

Economic Development

2014 AT A GLANCE.....



Project Updates

Virginia Beach Marina & Restaurant

The Virginia Beach Marina & Restaurant is in the final stages of updating its plan! Community meetings were held throughout 2013-14 and the community provided many great ideas that helped to develop the feasibility plan for the redevelopment of the marina and restaurant. The Plan will proceed in phases. The first phase will be the construction of a new restaurant. Stiemer's Engineering Inc. has been hired to develop the drawings and design of this facility. Many factors had to be taken into consideration, such as water and septic, parking area, soil testing and land surveys. The new restaurant will have a "natural" look, with stone and wood on the exterior. The interior of the restaurant will host a 1296 square foot dining room with an area that can be used for meetings, two retail spaces, 2 offices, a large kitchen, and washrooms. The 462 square foot outdoor patio will look out over the lake. Construction will begin in spring 2015.

Meetings have been held with MorningStar Hospitality Services Inc. to assist us in developing a more professional, efficiently-run facility. Created by Aboriginal entrepreneur and owner Chris Trainor, partnering with Canadian Foodservice Company Dana Hospitality Inc., he delivers comprehensive food and support services under the guidance of aboriginal leadership and traditional principles. The company strongly supports Indigenous education, training and employment opportunities. This company specializes in restaurant start-up from design and staff training to culinary expertise.



Solar MicroFIT Project

The microFIT Program was launched in 2009 as part of the Ontario government's efforts to increase renewable energy in the province. The program provides homeowners and other eligible participants with the opportunity to develop a small or "micro" renewable electricity generation project (10 kilowatts (kW) or less in size) on their property. The microFIT Program is a streamlined program for small renewable energy projects under the umbrella of the Feed-in Tariff (FIT) Program. The FIT Program is designed for projects generating over 10 kW of electricity.

The Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation have sent out a Request for Proposals to several Solar Companies, inviting them to apply to design, install and commission Solar Photovoltaic (PV) project on our First Nation-owned buildings. Under this program, our community will generate clean energy from a renewable source – the sun - and sell it for a guaranteed price with a fair return on our investment. Georgina Island will be paid a guaranteed price over a 20-year term for all the electricity produced and delivered to the province's electricity grid. This project will help to reduce energy costs and will produce revenue monies in seven years, while contributing to a healthier environment.

Aboriginal Community Energy Plan (ACEP)



The Economic Development Department applied to the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) and was approved funding to develop a Community Energy Plan. We have hired Cambium Inc., an environmental consulting firm located in Peterborough, Ontario to assist us in the development of this plan.

The goal of this plan is to improve energy efficiency, reducing electricity consumption and assessing opportunities for clean energy generation. It will involve calculating the current energy use on the island and identifying the future energy needs of the community. We have been reviewing all the various types of energy used in the community, including electricity, propane, heating oil, fuel consumption and wood. A door-to-door survey was conducted, and we extend our thanks to everyone who participated. Your input is valuable and critical to the success of this project!

An Energy Fair and ACEP Information session is being planned for this winter. If you have any questions about this project, please feel free to visit or contact the Economic Development Department at the Georgina Island Administration Office.

Youth Projects

Summer Student Work Program 2014

The prime objective of the Summer Student Work Program is to give students (ages 15-25) experience in a dynamic work place environment and offer learning opportunities that will develop and improve their skills for future employment. A summer job builds a sense of personal responsibility and helps students earn their own money, which is a liberating and positive experience. As well, students can use a summer job to build their work ethic and to put

something on their resume. If a student comes out of high school or college with at least one summer of work under his or her belt, they will set themselves apart from other job candidates who have never worked.

With assistance from the Ogemawahj Tribal Council, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada and the Ministry of Culture, we were able to hire fourteen students. They worked for seven weeks in various placements: the Georgina Island Day Camp, Sibbald Point Provincial Park, the Virginia Beach Marina, Public Works and Homemaker Assistant.

We would like to congratulate Madison Porte and Dawson Searle, who had the best work attendance out of all the high school employees! We are very proud of all the students who participated in this program.

Georgina Island First Nation Career Day

Our annual career day is going to be on October 16th at Sutton District High School. Our **keynote speaker, Steve Sxwithul'twx**, is the Host/Producer/President at Warrior Games Productions Inc., the host of Down2Earth and is a First Nations Columnist for "On the Island" at CBC/Radio-Canada. After he speaks to the First Nation students, there will be a **Career Tradeshow** in the gymnasium with over 30 booths featuring various post-secondary institutions, trade schools, public service jobs, local businesses and entrepreneurs. The students will visit these tables while completing a career day scavenger hunt. In the afternoon, Mr. Sxwithul'twx will present a **workshop** entitled, "Industry in the Classroom." Lunch is provided for the students and there will be draws throughout the day for prizes!

Training Programs

OTTER Board

The Ogemawahj Tribal Training & Economic Resources (OTTER) is a department of the Ogemawahj Tribal Council that provides training subsidies to eligible participants. The Economic Development Officer, Marlene Stiles, sits as a board member and takes Georgina Island's applications for job training positions to the OTTER Board for review and approvals. This past year, the OTTER Board has generously contributed funds to the Chippewas of Georgina Island for a number of training positions and community programs:

Child Care Program	Recycling Promotion & Education Coordinator
Native Language Instructor	Summer Career Placement
Forestry Workers	Boat Driver Training
Water Operator in Training	GIS Technician
ECE Worker	School Administrative Support
Introduction to Welding Program	

Since spring 2014, the OTTER Board has allocated a total of \$335,139 to Georgina Island First Nation for programming and training subsidies.

New Relationship Fund

This program is provided by the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, and helps to create jobs and create capacity within the

First Nation. Two types of funding are available: Core consultation funding and Enhanced Capacity funding. Georgina Island's applications were both approved, and created three new jobs – the GIS mapping position, the Community Consultation Worker and the IT Technician Worker.

Winter Works Program

This annual program is designed to provide an opportunity for unemployed individuals to gain training and short-term employment for six weeks in the winter. Currently, the program is being reviewed and may be undergoing some changes. We will keep the community updated on the website and by posting notices in the community.

Economic Development & Small Business Resources

To book an appointment or for more information about these resources, please call our office at (705) 437-1337 x 2237

Waubetek Business Development Corporation www.waubetek.com

Business Development Officer: Ed Smoke tel: 613-933-6500

The Waubetek Business Development Corporation is an Aboriginal-owned and controlled organization that delivers business financing and economic development services to First Nations and Aboriginal entrepreneurs in all of Ontario. Their goal is to assist in strengthening the economies of the local First Nations, as well as the whole region of Ontario, through business and community development.

Ohwista Capital Corporation www.ohwista.com

General Manager: Charmaine Caldwell tel: 613-933-6500

Ohwista Capital Corporation is an Aboriginal owned company incorporated as a non-profit corporation. Their mandate is to assist in the development of aboriginal businesses by providing access to capital dollars through a comprehensive loan program for new and existing native businesses.

Indian Agricultural Program of Ontario www.indianag.on.ca

Farm Management Advisor: Mark Leahy tel: (613) 395 5505 or 1 800 363 0329

The Indian Agricultural Program of Ontario (IAPO) is a non-profit Ontario corporation owned by Status Indian farmers. IAPO offers farm financing and business advisory services to Status First Nations farmers located on or off First Nations territories across Ontario. The Program involves all agricultural sectors – dairy, beef, swine, poultry and agricultural crops, maple syrup, honey, farm retail and farm repair.