

MEDIA RELEASE

The Town of Shelburne Launches Initiative to Create New Economic Development Strategy

Welcoming business to our growing community and enhancing quality of life for our citizens will be key areas of focus

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Today's economic development requires a new way of thinking and a different way of planning. That is a driving factor behind the Town of Shelburne's decision to undertake creation of a new economic development strategy that will inform decisions to best position the Town to attract new businesses, support existing businesses, and enhance the quality of life for its citizens.

The Town of Shelburne is the envy of many, with its population growth far exceeding that of other Ontario communities, and its median age falling below the province. Shelburne is enjoying a median age of 37.7 and experiencing population growth exceeding 13%. This fast residential growth needs to be balanced with industrial and commercial expansion to meet growing demand for services and goods. The new economic development strategy will inform what priorities must be addressed in the short, medium and longer-term and assist Council and the Shelburne and District Economic Development Committee conduct business over the next five years.

Mayor Ken Bennington states, "The Town of Shelburne is an excellent example of a growing community that is attracting citizens and talent. It is now a priority to ensure that our residents have access to the services and goods they seek, and that our local economy offers quality jobs to help our resident commuters choose to work closer to home. This strengthens quality of life and creates opportunity for people to take a more active role in their community."

John Telfer, CAO and EDO for the Shelburne & District EDC stated, "This initiative will have a significant focus on the engagement of citizens, local businesses and stakeholders. Community meetings will be held over the coming weeks and all those interested are encouraged to attend and share their experiences, insights and perspectives. All scheduled consultation activities will be advertised through local and social media, and on the Town's website."

EDC Chair Wade Mills stated, "The strategy development is expected to be completed in December 2015. Citizens will have the opportunity to offer input into the draft strategy prior to final approval and adoption of Council."

The Township has retained the services of MDB Insight, a management consulting firm specializing in economic development solutions that create real-world impact for local communities.

For more information:

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