



Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn

Annual Reports

Brief description, vision and profile

Our Economic Development Department is responsible for economic development work.

The department/sector is led by Christine Lightbody, Manager, Economic Development.

The department/sector is organized as follows:

The Economic Development Department is structured within the Administration of the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation. The mandate is to ensure and promote economic and employment initiatives of First Nation members. The department assists community members identifying and pursuing economic development, labour and training initiatives. They also approach various government agencies to secure other funding to carry out and complete planned or assigned projects.

Our economic development vision for the community is:

To develop and promote the Pikwàkanagàn First Nation as a thriving, living and working self-sustainable Algonquin community.

Number of Community members employed full-time	96
Number of Community employed part-time seasonal	39
Total revenue/income generated by community-owned business	109,551.00
Value of investment made by external partners (non-government) to support community economic development	

Economic Development Goals

Our economic development goals for the community are:

1. Proposal Development – develop and submit proposals to appropriate funding agencies
2. Employment of Community Members – Create employment opportunities.
3. Promoting Investment in the Community – Creation of separate Economic Governance Structures that allow increased investor confidence in Band Economy

Resource Highlights

Resources	Planned	Actual	Difference
Financial Resources (\$)	350,000.00	279,631.00	70,369.00
Human Resources (\$)	173,213.00	173,213.00	
Did not receive all of the funding requested.			

Key program area delivery results

This sub-section is the core of the Economic Development performance story. It presents a results-based description of Economic Development achievements and the key activities and initiatives supporting the delivery of Economic Development work. Ideally, this section reports achievements against targets and goals set in Economic Development plans developed before the start of the reporting period.

Summary

Our economic development Program has achieved the following key results:

- 1> Proposals were developed and submitted totaling \$63, 717.00 which were for the Career Fair, Summer Students, Young Entrepreneur Symposium, Financial Planning, Interview Techniques and Green house Project.
- 2> Employment of Community Members – received \$316,611.00 which went to Youth Employment, Summer Students, Targeted Wage Subsidies. Twenty four members gained full time jobs, 26 part time or seasonal jobs, 64 members received employment services and 3 members were referred to specific employment opportunities.
- 3> Community Owned and Community member business development – 2 member owned businesses were started or expanded and 4 part time jobs were created. Also, 2 full time jobs created by starts or expansions of band member owned businesses.
- 4> Promoting Investment in the community - \$6,871 was used for meetings with KPMG to develop corporation properly for the purposed of joint venture creations.

We experienced the following key challenges in achieving these results:

- 1> Not all of the proposals were approved for funding.<insert economic development challenge>
- 2> Having to come up with the 25% equity for the Targeted Wage Subsidy Program.
- 3> Not having cash equity for business start-up.

We plan to focus our continuing economic development activities on the following targets:

- 1> Green energy projects and partnerships.

Status of major projects and activities

Project	Budget	Spent-to-date	Funding sources	Status	Comments
Corporate Structure	\$50,000.00	\$60,000.00	Casino Funds	Almost completed. Final paperwork coming from lawyer.	Lawyer costs are high, but will have the corporate structure set up properly.
Green Energy		0	Casino Funds	Have 2 partnerships	One of the projects we

				formed with non-native businesses. Construction will begin in the spring.	have 51% partnership and the other we have 15% partnership.
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Learning from the past, Looking for the future

This sub-section provides a look into the future of the Economic Development agenda and activities in the community. Additional information, such as challenges faced and lessons learned that should inform next year’s plans and approaches, may also be useful to include.

Priorities, Initiatives and supporting actions

Our key priorities moving forward are:

1. Create Economic Development opportunities through capacity building
2. To explore renewable energy projects with off reserve businesses.
3. Work on proposals to submit to funding organizations.

Major initiatives/projects planned are:

1. 5 year Economic Development Strategy
2. New Relationship Fund – Capacity Building
3. Arts/Music Festival
4. Business opportunity ventures

Key supporting actions planned include:

1. Proposal writing
2. Training in Capacity Development

Additional Information

We have created an Economic Development Newsletter which has been published twice, this is quarterly.



Economic Development

Newsletter

Fall 2013



Christine Lightbody - Christine is the Manager of Economic Development Program. She began her career in 1994 as an assistant, and in 2004 she became the Manager. She is responsible for all budgets, workplans and all economic development projects.

Lisa Meness Kohoko – Lisa has been employed as the Funding Research Coordinator since 2003. She has recently been transferred under the Economic Development program and still maintains her Funding Research responsibilities which includes proposal writing, research, and all projects that may benefit the community.

Amanda Two-Axe Kohoko – Amanda is a young employee that will soon complete her first year of as the Acting Employment Development Officer. She is responsible for employment & training developments.

Amanda Bennet – Amanda is a bright young individual who provides administrative assistance to the Economic Development team. She is on a short term employment opportunity to the end of March and possibly longer.

What is the Economic Development Department Doing?

Our goal is to meet the needs of the community for economic growth, stability and employment opportunities. We do this by creating or increasing opportunities for business development, employment and offering education and training to meet the minimum requirements for successful and meaningful employment.

We have continued networking, creating and maintaining partnerships within Renfrew County, educating local governments about our community, work force and enhancing opportunities for education, training and employment.

We are constantly seeking funding sources for small business development, learning about manufacturing and business opportunities in and around Renfrew County;

We are keen on communicating to the community and will be doing so via a quarterly newsletters and social media.

