



## GRIMSBY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 3, 2024, 10:00 a.m.  
Bright Workspace  
8 Christie Street  
Grimsby, Ontario  
L3M 4H4

Present: Bill Ashburn  
Frank Commisso  
Councillor R. Freake  
Benjamin Purkiss  
Councillor J. Baradziej

Absent: Rick Trigatti

Staff: Deputy Clerk, K. Viccica  
Economic Development Officer, F. Miele

Others: Remy Fernandes, Grimsby Power  
Paul Robertson, Employment Help Centre  
Rebecca Shelley, Grimsby Chamber of Commerce  
Simon Duong, Grimsby Downtown BIA  
Belinda Anderson, Niagara Gateway

---

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 a.m.

### 2. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair read the Land Acknowledgement:

Grimsby is situated on treaty land. This land is steeped in the rich history of the First Nations such as the Hatiwendaronk, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishinaabe, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. There are many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people from across Turtle Island that live and work in Niagara today. The Regional Municipality of Niagara/Grimsby stands with all Indigenous people, past and present, in promoting the wise stewardship of the lands on which we live.

**3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

**4. Approval of Agenda**

**ED-24- 027**

Moved by: Councillor J. Baradziej  
Seconded by: Bill Ashburn

Resolved that the October 3, 2024 Grimsby Economic Development Advisory Committee agenda be approved.

**CARRIED**

**5. Receipt of Previous Minutes**

5.1 Grimsby Economic Development Advisory Committee - September 5, 2024

**ED-24- 028**

Moved by: Bill Ashburn  
Seconded by: Councillor J. Baradziej

Resolved that the GEDAC minutes of September 5, 2024 be received.

**CARRIED**

**6. Delegations/Presentations**

6.1 Bright Workspace

The presentation from Rob Golfi of the Bright Workspace team occurred during the Verbal Updates section of the agenda.

**7. Verbal Updates**

Economic Development Officer Frank Miele provided verbal updates regarding the following items.

7.1 Economic Development Webpage

The Town's draft economic development webpage was presented by Lee Anderson of Localintel.

7.2 Groundbreaking Ceremony – Century Condos by DeSantis Homes

Century Condos had the groundbreaking ceremony on September 19, 2024.

7.3 Grand Opening – DeSantis Century Condos; Bright Space

Rob Golfi of the Bright Workspace team spoke to how the space came to fruition and how it operates.

**ED-24- 029**

Moved by: Frank Commisso

Seconded by: Bill Ashburn

Resolved that the presentation from Bright Workspace be received.

**CARRIED**

7.4 Future Openings

There are approximately 12 businesses opening between now and Christmas.

7.5 C&C Consulting – Barra Fattal

The Entrepreneurship Tools Workshop was on September 18, 2024 at Grimsby Library.

7.6 Mayor’s Masters Golf Tournament

The fundraising cheque from the Mayor's Masters Golf Tournament was presented to United Way.

7.7 Manufacturing Prospect Site Visit

A company out of Stoney Creek is looking to expand in Grimsby and Frank conducted a site visit.

7.8 Digital Imaging Clinic

There is no further update on this item from the previous meeting of GEDAC.

7.9 Grimsby Development Industry Liaison Taskforce

The first meeting of the Task Force is on October 8, 2024 at 12:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

7.10 Tourism Strategy Funding Application – Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming

This grant is a fund-matching opportunity and the ask is for \$30,000.

7.11 Business Ambassador Program – Marketing Plan

There are 20 names on the list currently, with the promotional campaign to last 2-3 months.

**ED-24- 030**

Moved by: Bill Ashburn  
Seconded by: B. Purkiss

Resolved that the verbal updates regarding ongoing projects and concierge service updates be received.

**CARRIED**

**8. Concierge Service Updates**

Economic Development Officer Frank Miele spoke to concierge service visits to the following establishments.

- 8.1 Anatolia SPA
- 8.2 Grimsby Innovation Centre
- 8.3 Precision Metalworks
- 8.4 New Professional Clinic - 61 Main St. East
- 8.5 Lizak Farm

**ED-24- 031**

Moved by: Benjamin Purkiss  
Seconded by: Councillor J. Baradziej

Resolved that the Concierge Service Updates be received.

**CARRIED**

**9. Business Liaison Update**

**Rebecca Shelley** of the Grimsby Chamber of Commerce announced it will be a busy fall season with the Business Awards, After 5 Business Connect, Business Vitality Summit, and a Tools in the Trades Bootcamp at Liuna.

**Belinda Anderson** of Gateway noted visitor numbers in 2023:

- 3.5 million visitors to the Gateway, compared to 2019 at 2.7 million.
- 2.8 million vehicles on the South Service Road
- 5.8 million vehicles at the Casablanca intersection
- 48 million vehicles passing the Casablanca exit on the QEW.

**Remy Fernandes** of Grimsby Power noted they are building a new feeder and maintaining equipment.

**Paul Robertson** of the Employment Help Centre announced the Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program has been well received. In 2025, they will be applying for new program grants.

**Simon Duong** of the Grimsby Downtown BIA spoke to potential BIA assistance throughout the downtown construction period. Ladies Night will be in November, and Christmas decorations are being explored.

**10. Announcements**

There were no announcements from Committee members.

**11. Next Meeting**

The next GEDAC meeting will be on November 7, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.