



SCOR EDC Partnership

2018





WHAT BROUGHT THE 5 COUNTIES TOGETHER?

- shared history of similar communities
- common geography (sand plains),
- shared vision of & commitment to a long range prosperity in the region
- Regional leadership and collaboration
- Vision and commitment to each other as partner counties
- Commitment to sustained implementation of agreed upon strategy
- Accountability to partners
- Shared resources and funding



Business Support

- Webinars on best practice ideas including “Win this Space”
- Series of downtown revitalization meetings
- Your Town Rising Workshops
- Funding matrix-257 sent





Mission to China

- 3 missions to China in 2017
- Building a bridge
- B2B connections
- Direct marketing of region and first hand knowledge of opportunities



SCOR led business to business delegation missions focused on investment and creating economic relationships in 2017. Representatives from the region travelled to China to promote the regional opportunities in March, September and in November 2017.



The first two missions were largely introductory and aimed at building relationships exploring areas of common interest where B2B connections might be made. SCOR was part of the Premier's Official Business Mission to China in November 2017 which was the 3rd mission to China in 2017. Our focus was more on direct meetings with local importers and distributors, connecting with potential investors and promoting our expertise in agriculture/food, building international connections and engaging research institutions and technology companies.

Economic Facts

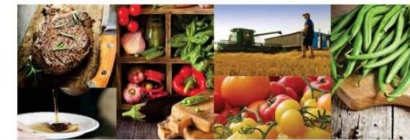
- China is Ontario's second-largest single-nation trading partner in the world.
- In 2016, trade between Ontario and China and Hong Kong totalled \$45.6 billion, an increase of 35 per cent since 2012.
- Ontario has strong cultural and business connections with China, with a large and active Chinese community of more than 713,000 Ontarians of Chinese origin and 57,570 Chinese students.
- Earlier this year, Canada launched consultations on a possible free trade agreement with China.





Ag and Food

- FoodHub update
- Part of international food and ag systems group
- FBO
- OAFT
- OFA



The SCOR FoodHub supported by the Ontario 75th Anniversary Foundation continues to focus on providing connections between local producers and food purchasers in an effort to create relationships that would provide economic opportunities to producers and provide a source of nutritious, safe food for consumers in our region and beyond. 2017 was a year of transition for the FoodHub as the role of SCOR moved from one focused on operations and made way to more of a supportive and advisory role. Through this project we were able to connect and collaborate with a number of food and food policy related organizations throughout the region in addition to the main operations and provide for the project. These include groups such as: Oxford Food, The London and Middlesex Food Policy Council, the Ontario Institute for Nutrition Programs to name a few. Bio-Bioscience also provided a report on recommendations for the FoodHub meeting framework. Those can be found on the SCOR website.

SCOR FoodHub hosted a full local Food Recognition Day to celebrate and recognize local food champions. Awards were presented to deserving recipients across

“South Central Ontario Region is rich in agricultural expertise, innovation, and enthusiasm.”

the five county region of Elgin, Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk and Oxford. There were over 75 representatives in various categories. This event was a great opportunity to share and recognize the great work happening across the region in support of local food.

The SCOR FoodHub project brought several like-minded organizations and individuals representing a variety of future goals together to discuss policy issues, and opportunities that exist under the umbrella of “local food”. South Central Ontario Region is rich in agricultural expertise, innovation, and enthusiasm.





Transportation

- Short line rail & passenger rail
- Highway connectivity
- Multi-modal opportunities
- Community Transportation Network
- OCTN / MTO



Human Capital

- Intergovernmental group on workforce planning
- Partnering with Workforce Planning Boards and LEPC -addressing immediate needs of workforce
- Precarious employment
- Succession planning
- Education partnerships
- LMI and youth connection





Advocacy & Connecting



- influencing Provincial and Federal levels of government in the development of policies and programs that support rural
- Connecting with MP's & MPP's to be sure they have the most up to date information from the constituencies they represent to best serve our interests
- Coordinate with key Ministries including OMAFRA, MEDG, MTO, MTCU, CCI, ENERGY, INFRASTRUCTURE, EDUCATION, MTCU
- Providing Connections for partner counties at all levels: staff and political
- AMO / ROMA Delegations
- Collecting information and framing current issues and interests (ex. US tariffs)



We have accomplished a great deal as a five county partnership with very common geography, economic base and opportunities.

Close neighbours working together for the good of all!



Thank You!

