



Media Release: Friday, June 10, 2016, 4:30 p.m.

Regional Municipality of Waterloo
Economic Development Committee

Agenda

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

11:30 a.m.

Room 110

150 Frederick Street, Kitchener

1. Declarations Of Pecuniary Interest Under The Municipal Conflict Of Interest Act

2. Economic Development Updates

Presented by Matthew Chandy, Office of Regional Economic Development and Michelle Sergi, Community Planning

- a) Strategic Priorities – 2016
- b) Business Process and Financial Incentive Review
- c) Corridor Metrics

3. Reports

4. Information/Correspondence

5. Other Business

- a) Update on Delegation – Americas Competitiveness Exchange 2

6. Next Meeting

7. Adjourn

Americas Competitiveness Exchange on Innovation and Entrepreneurship (ACE)

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) will host a sixth instalment of the Americas Competitiveness Exchange on Innovation and Entrepreneurship (ACE), in the Golden Horseshoe of southern Ontario in fall 2016.

The ACE is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Organization of American States, in partnership with a host government. ACE tours or “Exchanges” bring together 50-60 select economic and political decision makers from across the Americas for a five-day regional tour of innovation hubs, leading firms and educational and research institutions, to explore regional economic development and to build networks with local economic players. The U.S., Mexico and most recently, Argentina have held ACE tours.

The 5th ACE will take place in Arizona and California, April 10-16, 2016 (<http://riacnet.org/fifth-exchange/>). This six-day tour will include stops in: Phoenix, Tucson and Yuma, AZ, and Imperial Valley and San Diego, CA. Featured sites on the tour will target the following clusters: manufacturing, medical devices, water, agriculture, energy, and information and communication technology.

The 6th ACE, covering Toronto, Waterloo Region, Hamilton and the Niagara Region, will be held in September 26-30 (TBC) and will include site visits, business roundtables, formal lunches and dinners and social occasions. Profiled sectors will include ICT, life sciences, cleantech, advanced manufacturing and materials, food processing and financial services. The tour will have a strong focus on innovation by showcasing leading Canadian businesses and technologies, and will seek to demonstrate how our policy environment supports success in the face of intense global economic change. Proposed site hosts include: MaRS Discovery District, University of Toronto, Ryerson University DMZ, Cisco Innovation Centre, the Institute for Quantum Computing, BlackBerry, Communitech, CanmetMATERIALS and McMaster Innovation Park.

The ACE will also be an opportunity to share Canadian best practices and establish new networks and partnerships with high-level decision makers in order to enhance Canadian business, trade and investment opportunities within the hemisphere.

Outcomes:

- raise the profile of the economic and innovative capacity of the Quantum Valley
- create trade and investment opportunities for host sites and firms
- showcase best practices in innovation and regional economic development
- build partnerships between Canadian and hemispheric innovation hubs
- build networks of North American entrepreneurs and policy makers to collaboration on innovation