



MEDIA RELEASE

South Central Ontario Region (SCOR) Economic Development Corporation Launches SCOR Business Portal

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 27, 2011, Tillsonburg

Today, SCOR EDC is proud to launch the SCOR Business Portal. This online service is a first in Canada, offering access to business support services available to entrepreneurs in South Central Ontario Region. Businesses, both new and experienced, will find the Portal a valuable source of information on services, programs and business capital. This dynamic online site directly links entrepreneurs to professionals and agencies providing support services in the region.

“One of our strategic priorities is to improve access to business support services. Many services currently exist and SCOR EDC determined that increasing access to these services through the SCOR Business Portal would result in more business investment, more business start-ups and more business expansions,” noted Dennis Travale, SCOR Chair. “This initiative could only be accomplished through the cooperation of SCOR’s five County Partners – Brant, Elgin, Middlesex, Norfolk and Oxford. We wish to thank the Sand Plains Community Development Fund for their funding support.”

“I am one of many business representatives that urged SCOR to improve access to business support services. I offered many ideas and suggestions during the development of the Portal and I am very pleased with the new service. I know that my business and others will benefit from this resource,” stated John Picard, Picard Foods.

“I look forward to using this resource to better serve entrepreneurs in our part of the region. Businesses in all sectors – agriculture, manufacturing, renewable energy, tourism and more – will find the business information and the direct access to service providers valuable,” Aileen Murray, Economic Development, County of Middlesex.

The SCOR Business Portal is found at www.scorbusinessportal.com. The site is user friendly and we encourage existing and aspiring business persons to visit the site. Anyone wishing assistance in navigating the site can contact the SCOR Business Development Officer at do@scorregion.com or talk to Kim at 519-842-6333.

Some interesting ‘by-the-numbers’ facts about the site are:

- 1st of its kind service in Canada
- 1 window access putting entrepreneurs directly in touch with all business support services offered in SCOR
- 6 interactive maps direct users to SCOR and its community partners within each county
- 9 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) efficiently guide user to desired information.
- 38 pages and 320 links to entrepreneur support programs and services offered in SCOR and by municipal, federal, provincial, business and private agencies to entrepreneurs in SCOR
- 40 links to funding sources and information about accessing business capital

- 3 social networking sites to increase user access to SCOR EDC and its Business Portal - Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube – and more to come
- 1 regularly updated bulletin board announcing new programs, services, events and business openings in SCOR
- 1 Business Development Officer available at SCOR EDC who can be contacted at do@scorregion.com or Kim at 519-842-6333.

Further information can be found at www.scorregion.com.

-30-

Media Contacts:

Dennis Travale, Chair, SCOR

Phone: (519) 426-5870 ext. 1220

John Lessif, Vice Chair, SCOR

Phone: (519) 842-6428 ext. 3234

SCOR Media Release

Page 2 of 2