



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES



**Media Release: For immediate release**  
**Date: Thursday, July 29, 2010**

## **Political leaders invite submissions for Economic Summit**

**Brockville** – Leeds-Grenville MP Gord Brown, MPP Steve Clark and Warden Bill Thake invite residents of the United Counties to submit their thoughts on Economic Development for the region by August 20 in preparation for September’s planned wrap up to the year-long Economic Development summits.

“We are completing an in-depth look at economic development in Leeds-Grenville but I know there are few people who have not been able to attend the sessions over the past year,” says Brown. “We would like to hear from them.”

“The series has covered all aspects of economic development and it has provided us with tremendous insight,” adds Clark who took over the provincial role in the process from former MPP Bob Runciman.

“I am pleased that the counties economic development office has been able to work with our MP and MPP to initiate and complete this series,” says Thake. “That office has done a tremendous amount of work on this project and the information they have gathered will guide us in the future. I encourage everyone who has an idea to submit it so their thoughts can be in the final report.”

Eighteen months ago Brown, approached Runciman and the counties Economic Development office with the idea to hold the Economic Summits.

The three Community Futures Development Programs that service the counties were also invited on board to help fund and guide the process.

The summit series began in June 2009 with a meeting in Kemptville that attracted over 200 people and generated a number of ideas. Over the fall, winter and spring of 2009 and 2010 eight sector meetings were held at different locations in the riding to examine specific issues and develop in-depth recommendations.

Sector panels ranged from manufacturing, to non-profits, to transportation, to Chambers of Commerce and BIAs and others.

The wrap-up session, Future Directions Economic Development Summit, will be held in Kemptville on September 10 featuring guest speaker federal Minister of State for Economic Development in Ontario, Gary Goodyear. Registration details are available on the counties web site at [www.uclg.ca](http://www.uclg.ca), under Business Development News & Events.

Anyone who has not had an opportunity to attend one of the sector panels can submit their thoughts on economic development before the end of August, to Ann Weir, Economic Development Manager, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville, 32 Wall Street, 3rd Floor, Brockville, ON K6V 4R9 or by email at [econdev@uclg.on.ca](mailto:econdev@uclg.on.ca).

**For more information:**

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