

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WindsorEssex Development Commission Announces New CEO

Windsor and Essex County, Thursday, November 12, 2009 –The Board of Directors of the WindsorEssex Development Commission (WEDC) announced today the appointment of Mr. Ron Gaudet to the position of Chief Executive Officer.

Mr. Gaudet who comes to the WEDC from Moncton, New Brunswick holds a fellowship in Economic Development from the University of Waterloo and the Economic Developers Association of Canada. Mr. Gaudet has more than twenty years of proven leadership in community economic development having successfully overseen the creation and implementation of three community-based strategic plans which have contributed to significant employment growth in New Brunswick. As the current Vice President of Advancement with Atlantic Baptist University and President of Gaudet & Associates Consultants, Mr. Gaudet has provided economic development advice to development agencies and communities throughout Canada. Previously, as President and CEO of the Greater Moncton Economic Commission, Mr. Gaudet lead Moncton's transformation from a community experiencing business closures and mounting unemployment to being recognized as the fastest growing economy and population in Eastern Canada.

“After a very long and stringent process we are extremely pleased to have Ron Gaudet join the WEDC in this key management role,” said Lindsay Boyd, Chairperson of the WindsorEssex Development Commission Board of Directors. “The WEDC Board of Directors is very confident that Mr. Gaudet's proven leadership and commitment to work with the highly skilled Development Commission staff will help us to achieve our mission to maximize economic diversity, growth and prosperity in the Windsor-Essex Region.”

“I am very pleased to become a resident of the region and to be joining this dynamic organization during these incredibly challenging times. I look forward to working with our existing business community as well as, focusing on new economic investment opportunities to revitalize Windsor-Essex,” said Ron Gaudet.

Patrick Persichilli will continue as the acting CEO until Mr. Gaudet officially moves to the region in February 2010 and will then resume his senior position as the Vice President of the WEDC.

“Ron and Patrick will make a very strong leadership team for the WEDC and for economic development and growth in our region,” commented Lindsay Boyd.

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ABOUT US – The WindsorEssex Development Commission provides valuable services to the Windsor-Essex Region by attracting new business, capital investment and other assessment and employment-creating enterprises. We strive to aid in the strengthening, diversification and growth of existing business and maintain an attractive business and economic environment through constant contact with the appropriate government agencies and community groups to promote our region as a desirable location. Please visit www.choosewindsorsex.com to learn more.