

Aurora Economic Development Corporation's 2019 Director's Report

As Chairman of the Aurora Economic Development Corporation, I would like to submit this report to our shareholder of our activities during 2019, our first fiscal year. We were able to accomplish several necessary steps to meet our goal of encouraging increased economic development in the community.

The Aurora Economic Development Corporation was created in December 2018. The first directors of the corporation were appointed in March 2019 as follows:

Mayor Tom Mrakas	Tim Hammill
Councillor Sandra Humfries	Marilee Harris
Councillor Michael Thompson	Steve Hinder
Vern Cunningham	Mae Khamissa
Richard Gong	Craig Youdale

In May, the Board formally appointed the Officers of the Corporation as follows:

Tim Hammill, *Chair of the Board*
Marilee Harris, *Vice Chair of the Board*
Doug Nadorozny, *President and CEO*
Anthony Ierullo, *Executive Director, Secretary and Treasurer*

During the first half of 2019, the AEDC Board initiated the development of the Town of Aurora Economic Development Strategic Plan. McSweeney & Associates were retained to develop the strategy. McSweeney prepared a situational analysis of important demographic and economic trends of the Town. The consultants conducted interviews with stakeholders and a focus group with the Board in February. The Board then hosted a working group session with all economic development stakeholders to develop the action items for the strategy. The Board adopted the Economic Development Strategy in June to be presented to Council. The plan was approved by Council on July 23rd, 2019.

In the summer and fall of 2019, the AEDC Board developed an Implementation Plan and prioritized the Top Ten Action Items from the Strategic Plan. In November the AEDC established three sub-committees to advance three specific action items linked to the Strategic Plan:

1. Target Sector Analysis Sub-Committee
2. Downtown Mix Strategy Sub-Committee
3. C-Suite Residence Outreach Sub-Committee

We ended the year well positioned to make a difference for our community.

I would like to thank our directors for their continuing, enthusiastic commitment to the Board. They have volunteered many hours of their time this year on behalf of this initiative. As well, I would like to recognize the Mayor, Council and Town Staff who have provided us the necessary support to meet our goals throughout the year.

Tim Hammill, *Chairman*