

2020 Economic Development Summit Friday, November 20, 2020

8:00 am **Webcast Opens**

9:00 am **Welcome / Greetings**

- Michael Barrett, MP Leeds-Grenville-Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes
- Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing / MPP Leeds-Grenville-Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes
- Pat Sayeau, Warden, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

9:15 am **State of the Economy: A Global and National Snapshot**

The economic impact of the pandemic has been significant globally and nationally. The question is, where are we heading and what does economic and business recovery look like?

Presenter: Dr. Trevin Stratton, Chief Economist and Vice-President
Canadian Chamber of Commerce

9:50 am **Bill Thake Memorial Economic Development Leadership Award**

Nominees: Karen Bedard – Municipality of North Grenville
Janet Campbell – Village of Merrickville-Wolford
Wendy Merkley – Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands

Introductions: Andy Brown, CAO, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
Deanna Clark, Economic Development Officer

Announcement: Pat Sayeau, Warden, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

10:05 am **BREAK**

10:15 am **Keynote Session: An Ontario Made Economic Recovery**

As Ontario navigates COVID-19, plans for growth, renewal and recovery continue to evolve through strategies and made-in Ontario solutions. Hear more about how we can strengthen our province's business resiliency and build back our economy together.

Presenter: Hon. Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

10:45 am **Eastern Ontario's Connectivity Update**

EORN continues to advance Eastern Ontario's regional digital strategy. With cell service and broadband access essential, learn more on the progress to date and direction going forward.

Presenters: Lisa Severson, Director of Communications
Jim Pine, Co-Lead
Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN)

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11:15 am **Leeds Grenville Economic Development Update**

Stronger together has never been more important in supporting local businesses. Learn how the impact of COVID-19 has strengthened collaboration and refined key areas of focus.

Presenter: Ann Weir, Economic Development Manager
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

12:00 pm **LUNCH BREAK**

1:00 pm **Economic Recovery Chat Rooms**

Join the conversation and pick two different areas of interest:

1:05 pm **Session 1**

Regional Priorities:

Small Business, Local Business Marketing and Promotion

What types of initiatives should be undertaken within the next 6 months?

Tourism

What role should the Counties play in tourism and key strategies?

Agriculture and Food

What are the top areas of concern and how should they be addressed?

What type of buy-local initiatives and value-added products should be considered?

Manufacturing, Transportation, Logistics and Warehousing

What are the challenges, pivots, needs and opportunities within the industry?

Workforce

What are the impacts of COVID-19 to our local workforce?

New Economy Opportunities

What are the opportunities for the region in the new economy?

Moderators:

Darren Gallacher

Bonnie Ruddock

Katie Nolan

Rob Nolan

Frank O'Hearn

Tina Stevens

1:30 pm **Session 2 (choose 2nd area of interest)**

1:55 pm **Wrap-up**