

The Business Connection

Quarterly Newsletter from your local Business Centre—GEDC
QR 1 2015

New faces for GEDC

GEDC is pleased to announce the new Business Outreach Officer and FedNor agent:

Brian Adams is joining the GEDC team as a Business Outreach Officer. Brian was born in Jasper, Alberta while his parents were on a work transfer from Thunder Bay. Shortly after his birth, Brian's family returned to Thunder Bay where he has lived until his recent relocation to Geraldton.



Brian graduated Confederation College with diplomas in Human Resources and Business Administration. He brings more than 10 years professional experience in Operations Management, Human Resources, food service/hospitality, and Quality Management, which will be beneficial to the Business Outreach Officer position.

Brian enjoys fishing, golfing, curling and the outdoors. He is looking forward to becoming an active contributor to the business community in Greenstone .



Heidi Strobl, FedNor

Heidi returns to us as our federal (FedNor/ Industry Canada) Community Economic Development Officer. She knows the Greenstone area well, having worked as advisor to GEDC from 2004-2008.

Over the past six years, much of her focus has been Far North First Nations and Francophone organizations. She also worked with Nishnawbe

Aski Development Fund CFDC and Atikokan Economic Development Corporation CFDC, during that time.

Heidi looks forward to collaborating with GEDC staff and Board of Directors. This is an exciting time to be returning, and Heidi is happy for the opportunity to ensure that FedNor funding programs are available in the region.

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What is GEDC?

Greenstone Economic Development Corporation (GEDC) is your local Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC).

We provide FREE services to both the business community and inspiring entrepreneurs. We assist with all your business needs. Check out our website for more information: www.gedc.ca

MISSION

Foster and encourage the start-up and operation of successful enterprise in all economic sectors within the Greenstone Service Area.

MANDATE

Strategic community planning and socio-economic development

Support for community based projects

Business information and planning services

Access to capital for small and medium sized businesses and social enterprises



A NEW FINANCING OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE AT GEDC!

Greenstone Economic Development Corporation is pleased to announce a new lending program to enhance our lending strategy. GEDC's Micro-Loans program provides business loans up to \$10,000 to qualified borrowers for their business needs. Micro-Loans can be used to turn your great idea into a new business venture, or event to assist in accessing a grant. With an ever growing need to keep up with technology or diversify your revenue, GEDC is committed to your success.

If you are 19 or older, legally entitled to work in Canada, a resident of our catchment area and unable to get financing through traditional lenders, call GEDC to find out how we can help.

Our 3 Tier Lending Program

- Micro-Loans ranging from \$500 to \$10,000
- Business Loans ranging from \$10,001 to 150,000
- Northwestern Investment Pool Loans ranging from \$150,001 to \$500,000



The primary objective of GEDC financing is to invest in sound businesses that create and maintain sustainable employment in all economic sectors within the Greenstone services area.

Greenstone Economic Development Corporation (GEDC) is a community-based, non-profit organization, representative of the communities within the Greenstone area (Aroland First Nation, Beardmore, Caramat, Geraldton, Ginoogaming First Nation, Jellicoe, Lake Nipigon Ojibway First Nation, Longlac, Long Lake #58 First Nation, Macdiarmid, Nakina, Rocky Bay First Nation and Orient Bay) .

GEDC, as part of the CFDC (Community Futures Development Corporation) network, carries out the following services:

- Strategic community planning and socio-economic development;
- Support for community-based projects;
- Business information and planning services; and
- Access to capital for small and medium-sized businesses and social enterprises.

Call or email our office for more information at 1-807-854-2273 or info@gedc.ca

Unlock your potential today!

Community Economic Development (CED) Activity / Projects

GEDC Hosts Strategic BR+E Session

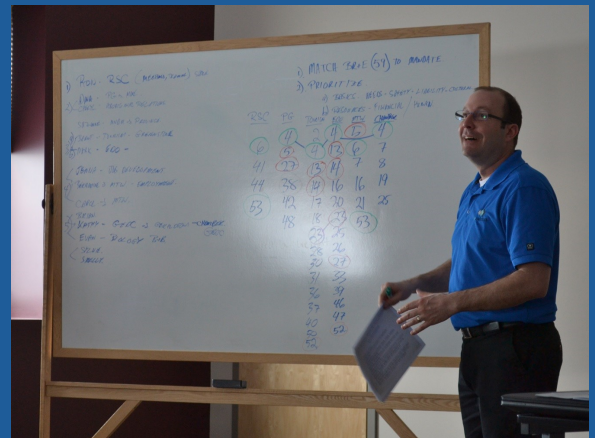


The Greenstone Economic Development Corporation held a BR+E (Business Retention & Expansion) community leaders brainstorming session March 31st at the Greenstone Regional Skills Centre in Geraldton. The BR+E Project is a structured action-oriented, community-based approach to business and economic development. Community leaders met to assess and put into action some of the recommendations that were derived from the Greenstone BR+E survey report released in 2014. The session went well with numerous local representatives taking part during the day. Recommendations

for growth and improvement were prioritized and development of partnerships and action plans are well underway.

BR+E projects are designed to promote job growth by helping communities learn about issues as well as opportunities for local businesses. With the development of public and private sector partnerships, businesses and stakeholders throughout Greenstone can all work towards a common goal of community growth and development.

For more information on the Greenstone BR+E project, visit www.gedc.ca or contact Brian 1-807-854-2273 ext 22.



Group Picture:



Ron Melhuish, Greenstone Regional Skills Centre;
Evan Armstrong, GEDC Board Member;
Rob Delo, Geraldton Chamber of Commerce;
Brian Adams, GEDC Business Outreach Officer;
Suzanne Lafrance, MNDM / MCTU;
Brent Henley, Municipality of Greenstone;
Kathy Durocher, GEDC Board President;
Mark Wright, Municipality of Greenstone;
Sylvie Goulet, GEDC Executive Director;
Janet Gile, MTW Employment Services;
Carol Mercier, MTW Employment Services;
Bridget Fortier, Confederation College;
Bernadine O'Brien, MTW Employment Services;
Cheryl Lesperance, Premier Gold Mines Limited;
Dina Quenneville, Premier Gold Mines Limited;
Dan Brenzavich, Facilitator—CE Strategies;
Shelly Stanert, GEDC Administrative Officer.
Missing from Picture—Daouda Sow, CFAG.

Northern Ontario Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative

Northwestern Ontario CFDC's Youth Camp 2015

Learn about business, leadership, entrepreneurship and so much more!

Spend five day making new friends and enjoying summer activities all while learning about the world of business, including a chance to start your very own business, taking your product from conception to market and even making a little money.

Hosted by North Claybelt CFDC, Kapuskasing; see below for more information.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Greenstone Economic Development Corporation (GEDC) will be holding their Annual General Luncheon Meeting Friday **April 24, 2015 from 11 am to 1 pm at the Geraldton French Club.**

With a partnership theme this year, our keynote speakers Mark Wright and Brent Henley will be talking about current projects in the Greenstone Region. Mr. Wright is the Economic Development Officer and Mr. Henley is the Tourism Coordinator for the Municipality of Greenstone.

Come out and join us for some networking opportunities.

Please RSVP the GEDC office (807) 854-2273 or email info@gedc.ca

GEDC Staff:

Sylvie Goulet, Executive Director
Shelly Stanert, Administrative Officer
Brian Adams, Business Outreach Officer



GEDC

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