

# **Economic Development Strategic Plan for the Township of South Stormont 2006**



## **A Beautiful Place to Do Business**

**Corporation of the Township of South Stormont**  
**(613) 537-2362 / (800) 265-3915 / [www.southstormont.ca](http://www.southstormont.ca)**

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## **Welcome to South Stormont – A Beautiful Place to do Business!**

South Stormont is a terrific place to live, work or visit.

- ✓ We have fully serviced, municipally owned, and pre-zoned land for sale in our Business Parks.
- ✓ Major tourism features include Upper Canada Village and the Lake Ontario Waterfront Trail along the St. Lawrence River. We are part of the Greater Thousand Islands Region and near the Capital of Canada, Ottawa. History buffs will enjoy the intriguing Lost Villages museum and historic St. Andrews. Local attractions such as McMaze are all part of the fun. Farran Point is an excellent campground and Hoople Creek is renowned for the fishing.
- ✓ Whether you would like to live in a rural, suburban or retirement setting, our residential quality of life is second to none. Golf, tennis, arena, marina, we have it all.
- ✓ South Stormont borders on the City of Cornwall, in the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, in Eastern Ontario. The Township is 1 hour west of Montreal, 1 hour south of Ottawa, and 3 ½ hours from Toronto. The birthplace of Ontario, our region bears the traces of Aboriginal peoples, explorers from the era of New France down to Simon Fraser, and battlefields from the war of 1812. We are located on Highway 401 at exits 770 to 789, in the heart of Canada's highway / rail / fibre optic 'Corridor-Route', with border crossings to the USA just minutes away.
- ✓ Participation in civic life is important here, with volunteers involved in recreation and committees. This Plan was developed through a public consultation process, including input from business and tourism stakeholders, as well as our regional partners like the St. Lawrence Parks Commission, the Cornwall and Seaway Valley Tourism, and the Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Community Futures Development Corporation.
- ✓ The Corporation of the Township of South Stormont is a pro-active administration, constantly seeking to improve. This Economic Development Strategic Plan includes both long term visions for waterfront development and short term plans to support local business growth.
- ✓ A municipality of about 12,000 people, our courteous and professional staff are pleased to serve. Our Economic Development Committee is working to promote and support the quality of life and continued development of the municipality and region. For Economic Development assistance, call 1-800-265-3915 and ask for Betty or Hilton. For local residents it's (613) 537-2362. Check out our web site at [www.southstormont.ca](http://www.southstormont.ca)

## **Overall Municipal Strategic Goals**

Quality of life and economic development go hand in hand. Therefore, this Plan includes both. Enhancing the quality of life for residents and attracting visitors and investors to the area will provide many of the key components to foster healthy and sustainable economic growth.

### **Strategic Goal 1:**

**Maintain the basic supports for a favourable business climate and a healthy community.**

- Create communities with abundant green spaces, parks, and a full spectrum of recreation and cultural opportunities.
- Maintain reasonable taxation rates. (South Stormont has the lowest rates in the region of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry at this time.)
- Maintain existing infrastructure and expand it to meet growth. (primarily roads & streets, water & sewer, telecommunications)
- Encourage the provision of health, policing and other provincial or federal government services, locally.
- Encourage the provision of commercial services and products for which residents presently leave the community.
- Provide municipal services with a customer service approach that is efficient and solution oriented, while respecting the legal and financial constraints placed on the municipality by senior governments.

### **Strategic Goal 2:**

**Promote growth and development for residents and businesses.**

- Develop plans and conceptual proposals for high quality waterfront development in selected areas that are not better suited for nature conservation.
- Encourage the expansion of existing businesses and attract new businesses.
- Market municipally owned land in Business Parks.
- Monitor existing businesses and inventory of buildings to promote full occupancy of the Business Parks.
- Ensure services are available for an ongoing supply of family oriented and retirement oriented residential development.
- Maintain good land use planning, with quality standards.
- Regional and international marketing of the municipality.

### **Strategic Goal 3:**

**Support business retention and expansion in the following primary economic sectors:**

- Tourism
- Industry and large businesses
- Retail commercial, offices and small businesses
- Services
- Residential development
- Home based business
- Agriculture, including the family farm, agri-tourism and niche products (e.g. farm gate sales, on-farm processing)

### **Strategic Goal 4:**

**Cooperate with other economic development partners for regional and international marketing and business development.**

The following are the major regional players at this time:

- St. Lawrence Parks Commission (SLPC)
- Cornwall and Seaway Valley Tourism (CSVT)
- Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Community Futures Development Corporation (SDGCFDC)
- Eastern Ontario Training Board (EOTB)
- Provincial level partners include ministries with rural and economic development mandates
- Municipal level partners include organizations such as the South Stormont Chamber of Commerce, the Cornwall Township Historical Society (with special regard for historic St. Andrew's) and the Lost Villages Historical Society (with special regard for the St. Lawrence Seaway)
- Working partnerships on specific joint ventures will include relevant private sector stakeholders.

### **Plan Implementation and Review**

As with any plan, steady implementation over the long term provides the best results. This will require the commitment of the Council and the Economic Development Committee to work continuously on the plan. It will be necessary to adjust the specific actions and annual work plan within the strategic goals. The plan should be reviewed every 3 to 5 years (or sooner if circumstances change quickly) using such tools as an Environmental Scan, a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats), and consultation with stakeholders, partners and the general public.