



Eastern Ontario Leadership Council is updating its Regional Economic Development Strategy

Kingston, July 5, 2018 – The Eastern Ontario Leadership Council (EOLC) has begun the process of reviewing and refreshing its 2014 Regional Economic Development Strategy, originally completed under the guidance of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and the Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus. As with any strategy of this kind, it is crucial that the owners of the plan – in this case, the EOLC together with its partners – undertake a review of the plan's intent, from time to time, to ensure its currency, reconfirm or modify its priorities for the plan, and map out the next steps for implementation.

This review process will enable the strategy to remain relevant to the EOLC, its partner organizations and Working Groups, constituent communities, and the region as a whole. At the same time, it affords the opportunity to acknowledge accomplishments thus far, and to highlight trends in the regional economy and generally in the field of economic development. In so doing, the "refresh" can address any knowledge gaps that may have emerged in the implementation of the strategy, and refine the approach to the strategy's implementation as new information or opportunities become available.

As with the development of the 2014 Strategy, the EOLC is committed to ensuring that the business community across Eastern Ontario is actively engaged in the process. As a business owner/manager in Eastern Ontario, you are being asked to participate in the consultation phase of the study. The findings of the consultations will contribute to the refresh of the economic development plan and firmly ground it in the unique and specific context of our economy. The resulting updated plan will provide us with a strategic framework to pursue economic development goals and priorities that respond to the perceptions and priorities of business and community stakeholders.

We ask that you please take 10 to 20 minutes to express your views on Eastern Ontario's present and future economic priorities and opportunities by completing the following survey, which can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YCByCS3>. All comments will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

Should you have any questions regarding this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council or any of its members. Thank you for your time and involvement.

Sincerely,



Mayor Leslie O'Shaughnessy
Co-Chair, Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus



Warden John Fenik
Co-Chair, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus