



## Staff Report

**Report Title: 2023 October Manager of Strategic Initiatives Status Report**

**Prepared By: Michelle Goetz**

**Department: BED**

**Date: Oct. 2, 2023**

**Report Number: BED-2023-10-39**

**File Number:**

**C11 BED 23**

### **Attachments:**

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### **Recommendation:**

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives report number BED-2023-10-39, prepared by Michelle Goetz, Manager of Strategic Initiatives.

### **Background:**

This report provides Council with an update from the Manager of Strategic Initiatives.

### **Discussion:**

#### **Women in Construction**

Program update:

Our Women in Construction program welcomed Cohort 2 to the program on September 18<sup>th</sup>. In Cohort 2 we have 10 women registered and have 1 or 2 more potentially joining the program in the coming weeks. They will complete 2-3 weeks of employment readiness training, followed by carpentry curriculum and in-the-shop training and finally the paid work placements. Cohort 2 will be wrapped up in March 2024.

Cohort 1 has completed the in-class portions of the program and have moved on to the paid work placements. Of the 9 participants, 6 have found placements, and 3 are still actively searching for a suitable work placement.

Future of program update

The province has announced funding for Skills Development Fund 4.0, we are discussing the future of the program with all our partners. We did include Bruce County on our Skills Development Fund 3.0 application as a partner, with the hope they would be interested in leading the project in the future. There are a few reasons for this; the project is regional, the County has more staffing resources, the program may need a new geographic home base to increase the target market for participants (transportation is a large barrier).

We will be working closely with the partners over the next few weeks to determine how to move forward. We have let the County know that Huron-Kinloss would be happy to support their team through the transition if a new funding application was approved in Skills Development Fund 4.0.

### **EDAC Marketing Award**

We were notified on Thursday September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 that the Township of Huron-Kinloss was chosen as recipient of an Economic Developer's Association of Canada Marketing Canada Award for our Investor's bus tour that took place in May 2023!

The award will be given out at their conference in Summerside PEI on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, they will be presenting the awards virtually as well via X/Twitter.

The award is given to communities excelling in marketing and raising the bar on best practices to market their communities.

### **Strategic Plan Update**

We've completed 3 of the 4 community workshops, we had great attendance at all three events and heard lots of great feedback from the community members that attended.

The community survey has 183 responses at the time of writing this report. The survey closed on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Deloitte will be using all the engagement, including the staff and Council sessions, to develop the draft vision, mission and guiding principles which will be presented to Council on November 20<sup>th</sup> 2023. Council will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft at the November 20<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

We are continuing to work on the master action plan which will come forward with the final strategy.

### **Govstack Implementation**

Our new website launched on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The site navigation has not really changed so the end user won't see many changes when they visit the site. The launch of the site did have some hiccups but our website team worked tirelessly to get everything up and running properly as soon as possible.

The website address has not changed but if you had any links bookmarked to forms or individual web pages, you may need to update them. If you have any questions or have trouble finding any information please contact Michelle at [mgoetz@huronkinloss.com](mailto:mgoetz@huronkinloss.com) or 519-395-3735.

**Financial Impacts:**

None at this time.

**Strategic Alignment / Link:**

The information provided in this report is consistent with and in keeping with the Municipality's Vision & Mission. The recommendations contribute to the goals in achieving a prosperous, spirited, vibrant, environmentally conscious and accessible community.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

Michelle Goetz, Manager of Strategic Initiatives

**Report Approved By:**

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer