

SADC

Gatineau Valley Société d'aide au développement des collectivités

RELEASE

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Espace économique francophone canadien

Pilot project between the Gatineau Valley SADC and the RDÉE Ontario East unveiled

Maniwaki, November 19, 2008 – Through the Espace économique francophone canadien pilot project officially launched in June 2007 by the Réseau des SADC du Québec and the Réseau des sociétés d'aide au développement des collectivités (RDÉE) (Economic Development and Employability Network), the Gatineau SADC is proud to announce its association with this historic initiative.

You will recall that the purpose of the Espace is to promote economic exchanges to benefit Francophones and the Canadian economy in general. More specifically, its objective is to help Francophone entrepreneurs in Canada take advantage of business opportunities and gain access to markets and business networks in Canada and abroad. Another objective is to promote economic diversification of regions where Francophone SMEs have difficulty accessing the Canadian market due to various cultural and linguistic problems. For promoters, this could end up paving the way to new geographic markets.

Five (5) pilot projects were selected in Canada, including the Gatineau SADC which joined forces with the RDÉE Ontario Est and will spend the next few months targeting and accompanying promoters of both territories that could export goods or services to the matched up territory. The other pilot projects are the Gaspé Nord SADC with RDÉE Saskatchewan; SADC Îles-de-la-Madeleine with the RDÉE Île-du-Prince-Édouard, the Centre d'aide aux entreprises (CAE) Haut Yamaska with the RDÉE Manitoba and the SADC Abitibi Ouest with the RDÉE Yukon.

For more than 25 years, the regional economic development and the well-being of its community have been at the heart of SADC's mission. "We had been thinking for some time about ways of enabling our Francophone entrepreneurs to export their goods and services to new markets. This involves pan-Canadian exports, not international exports, which we do not rule out. Supply requirements represent business opportunities that could give our economy a real boost," concluded André Galipeau, the Chair of the Gatineau Valley SADC Board of Directors.

To find out more about the terms involved to take part in this project, please call (819) 449-1551.

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Caption:

André Riopel, vice-chair of the SADC Board of Directors; Pierre Monette, Director General of SADC; André Galipeau, chair of the SADC Board of Directors; Luc Bessette, member of the RDÉE Ontario Board of Directors; Martine Plourde, Regional Director of RDEE Ontario.

Josée Nault, Communications Manager
Gatineau Valley SADC
100 Principale Sud, Suite 210
Maniwaki, Quebec J9E 3L4
Telephone: (819) 449-1551
Fax: (819) 449-7431