

Results of Strategic Plan now On-Line

The “Building our Future 2005-2008” steering committee is pleased to report that the “Strategic Plan Phase 1-Opportunities Report” is now available for public viewing on the Timmins Economic Development Corporation website located at www.timminsedc.com. It is the first component of the new strategic plan to be released. The ideas highlighted in the report were brought forward from nine consultation sessions held between April and July of 2005. The document enables the public and industry to review their own input and that of others from all sessions held.

The key goal of this planning initiative was to focus on opportunities that offered the community action on three main themes of development. They included: job creation, removing barriers to business development and business retention and expansion initiatives.

Priorities were selected and ranked via a voting process by the session participants. The key focus in the implementation of the plan will be on the priorities selected at the sessions. To ensure that all ideas discussed in the sessions were captured appendices were created and can be seen on the website.

The completion of the “Phase 1– Opportunities” document marks an important milestone in the planning process. However, major benefits only become a reality for the municipality when the plan is put into operation. Achieving the established goals will require effort and attention from every part of the community. It will also require considerable management and coordination.

In order to facilitate the communications surrounding the implementation process a section was created on the website called “implementation”. Sector priorities are listed here and, in some cases, agencies have already been assigned to work on the projects. Lead agencies such as the Timmins Economic Development Corporation, the Chamber of Commerce, The Venture Centre/Le Centre de développement, the City of Timmins have committed to completing a uniform project implementation schedule.

This schedule will highlight what steps lead agencies will undertake to complete the project goals. This will also allow the public to track the progress and action plans associated with each priority. Contact names of the project manager will also be available should residents have specific questions about an initiative. Public progress updates will be issued on a quarterly basis over the next three years to highlight the work being conducted by the lead agencies.

The partners involved in Building Our Future 2005-2008 recognize and acknowledge the hard work of the sector participants and the public. We appreciate the time that residents took to share their ideas and we expect a great deal of success from this planning process.

“Building Our Future 2005-2008” is a community led initiative that involves a variety of partners including the City of Timmins, the Timmins Economic Development

Corporation, the Timmins Chamber of Commerce, The Venture Centre/Le Centre de développement, Le Réseau de développement économique et d'employabilité de l'Ontario (RDÉE), Association canadienne-française de l'Ontario (ACFO), Ministry of Northern Development & Mines, the National Research Council, FedNor, NorthernTel, Ontera and the Government of Canada.