

2023 Economic Development Summit

15th Anniversary – What's Ahead

Friday, November 17, 2023

The Leeds Grenville Economic Development Office, in partnership with MP Michael Barrett, MPP Steve Clark, the Eastern Workforce Innovation Board and the 1000 Islands, Grenville and Valley Heartland Community Futures Development Corporations, invite you to the region's top Economic Development event of the year.

Date: **Friday, November 17, 2023**
Registration: 8:30 am; Schedule 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Location: North Grenville Municipal Centre
285 County Road 44, Kemptville, Ontario
[Google directions](#)

Registration: **\$50** – [Get tickets now](#)
Light Breakfast, Snacks and Lunch provided
Advanced registration and payment required.
Learn more at invest.leedsgrenville.com/summit2023

Registration Deadline: **Friday, November 10, 2023** at 3 p.m.

For more information email: joanne.poll@uclg.on.ca or call 613-342-3840 ext. 5362



2023 Economic Development Summit

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8:30 am **Registration | Networking | Photo Booth**

9:00 am **Welcome / Greetings**

- Michael Barrett, MP Leeds-Grenville-Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes
- Steve Clark, MPP Leeds-Grenville-Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes
- Nancy Peckford, Warden, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville / Mayor, North Grenville

9:15 am **The Leclerc Products**

Last year Leclerc Foods, one of Canada's leading food manufacturers, announced an expansion of its North American operations into Brockville. The \$100-M expansion, over five years, has brought new jobs, and delicious cookies and snack bars to the Leeds Grenville region.

Learn how their challenges have been overcome, successes that have been achieved in their plant set-up, and the goodness ahead.

Presenters:

Guillaume Turgeon, Senior Director, Canadian Operations
Abdullah Toseef, Brockville Plant Manager

10:00 am **BREAK**

10:15 am **Bill Thake Memorial Economic Development Leadership Award**

Recipient: Joe Hudson, Burnbrae Farms
Being accepted by: Margaret Hudson, President, Burnbrae Farms

Presenters: Nancy Peckford, Warden, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
Marlene Thake

10:30 am **Shorelines Casino Thousand Islands**

Shorelines Casino Thousand Islands continues to be one of the top tourism and hospitality employers in the region, while generating significant funds annually to Gananoque and Leeds and the Thousand Islands, as host communities, through the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation.

From ownership changes in September 2021, to pandemic shutdowns and post-pandemic challenges, Shorelines Casino Thousand Islands continues to make positive economic and social impacts on Leeds Grenville and bolsters the region's tourism and entertainment industry.

Presenters:

Dale Deane, General Manager, Shorelines Casino Thousand Islands
Chuck Keeling, Executive Vice President, Stakeholder Engagement,
Community & Social Responsibility, Great Canadian Entertainment

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11:15 am **Planning our Future Infrastructure**

Natural gas plays a significant role in the attraction and expansion of businesses in Leeds Grenville. Enbridge Gas will provide an overview of their economic development services, the province's proposed Natural Gas Expansion Program – Phase 3 and the steps for increased capacity in Leeds Grenville.

Presenter:

Brian Lennie, Specialist, Economic Development
ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

12:00 pm **LUNCH | Networking | Photo Booth | 15th Anniversary Leeds Grenville Trivia - prizes**

1:00 pm **Keynote:**

Ontario's Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development will discuss the progress on the government's plan on building a stronger Ontario for all workers.

Presenter:

Hon. David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development

1:45 pm **1000 Islands Rideau Canal Waterways – Building an Appetite for Culinary Tourism**

To support the Tourism and Hospitality sector recovery, the 2022 Leeds Grenville Regional Tourism Destination Strategy was produced. Food and Drink was identified as one of the regions' top visitor interests. Businesses leading the way in culinary tourism will share their insights and what the potential is for the future.

Moderator:

Shelbi McFarlane, Business Development Officer
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

Panel:

Cynthia Peters, Maison Maitland Cooking School & Villas
Erin Kergen, Pickle & Myrrh
Matthew Shapton, Hall's Apple Market
Martha Kudrinko, Rosie Yumski's Find Foods

2:15 pm **Leeds Grenville 15th Anniversary Summit Review & What's Ahead**

A quick look back on where we started, what has been accomplished and where we are heading. When there's a vision and action everyone achieves more.

Presenter:

Ann Weir, Economic Development Manager
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

2:45 pm **Closing Remarks | Networking**