacity. Binders will be provided to participants to gather and organize materials creating a reference tool.

March 20, 2013 is scheduled for the next event to provide employment and self employment community information. The event is scheduled from 6-8pm and will include dinner. The focus of the event will be a 1 hour presentation. 20 minutes of the presentation will focus on Business Development services / resources in Simcoe County.

Discussion took place of what information will be the most beneficial, what to include, and how the presentation should be physically organized to provide the best understanding of the information. Key areas identified included opportunities, financing, business plan, regulations and taxes, and registering a business. C. Oosterbaan will assist in creating a slide presentation of a basic overview of providers and their services. Sub council members will forward relevant material to C. Oosterbaan by March 1, 2013. The group discussed options of table stations but did not make a final decision.

The LIP will include any relevant materials in the participant binders. A map will be designed showing service provider names and locations using the GIS map on edo.simcoe.ca

- ACTION:*
- LIP to provide information on tables, if there are enough for individual organizations to each have their own, or if there will only be one booth for all
 - submit slide material to C. Oosterbaan by March 1, 2013
 - R. Wisken will create map

5. Work Plans

R. Wisken provided an overview of the workplan.

Discussion took place about the Succession Planning goal. Speculation on how to identify actual businesses in this situation and matching with potential newcomer business owners.

- ACTION:* Research websites and resource locations for methods and information pertaining to this situation and report back to Business Development Sub Council at the next meeting.
- L. Thompson will connect with colleague from Alberta
 - N. Gavarre and C. Benedetti will connect with colleague from the Physician Recruitment program
 - C. Oosterbaan will speak with Simcoe County's Economic Development Manager to inquire about incorporating succession planning into the next Regional Economic Development meeting on March 20, 2013.

Best Practices Conference – A professional development event is being organized as a work plan item of the Human Services Sub Council. The event will provide information on serving newcomer population. Event will include a keynote speaker, and a panel. All sub council members and other sectors are invited both for the planning of the conference and attending the conference to be held in the fall of 2013.

- ACTION:* R. Wisken will send an email to the group with more details regarding involvement in the planning process

Other Focus Areas – The sub-council discussed adding newcomer-focused workshops to the work plan. Further ideas and suggestions will be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Other Business

An article from the Globe and Mail was shared by C. Oosterbaan. [Canada designs new visa for immigrant entrepreneurs](#), Sept. 2012. Content and details of the article will be discussed at the next meeting.

7. Next Meeting

March 7, 2013 (10:00 am – 12 pm)

Set meeting dates – Friday, April 19; Friday, May 10, June (tbd)

Adjourn 12:00pm