



## **The Business Development and Planning Advisory Committee (BDAPAC) Meeting**

Haldimand County Administration Building  
Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 9:00am

**Present:** Mayor Bentley, Tauri Caputo, Phil Hauser, Mike Lessard, Paul Makey, Russell McTear, George Naylor, Adam Peet, Mark Reynolds

**Staff:** Lidy Romanuk, Manager of Economic Development & Tourism, Jessica Easson, Research & Marketing Technician

**Regrets:** Councillor O'Neill, Mike Evers, General Manager of Community & Development Services

### **1. Welcome and Introduction**

Meeting is called to order by L. Romanuk at 9:01. L. Romanuk welcomed all new and returning members to the inaugural Business Development and Planning Advisory Committee meeting for the 2022-2026 term. The meeting began with round table introductions.

### **2. Land Acknowledgement**

L. Romanuk read Haldimand County's land acknowledgment.

### **3. Committee Orientation**

L. Romanuk shared a presentation providing an overview of Haldimand County Economic Development and Tourism (EDT) and the Business Development and Planning Advisory Committee (BDAPAC). The presentation highlighted the role and objective of the committee, reviewing the terms of reference, EDT key activities and how the BDAPAC aligns with EDT.

### **4. Elections**

Election of Chair

L. Romanuk opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chair of the Business Development and Planning Advisory Committee

A. Peet nominated P. Hauser for Chair. P. Hauser accepted the nomination.

P. Hauser nominated M. Lessard for Chair. M. Lessard accepted the nomination.

As there were no other members nominated, ballots were distributed to all members and upon tally of the votes, P. Hauser was declared Chair.

Election of Vice-Chair

L. Romanuk opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Business Development and Planning Advisory Committee.

T. Caputo nominated M. Lessard for Vice-Chair. M. Lessard accepted the nomination.

As there were no other members nominated, M. Lessard was declared Vice-Chair.

A discussion then ensued for appointment of a representative to the Haldimand Business Network (HBN).

Motion for BDAPAC to have a rotating HBN representative to be appointed prior to each meeting. Moved by G. Naylor, Seconded by T. Caputo.

**APPROVED**

**5. Council Update**

Mayor Bentley shared an update on the new term of Council Priorities. Highlights related to Economic Development and Planning included: the North Caledonia Employment Lands Project, tourism attractions committee, physician recruitment strategy, affordable housing strategy and recreational facilities implantation plans. Mayor Bentley also shared that Council recently approved the Compressive Sign Strategy, the Patio Program and MZO public consultations. Lastly, Council recently accepted the invitation to be a temporary member on the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus (an organization that advocates on behalf of communities on topics such as; infrastructure, transportation, long term care, broadband and economic development).

**6. EDT Updates**

L. Romanuk shared an update reminding the committee to complete AODA training and shared information about the Haldimand County Economic Development and Tourism E-blast - *News You Can Use*.

**7. New Business**

Chair Hauser opened discussion for new business. Discussion included the following topics:

- The committee discussed distributing and reviewing previous meeting minutes which staff advised they are working to update the website and will share once available.
- Many accomplishments from the previous committee resulted from Homework. Proposed homework for the next meeting: Bring/be prepared to speak on two points about how to increase economic development opportunity in Haldimand County.
- Questions arose with regard to the Caledonia Bridge and staff advised the matter is sitting with the MTO.
- The committee expressed an interest in learning about the top employers in the County.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05, moved by A. Peet seconded by R. McTear.