



February 25, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Labour Force Development Strategy; The Rubber Hits the Road

The Elgin Workforce Development Committee is pleased to release the "Elgin & St. Thomas Labour Force Development Strategy". The strategy identifies several priorities in Elgin County and St. Thomas designed to support workforce needs of business and industry including; Entrepreneur, Tourism, Transportation, Agriculture and Logistics.

St. Thomas, ON – February 26, 2010 – After months of intensive work by teams from across the job development spectrum, the Elgin & St. Thomas Labour Force Development Strategy will be unveiled at the Elgin Mall in St. Thomas on February 26th between 12:30 and 1:30 pm.

Who: Elgin Workforce Development Committee
What: Elgin & St. Thomas Labour Force Development Strategy
Where: Elgin Mall, Community Room (Next to Smith Books)
When: February 26, 2010 – 12:30 – 1:30

The Elgin Workforce Development Committee comprised of representatives from the Elgin Business Resource Centre, Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford Local Training Board, Fanshawe College, County of Elgin Economic Development, St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation, St. Thomas - Elgin Ontario Works, YWCA St. Thomas-Elgin, Employment Services Elgin, Mennonite Community Services and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs have spent several months developing the labour force strategy in St. Thomas and Elgin County.

With this strategy in place, this expansive and dynamic cross-section of business, government, education and community agencies will move to the next phase of this work; building the operational plans for execution of the priorities and actions contained in the document to maximize labour market opportunities.

"Since a strong economy is highly dependent on a reliable and well-trained workforce, this strategy will be a key piece for regional economic development." Sean Dyke, Economic Development Officer, St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation.

"As a contributing partner to the workforce development strategy, the County of Elgin's Economic Development department looks forward to assisting with the implementation of the strategies contained within this plan in order to ensure the region has the workforce it needs to retain and attract business investment, and create jobs in the key economic sectors as identified in the County's economic development strategy." Alan Smith, General Manager, Economic Development, County of Elgin.