



## Eastern Ontario CFDC Network Inc

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1005 Elgin St. Suite 206, Cobourg ON K9A 5J4  
e-mail: dan@northcfdc.ca or bb: dan\_borowec@bell.blackberry.net  
tel: (905) 372-8315 x 222 cell: (905) 375-8612

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This document is written on behalf of the Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDC's) which are impacted by the presence of the Trent Severn and is in response to "DISCUSSION PAPER #4 - THE WATERWAY'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT".

The Eastern Ontario CFDC Network Inc was created to advocate on behalf of the membership in order to support regional economic development initiatives in Eastern Ontario. It strategically administers and coordinates the opportunities that are available to the 15 Community Futures Development Corporations of Eastern Ontario.

Collectively we share a common mandate which is to act as catalysts for the facilitation of community economic development and renewal. Certainly we view the Trent-Severn Waterway as a tremendous opportunity for fulfilling this mandate and share your vision of a long-term, corridor-wide perspective that links economic activity along the waterway to its social and environmental health.

Currently we have invested in regional activities through the Eastern Ontario Development Program that lends support to recreational needs, renewable energy and sustainable funding.

This is most notable through the Celebration of Trails project, supported by Kawartha Lakes CFDC, as well as the excitement being generated through the proposed Eco Centre near Trenton, which is being championed by Trenval BDC.

CFDCs often partner on a regional basis for various economic development initiatives. The Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDC's) in the catchment basin of the Trent Severn Waterway recently met to discuss the role they might play in economic development opportunities in our areas, individually and collectively, by better utilization of the Trent Severn Waterway.

Discussion revolved around the potential of using the work that has been invested in the Eco Centre to then act as a hub for generating further development of broad based economic renewal. The various spokes that could

emit from this hub could draw attention to various destinations and events that currently exist but lack a coordinated strategy for utilization.

Our organizations have access to funding to support local initiatives, community capacity building, youth interns, skills development, façade improvement and business planning, all of which could act as catalysts for the recommendations that will come forward as a result of the panel's work.

Invests made in our communities are determined by local volunteer boards of directors. This has been the cornerstone of our success to date, that being that local leaders make decisions that impact local communities. By working cooperatively and collegially we have extended this success to a regional level.

We are pleased that your Panel has been commissioned to review this historic landmark.

The CFDCs collectively, with the partnerships we have developed, could play a significant role in implementing and coordinating your local and regional recommendations that deal with economic development opportunities. We look forward to your report and would be pleased to meet to discuss these matters.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dan Borowec  
Regional Coordinator  
Eastern Ontario Development Program

On behalf of:  
South Lake CFDC  
Kawartha Lakes CFDC  
Peterborough CFDC  
Haliburton CDC  
Trenval BDC  
North & Central Hastings and South Algonquin CFDC  
Northumberland CFDC  
Prince Edward & Lennox Addington CFDC