

SADC

Gatineau Valley Société d'aide au développement des collectivités

RELEASE

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Espace économique francophone canadien

The Gatineau Valley SADC joins forces with the RDÉE in Ontario to forge closer ties

Maniwaki, February 9, 2009 – The Espace économique francophone canadien is an initiative aimed primarily at helping Francophone entrepreneurs in the country take advantage of business opportunities and access markets and business networks in Canada and abroad. Two networks specializing in economic development, i.e., the Réseau des Sociétés d'aide au développement des collectivités (SADC) du Québec and the Réseau de développement économique et d'employabilité (RDÉE) du Canada have combined their expertise to explore different partnership avenues. The Gatineau Valley SADC and the RDÉE Ontario are part of five pilot projects.

Last February 2-4, the Gatineau Valley SADC team came to Eastern Ontario, intent on pursuing the exploration of their respective territories. The main objectives of this activity were to pinpoint promising opportunities to facilitate potential business relations that would enable promoters in the region to expand into new geographic markets. "This initiative is another form of aid that is over and above that which has already been established to stimulate the diversification of our regional economy," said André Galipeau, the Chair of the SADC Board of Directors.

During this exploratory tour, which began with a press conference announcing the unveiling of the project in Ontario, the Gatineau Valley delegation took in sectorial presentations facilitated by representatives of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the Ministry of Economic Development and Tourism of the United Counties of Prescott-Russell and the Union des cultivateurs franco-ontariens (UCFO). This was followed by a tour throughout the region which included visits to various tourist, agricultural and woodwork manufacturing companies. As for the manufacturing sector, the SADC team met with a few members of the Réseau d'excellence des manufacturiers de boiseries de l'Est ontarien (REMBO), i.e., Moulure Alexandria Inc., the manufacturer of hardwood ventilation grills and hardwood steps, and the Convex Group, a social economics company.

This tour wrapped up with a working breakfast between Gatineau Valley SADC representatives and the RDÉE Ontario team to plan the work from that point until next March 31. In fact, plans are in the works to pair up companies from the respective territories to exchange ideas and views on partnerships that are economically stimulating. This will serve as a business meeting for these promoters, who have shown interest since last November.

-30-

Caption

Front row from left to right: Alain Descoeurs, special projects manager with Moulure Alexandria and Martin Savard, the general manager.

Standing from left to right: Diane Kyd, regional assistant, RDÉE Ontario, Kathy Chaumont and Marie-Ève LaRocque, development officers with RDÉE Ontario, Nathalie Patry, SADC financial analyst, Julie Bénard, SADC follow-up officer, André Galipeau, Chair of the SADC Board of Directors, Martine Plourde, Eastern Regional Director, RDÉE and Pierre Monette, Director General of the SADC.

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