

Economic Development Task Force Minutes

10:00 AM - Monday, April 20, 2026

Council Chambers

Present: Deputy Mayor Roy Huetl (Acting Chair); Cyndy Bonello; Paul Thiel; Dan Vaillancourt and Betty Hunter

Absent with Regret: Councillor John Inglis (Chair)

Also Present: Brooke Ross, Dipl.M.A., Dipl.M.M., Manager of Community Development (MCD); Richard Allen, Manager of Economic Development (County of Frontenac); Emma Stucke, Community Development Officer (County of Frontenac) and Lori Newman (Secretary)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:00 a.m.

2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

None.

4. Economic Development Task Force Notes

- a) Notes of the March 16, 2026 EDTF Meeting as approved via email and were received for information at the April 10, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council.

5. Business Arising

- a) Work Plan

1. Increased number of business startups and expansions

- a. Welcome Package – Bonello -

Cyndy Bonello reported that there is a sufficient stock of updated Welcome packages. The MCD will reach out to additional Township businesses to see if they have any marketing materials they would like to be included in the packages.

- b. Business Dinner & Forum (April 17, 2026) – Vaillancourt, Huetl, Hunter -

The Business Dinner and Forum working group advised that the April 17th Business Dinner & Forum went very well and had networking opportunities before and after the event. There were approximately 42 people in attendance. The EDTF members agreed that the U-shaped seating arrangement was an improvement for this year, as it allowed for better communication between the attendees.

- c. Business Profiles –Thiel -

Paul Thiel reported that he will be working on a number of Business Profiles in the upcoming weeks.

- d. National Tradesman Day Breakfast (Sept) – MCD -

The MCD advised the EDTF that planning for this event will not begin until August 2026.

- e. Improvement of Township Community Improvement Plan – Inglis, Huetl, MCD -

The MCD advised the EDTF that Sonya Bolton, Manager of Community Planning, Frontenac County, is working on the final details of the proposed amendments to the Township's Community Improvement Plan that will be presented to Council at the May 1, 2026 Council Meeting.

- f. Bi-annual Business Owners Workshop Meetings (June 10, 2026 7pm-9pm) – Bonello, Vaillancourt -

Cyndy Bonello and Dan Vaillancourt advised that the first Bi-annual Business Owners Workshop Meeting details have been finalized and is scheduled for Wednesday, June 10, 2026 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Barrie Community Hall in Cloyne. The working group requested that the MCD send invitations out to the businesses as soon as possible and to place an advertisement in the Frontenac News at the end of May/beginning of June.

2. Increased Tourism

- a. Attend Two (2) Tradeshows – Bonello, Thiel, Hunter -

The working group submitted a debrief of the March 13-15, 2026 Quinte Sportsman Boat and RV Show. The group is now preparing for the Outdoor and Adventure Travel Show in Ottawa (April 25 & 26, 2026) which will also be partnered with Central Frontenac's Economic Development Committee.

- b. SummerFest (July 18, 2026 11-4) – Bonello, Inglis, Vaillancourt -

The sub-committee reported that planning is underway and on schedule. More information will be available at the next EDTF meeting.

- c. WinterFest (February) – Bonello, Inglis, Hunter -

The WinterFest sub-committee submitted a debrief of the 2026 WinterFest.

- d. ATV Trails (including K&P Trail) Opportunities and Promotion – Huetl, Bonello - The Ottawa Valley ATV Club is hosting a Ompah Spring Ride on Saturday, April 25, 2026. It was reported that 165 vehicles were registered and 56 dinners purchased to date – with more expected

- e. Advertising Initiatives to improve visitors coming to North Frontenac -

The MCD advised the EDTF that the 2026 Economic Community Development Student, Alyssa Borger, will be working on the 2026 Visitor Guide when she returns in May.

6. New Business

- a) Youth Entrepreneurship Initiatives, Incentive & Retention Programs

Deferred until next meeting.

7. Adjournment

- a) Meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

**NOTE : The next meeting of the EDTF will take place on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the Municipal Council Chambers located at 6648 Road 506, Plevna.
Recommendations to Council**

Be It Resolved That Council receives for information the April 20, 2026 Notes of the Economic Development Task Force (EDTF).

Received by Council on May 21, 2026.

Deputy Mayor Roy Huetl, Acting Chair