Workforce readiness is a priority for us to help the community members become job ready and to assist them to enhance their own education, training and employment opportunities.

Community Projects are very important for all the above reasons and we are constantly researching any projects that will benefit the community, be it economic or community development.

Contact Info:

Algonquins of Pikwakanagan
Economic Development
Department
1657 A Mishomis Inamo,
Pikwakanagan On K0J 1X0
Phone: 613-625-2800

Employment Assistance

If you need any kind of assistance to improve your chance at gaining employment, our door is open to you. Amanda is available to meet with you to complete an assessment of your skills and any areas you may need improvement. We can assist with securing training, funds to attend an apprenticeship education program, update your resume and cover letters, assist with your job search techniques, help you overcome barriers to gain meaning employment.

Don't be shy, Contact Amanda today and use our new Resource Center.

Occasionally, Pikwakanagan is able to secure funding for short term employment projects and/or training initiatives. Since April we offered: Heavy Equipment Operator Training, Self Employment Training, Community Energy Scouts, Hydro One Brush clearing, Summer Student Employment, Youth Employment Services and Skills Link (in the very near future).

To date 58 people were employed or participated in Training opportunities. As well, we assisted 15 community members to secure funding through Kagita Mikam (or another source) to go back to school and complete their apprenticeships and acquire licenses in their trade field.

Funding Sources in Renfrew County

- Ontario East Economic Development Commission
 - Renfrew County Community Futures Development Corporation
 - Rural Economic Development Program
 - Local Food Program
 - Enterprise Renfrew County
 - Ontario Ministry of Economic Development
 - Ontario Arts Council
- Come and ask us for contact Info.**

Future Projects

Skills Link- January 2014

Agriculture as a business – Lisa would like to know if any community members are interested in farming as a business.

Art & Music Festival – Would you like to see a community market or festival displaying the talents of our members in Arts, Crafts, Food and of course – Music?

Let us know

New Training

In November, we will be offering free training for community members to upgrade their skills. We will be offering: fall arrest, confined spaces, WHIMAS, Safe Food Handling, Info about WSIB coverage, and possibly Chainsaw courses.



Economic Development

Newsletter

Winter 2014



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Community Projects are very important for all the above reasons and we are constantly researching any projects that will benefit the community, be it economic or community development.

Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship is a very important part of our communities' economy. Jobs are created by small business started by entrepreneurially minded individuals. There are 10% of people in the world who have the mind of an entrepreneur they just need the support and resources to get started.

Economic Development Department has resources and information to help you start your own business and make your dream a reality. There are programs out there that can provide guidance, grants, loans, and other information and supports. Please call Amanda or Lisa regarding these hot topics.

Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn
Economic Development
Department
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Pikwàkanagàn ON K0J 1X0
Phone: 613-625-2800

Art & Music Festival

On June 28, 2014, the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation will be hosting our first Aboriginal Arts & Music Festival. The purpose of this event is to promote aboriginal music, arts, crafts & food, with special recognition to our Algonquin artists, performers, and cooks. We are excited to announce that we have two major headliners for this event world renowned artists & Juno nominees ***A Tribe Called Red*** and blues artist ***Derek Miller***.

We know that there is a great deal of talent in this community, and if you have always wanted your turn in the spotlight, then contact us immediately to secure your band or personal time slot on the stage.

Artists and Craft people, now is the time to create your art, make your business cards, and brochures, this is a great opportunity for entrepreneurs.

Don't miss it.

Food Vendors are also needed, get your menu together.



Business Space for Rent

There are two units available for rent in the Small Business Centre, heat is included in the price. Monthly rent is \$468.75 per unit.

Creating Employment Opportunities

Amanda and Lisa have been meeting with various employers throughout Renfrew County. We have met with representatives from AECL, OPG and others, building employment relationships.

Amanda can assist you with applications if you are interested in applying to vacancies at AECL, she can review your resume and suggest comments according to AECL standards. Also summer students have the opportunity to work with AECL for summer employment. Remember AECL employment opportunities are highly competitive; please give Amanda a call regarding any questions or concerns. We want to help you succeed in all your employment endeavors.

Aboriginal Contracts/Tender Bids

- We have begun the process of identifying and creating corporate structures to access contracts from federal, provincial and municipal governments.

Agriculture as a business

- Lisa would like to know if any community members are interested in farming or agriculture as a business. Indian Agriculture is accepting project applications until **March 14, 2014**. Check out their website: indianag.on.ca

Call us if we can help you!

Employment Assistance

If you need any kind of assistance to improve your chance at gaining employment, our door is open to you. Amanda is available to meet with you to complete an assessment of your skills and any areas you may need improvement. We can assist with training, funds to attend an apprenticeship education program, update your resume and cover letters, assist with your job search techniques, and help you overcome barriers to gain meaningful employment.

Don't be shy, Contact Amanda today and use our new Resource Center.

Occasionally, Pikwàkanagàn is able to secure funding for short term employment projects and/or training initiatives.

To date 68 people were employed or participated in Training opportunities. As well, over the last 2 months we assisted 21 community members to secure funding through Kagita Mikam (or another source) to go back to school and complete their apprenticeships and acquire licenses in their trade field.

Are you 29 years or Younger?

There are many programs and services to assist aboriginal youth with employment and business development. The opportunities are endless right now. They may not last very long. Talk to us about your ideals. We can help.