



BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPEN MEETING MINUTES
Friday, July 29, 2022
8:30 a.m. - Zoom

Present:	Mayor Tom Bain, Chair	Chris Savard, Vice Chair	Kevin Laforet, Sec/Treasurer	Mayor Dilkens
	Rob Gordon	Waseem Habash	Federica Nazzani	Kyrsten Solcz
Regrets:	Paul Mastronardi	Alex Tolton		
Staff:	Stephen MacKenzie, CEO	Joe Goncalves	Wendy Stark	Holly Connelly
Regrets:	Sabrina DeMarco	Matt Johnson	Gina Meret-Dybenko	

1. CALL TO ORDER & DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The meeting was called to order at 8:34 a.m. by Mayor Tom Bain, Chair and quorum was met. No conflict of interest was declared.

2. AGENDA

The agenda for the open meeting of Invest WindsorEssex Board of Directors was approved as presented.

Motion Moved by Kyrsten Solcz

Seconded by Chris Savard

That the agenda for the July 29, 2022, meeting of Invest WindsorEssex Board of Directors is approved. Carried.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- 3.1 Minutes - Open Board Meeting
- 3.2 Minutes – Annual General Meeting
- 3.3 Monthly Performance Measures and Metrics
- 3.4 Top Business Priorities

Motion Moved by Kevin Laforet

Seconded by Waseem Habash

THAT the consent agenda and the recommendations therein, is approved. Carried.

4. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

4.1 Chair's Report

The Chair thanked the staff for shifting gears during Covid-19. The Municipality of Lakeshore has received several inquiries related to the Hydro Transmission plant and feeder companies.

Motion Moved by Chris Savard

Seconded by Rob Gordon

THAT the Chair's report be received. Carried.

4.2 CEO's Report

- a. Brief Remarks from Department Heads

Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) – Wendy Stark

Events

- Manufacturing Day – October 2

- Partnering with Workforce WindsorEssex
- 1000 students and 20 companies are expected
- Emerging Technologies and Automation Conference and Trade Show at Caesars Windsor – October 26 <https://www.emergingtechnologies.ca/>
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- New data visualization purchased and will be added to website to highlight all data allowing users to create custom graphs etc.
- BRE staff have resumed site visits
- Connected 10 local companies to the Canadian Consulate in Detroit looking for battery plant suppliers

Investment Attraction - Joe Goncalves

- Leads continuing to come in relating to the Stellantis and LG Energy Solution Announcement
 - Announced in June - Dongshin Motech Ltd. is investing \$60 million in a new facility
 - 300 jobs expected in three phases
- Several leads were reported
- FDI campaign has led to four company leads

Small Business and Entrepreneurship Centre (SBEC)

- Second round of funding announced for Women’s Entrepreneurship Strategy (WES) with IWE acting as the coordinating body for the region

West Windsor Small Business Relief Fund - \$2.5 million FedDev Ontario funding announcement

- SBEC to provide non-repayable contributions up to \$10,000 to small businesses along and near the Huron Church Road corridor that faced hardships as a result of the illegal blockade
- Initiative collaborators include the City of Windsor, Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Windsor Essex Pelee Island

Summer Company

- In progress with 10 participants
- 14 hours of training so far
- \$3000 grant available at the end of the program

Starter Company Plus

- Training and mentorship program
- Participants eligible for \$5000 grant

Foodpreneur Scale Up

- Mentorship program
- Participants eligible for \$5000 grant

Growing Creative Careers: Windsor & Region

- Professional development experience for local artists, creatives and cultural led by WorkInCulture in partnership with SBEC, Arts Council Windsor & Region

Digital Mainstreet

- Program renewed
- Hired two staff who will assist local businesses identify any needs, create a digital profile, and assist with an application for \$2500 grants

- Natasha Marar has gone on parental leave
- Stephanie Clark (former owner of Toasty’s) has been hired
- SBEC will celebrate a 30-year milestone this year

Automobility & Innovation (AI)

AVIN

- First FedDev project has been fully executed
- \$5 million (5 years)
- 312 new partnerships
- \$120 million leveraged in private and public sector
- 296 businesses supported
- 56 new products, processes and services were developed
- 25 new intellectual properties were created or licensed
- 1900 jobs created or maintained

OVIN

- \$7.5 million (3 years)
- 3 new partnerships
- 112 businesses supported
- 329 jobs created or maintained
- Hired two program managers supported by the grants

Marketing and Communications (MKTG)

- FDI campaign and video targeting USA companies in the tech and automobility sector are gaining traction with USA media
- Committed to a 5-page Globe and Mail insert will include ecosystem partners
- IWE represented the region at the Collison Conference in Toronto in June
- Planning for the North American International Auto Show is underway with ecosystem partners

Motion Moved by Mayor Drew Dilkens

Seconded by Federica Nazzani

THAT the updates provided in the CEO's Report are received. Carried.

5. NEW BUSINESS

None

6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Invest WindsorEssex Board of Directors will be held on September 30, 2022.

7. ADJOURNMENT & MOVE IN CAMERA

Motion Moved by Kyrsten Solcz

Seconded by Federica Nazzani

That the open meeting of the Invest WindsorEssex Board of Directors is adjourned at 8:58 a.m. Carried.