

# Meeting Agenda



## Guelph Economic Advisory Committee

**Date:** Monday September 21, 2020

**Location:** WebEx

**Time:** 3PM

**Chair:** Christine Chapman

**Attendees:** Christine Chapman, John Regan, Alicia Karn, Bill Birdsell, John Marc Ricke, Kevin McDermott, Matt Anstett

**Regrets:** Thomas McLaughlin, Peter Kastner

Location: [Meeting accessible through WebEx](#)

Meeting Number: 173 802 3042

Meeting Password: TTjdP2Xar49

## Meeting Agenda

1.

Introduction – Round Table – Interest in Committee

- Christine Chapman and John Regan
- Economic Development restructure

2. GEDAC Composition 2020/2021

- Previous intention was to see the strategy in place at this time; delayed due to COVID
- Meeting frequency changing to bi-monthly
- The focus on agendas will be mostly strategy and strategy implementation

3. COVID-19 Economic Development Activities

- Most projects put on hold; becoming more reactionary in our programming
- Dining district and temporary patio program; Special Council meeting this afternoon for potential extension of district and program
- [GuelphShops](#) program
- MYB special bulletin – weekly notification
- Secured 300,000 in funding for our RIC (Innovation Guelph) and our SBC (Guelph Wellington Business Centre)

- Weekly meeting with core business service delivery partners

#### 4. Economic Development Strategy Status Update

- Paused the strategy in March 2020; going to come back to EDAC for guidance and input on how to further engage businesses
- Returning with a timeline in November; engagement, how to engage and who – looking for member feedback
- Any items we need feedback on will be highlighted on the agenda and distributed 2 weeks prior (10 working days)

#### 5. Committee Function and Feedback

- Open discussion: What are your expectations of this committee over the next year? How can we ensure to continue to deliver value for your time?

(MATT) Is the intention for us to be a focus group or to be more of an advisory type committee to provide recommendations? CC: Less formal than the latter, but certainly seeking guidance on how to move forward and tackle barriers to business development – can provide new structure and function within our strategy. Committee discussion and feedback likely very targeted.

(MARC) I've been on the committee for 4 years or so and it changed quite a bit from the very beginning; always felt that it was just a one way street. Never had the feeling that this was an advisory committee.

(KEVIN) Use of small and specific sub committees; might make sense to assign some homework on a sub committee basis at targeted needs

- Succinct summaries of the updates and brief question period rather than a full meeting run down

**ACTION:** Christine to circulate terms of reference to the members

#### 6. Committee Chair appointment 2020/2021

- Members to send expression of interest by Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>
- Committee Chair and Christine to connect prior to determining future agendas; chair to conduct the meeting

Meeting adjourned 3:45pm