



Economic  
Developers  
Council  
of Ontario

MAY 3, 2021

TO: ONTARIO MUNICIPAL CAOS, HEADS OF COUNCIL AND COUNCILLORS

**Re: Economic Development Week May 9-15, 2021**

On behalf of the members of the Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO), it is our honour and privilege to wish you a Happy Economic Development Week! In collaboration with the International Economic Development Council, let's take this opportunity to celebrate economic development in communities across Ontario.

Now, more than ever economic development is a vital component to the municipal structure. Our professionals are called on to support the local economy and to drive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Equally important for Ontario communities is to also identify opportunities for expansion as the world eyes Canada, and more importantly Ontario for investment.

*"Economic Development is an essential component of municipal services. It is the implementation of strategic initiatives that are unique to an area's challenges and opportunities. Tactics are developed in the context of the local and regional economy, industry trends, market demand, labour market, and a host of other factors that are dynamic in nature. For this reason, sustained and long-term investment in Economic Development is crucial to maintaining healthy, economically viable communities."*

- MAYOR DAVID BAILEY

This year in celebration of Economic Development Week we are asking municipalities across Ontario to join EDCO in sharing all the good work municipalities are doing to support economic growth in Ontario.

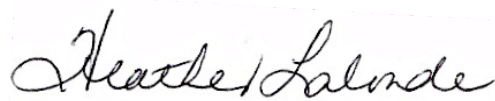
We ask that you join us in sharing your community's economic development success stories. To assist you, EDCO has developed an Economic Development Week toolkit available for download via [www.edco.on.ca](http://www.edco.on.ca). Within the toolkit are several tools and suggestions of how you can share your community's economic successes.

We hope that you will take a moment to acknowledge the incredible work your economic development professional has done throughout the last year despite all of the challenges. The role of economic development continues to be imperative to the future of our communities. Look for more resources and exciting program launches on our website at [www.edco.on.ca](http://www.edco.on.ca) during Economic Development Week.

Sincerely,



Lidy Romanuk  
*EDCO President*



Heather Lalonde  
*EDCO CEO*

## About EDCO

The Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO) supports economic development professionals from all levels of government and the private sector. As Canada's largest economic development organization, EDCO increases capacity of our professionals through professional development, resources, tools, and in time communication. With over 1,100 members, EDCO works with many stakeholders across the province and country to ensure leading-edge practices are available for members.

If your community is not a member, this is the perfect time to consider membership in EDCO. We are available to answer any questions you may have.