

Community Partnership #5

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| <p><i>Partnership Title:</i> Durham Region Advanced Manufacturing Cluster Study</p> | <p><i>Partnership Type:</i> Labour Market Research</p> |
| <p><i>Description of Proposed Partnership:</i> Through consultation with industry, education and other key stakeholders, undertake a comprehensive study of Durham's advanced manufacturing sector. Identify industry trends, regional assets and competitive strengths (including labour force characteristics), and develop recommended strategies and initiatives to better position the region to attract additional investment, including strategies to attract and retain a skilled labour force. <i>Related TOP issue (2007) – local businesses need to project a positive image of their industry to attract skilled labour, develop retention strategies, and work with the education sector to ensure that new labour force entrants possess the skills they require.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Role of Local Board:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • co-fund the sector study. • provide input to the selection process for the consulting service. • offer feedback and recommendations for future action to be documented in the final report. • assist the region and municipal departments in implementing actions resulting from the study. | |
| <p><i>Projected Outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • greater understanding of the sector's competitive advantages, weaknesses, and opportunities. • awareness of the technologies employed by industry, the research and development that has or will be taking place, and the resources (labour force skills, suppliers, etc.) that are currently being utilized or will be required by industry. • inform decision-making to better position the region to expand its manufacturing base through stronger partnerships with the private sector, education, and organizations who support labour force development. • development of a Commissioner's industrial working and advisory group. | |
| <p><i>Key Partners:</i> <i>Industry:</i> Steering committee made up of key manufacturers. <i>Government:</i> Regional Municipality of Durham Economic Development and Tourism Department, Municipal Economic Development Departments.</p> | |
| <p><i>Projected Participation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 or more manufacturers will provide direct input to the study, including those from the energy, environment and advanced technologies (i.e. aerospace, automotive) sectors. | |
| <p><i>Projected Timelines:</i> May-October 2007.</p> | |
| <p><i>Potential Products:</i> Final cluster study report; regional action plan.</p> | |
| <p><i>Completion Date:</i> October 2007</p> | |
| <p><i>Status:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • final cluster study report was released in November 2007; it includes 30 strategic recommendations, 9 which pertain to future labour force attraction and development. (http://www.drltb.com/advanced_manufacturing.pdf) • results announced January 22nd, 2008 at Messier-Dowty in Ajax. | |