

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Thursday, February 9, 2012**

## **WEEDC's Annual Report Card Unites Region**

*Chambers of Windsor-Essex, Leamington, and Amherstburg join forces to update region.*

**WINDSOR-ESSEX, ON – Thursday, February 9, 2012** – The WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation's first annual economic prosperity report card on the status of the Windsor-Essex Five Year Regional Economic Roadmap will be delivered to the region on March 2, 2012 during a luncheon hosted by the three chambers from Windsor-Essex which includes the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Leamington District Chamber of Commerce, and the Amherstburg Chamber of Commerce.

"We were thrilled to hear that all three chambers wanted to work together to bring our report card into the region," said Ron Gaudet CEO of WEEDC. "It really is an example of collaboration in action and on a whole new level."

The *Windsor-Essex Economic Prosperity Report Card* will report on the region's investment attraction, business retention & expansion, small business & entrepreneurship, industry group progress, regional building block achievements, and year in review successes for 2010 and 2011.

"Overall we are really pleased with the numbers and how the region has come together to help achieve our goals," said Lindsay Boyd, Chair of WEEDC. "I think residents of Windsor-Essex have much to be proud of and we really came together this last year to make some significant changes."

The report card will also highlight the upcoming action plan for 2012 and the top sectors poised for growth over the next 24 months for Windsor-Essex.

"2011 was really a year of foundation building as we learned as a region how to work better together and found ways to strengthen our efforts," says Gaudet. "2012 is going to be the year of action as we begin to see our plans implemented. This event with all three Chambers coming together is the perfect way for us to deliver the report and future plans so that we can all continue the momentum that has been started."

"On behalf of the area Chambers we are excited about the opportunities for the Windsor-Essex region and look toward a cooperative journey and successful future," said Jennifer Jones, Chair of the Board for the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce.

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**About the WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC)** - The WEEDC is the lead economic development agency proudly representing Windsor-Essex, Ontario. One region with countless opportunities. Windsor-Essex to lead the (nation's) economic growth in 2011(Conference Board of Canada), one of the world's Top 7 most intelligent communities (Intelligent Community Forum) and FDI's 2011 #2 Best Economic Potential-Large City (Financial Times of London). Acting as a catalyst and network developer WEEDC works to positively impact the region by providing services including business attraction, retention and expansion, small business and entrepreneurial development, and community development activities.

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