



MOUNT FOREST BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES February 10 , 2026 @ 8:00 AM

Auditorium Mount Forest Arena

CALLING TO ORDER – Andrew Coburn; Chair Mount Forest BIA @8:02

PRESENT ATTENDEES

Members: Andrew Coburn, Dwight Benson, Jessica McFarlane, Rachel Whetham, Kyle Dallaire, Bill Nelson, Councillor Sherry Burke

Staff: Tanya Matthews, Robyn Mulder arrival @9:08

Community Members: Penny Renken, Leeann Clarke

Joining virtually on Zoom: Robyn Mulder

ABSENT ATTENDEES - None

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Andrew

REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Andrew

Agenda accepted as presented. Jessica had motioned and Dwight seconded, carried.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Erin Kiers Resignation

Andrew

Andrew shares Erin Kiers' formal BIA board resignation. Resignation letter attached to the appendices (Appendix A) of these minutes. Agreement on keeping open dialogue with Erin to include her in future potential projects. The BIA collectively greatly appreciates all of Erin's work for the BIA during her tenure.

2. Light Posts

Dwight

Dwight updates the board members on light posts progress. Bulbs are posed to be ordered for the lightposts and the timing is still on track for completion in April. The town has agreed to their share of financial support for this project, and Robyn agrees.

3. Reimagined Laneway - Pizza Hut

Jessica

Jessica continues her work in getting the Reimagined Laneway underway. Snow is now being moved from the area. Malcolm Robertson has this project in his planner for this summer and has agreed to work with an electrician for whatever lighting the BIA decides on and include in his duties. Some discussions included design ideation and arranging for document signatures. MOU waiting for signatures from building owners in order to proceed. Jessica suggested bringing design ideas to the next meeting.

4. BIA to present to Council in April

Andrew

Andrew was approached with the opportunity for the BIA to share achievements, ongoing projects and any future opportunities at an upcoming Township Council meeting. With general approval of the board, Andrew will present a visual presentation for the board, with the help of pictures from fellow members. Robyn confirms the date for the Council meeting as April 7th at 2:00pm.

5. Wifi Update

Andrew

Andrew informs the board the update regarding obtaining the data collection of Wifi use. After some sleuthing from Tanya, it was discovered that the data information for the downtown Wifi was circled back around to the Township. Andrew asked for Robyn's help in obtaining that data from IT for analysis. Once that data has been obtained, the board should be able to assess usage, IP addresses and areas of improvement.

6. Downtown Safety

Andrew

This agenda item will be ongoing in meetings going forward. Further discussion included followup after the Safety Townhall Meeting, any updates, social media and future newsletter content. CAMSafe and Auxiliary Police safety audit visits were brought up as being advantageous initiatives by local Police Services. Auxiliary Police visits will be added to the Q1 Newsletter with the CPTED and CAMSafe inclusion requests last month.

7. Downtown Business Update: New/Closed

Jessica

Paula's Hair Salon has moved to main street. Iconic Pools has opened a golf simulation room. BIA will continue to repost pertinent local information on the social media channels and will refrain from creating original content regarding any new businesses. General updates of information will include website updates and master lists as changes/updates arise.

8. BIA Advertising

Robyn

Robyn shares there's an opportunity for the BIA to participate in a partnership ad (supported by the Township) in the back of the Wellington Advertiser, on the Economic Development page. It's an opportunity for the BIA to share events or updates, or even increase the awareness of BIA presence. Sample of the Advertiser page is attached to the appendices of these minutes (Appendix B). Robyn also mentioned the Business retention and expansion meeting - BIA will be resend to the Business Downtown membership.

NEW BUSINESS

1. NEXT MEETING

8am in the Lower Leisure Room @ Mount Forest Arena, March 10th, 2026

ADJOURNMENT - meeting adjourned by Andrew @9:07am

Appendix A:

From: ERIN MINNICK
Sent: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 11:11 PM
To: Andrew Coburn <andrew@coburnins.ca>
Subject: Your considerate support

Thank you Andrew

Thank-you for the offer to stay on the BIA

At this time I will respectfully decline. I am so grateful for the assistance the BIA played in executing the lighting for the art alley and with some of the paint costs for the Christmas Mural. I hope both will be preserved as so much love and energy went into them

I will continue to look for small ways to preserve the cool vibe Mofo has the potential to for

I look forward to future interactions and collaborations

Be well and I appreciate your volunteerism and the efforts put forth by the BIA

Deepest Respect

Erin Kiers
Owner
Hybrid Hair and Detox Spa

Appendix B:

NORTHERN WELLINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WORKING TOGETHER IS *good* BUSINESS

Partnership of

DEI DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Sylvia & Eva
BLACK WOMEN OF FAITH AND RESILIENCE
Finding Community in Southwestern Ontario

28 FEBRUARY

Journalist & Storyteller **GARVIA BAILEY** \$10 Ticket

Scan to attend or visit www.town.minto.on.ca/calendar
Deadline to register is Feb 20 at noon

10am - 12pm
Harriston Train Station
87 Arthur St. W., Harrow, ON

Light Refreshments by *May's Cafe* at the Old Post

BUSINESS LISTING

Are you a NEW business or have you relocated recently in Wellington North? We're looking to update our contact list, connect with us!

rmulder@wellington-north.com

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
MARCH 12 2026

5:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Carriage House Event Centre
Hanover's Newest Facility at the Hanover Raceway

CATERED DINNER & WOMEN'S MARKETPLACE

Keynote Jenn Walker from *Don't Fear the Fruit*

- Are you giving in ways that fuel you or drain you?
- Mindset coach Jenn Walker challenges traditional ideas of effort, worth, and success
- Learn to channel your generosity to multiply your impact while preserving your energy
- Lead, grow, and build your business on your terms

TICKETS: \$40 <https://shorturl.at/h1ZHx> VENDOR BOOTHS \$25 to reserve email: bobbi@sbdc.ca

THURSDAYS JUST GOT EXCITING!

5 weeks of Lunch & Learn Webinars - absolutely free!
March 19 - April 16
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Gain the skills, insights, and confidence to take your business to the next level. Each session is facilitated by expert speakers with real-world experience. Learn. Grow. Connect!

Register for all 5 sessions and receive **50% OFF** your ticket to our International Women's Day Event on March 12, 2026 (for accepted participants only)
REGULAR PRICE \$40 - YOUR PRICE \$20!

Scan the QR code to sign up!

Complimentary catered networking breakfast for those who completed all sessions

MINTO-MAPLETON WORKS

A one-stop career, volunteer, and community resource fair for students & the general public!

Attention Employers from Minto and Mapleton: Now is your chance to participate! **ONLY \$25**

Why sign up?

- Hire early for your summer/seasonal jobs
- Promote your brand & gain company recognition
- Hire for your part-time evening and weekend positions
- Gain traction for future career opportunities
- Find suitable candidates for your Canada Summer Jobs positions
- Meet with students seeking community involvement and volunteer opportunities
- Hire graduating youth for future permanent positions
- Fill position at your charity/non-profit organizations

April 2, 2026 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Norwell District Secondary School
125 Cumberland St. Palmerston, ON N0G 2P0

Employer/Exhibitor Registration:
www.town.minto.on.ca/calendar
REGISTER HERE >>>

For more information:
Belinda Wick - Graham
belinda@town.minto.on.ca
Amy Grose
agrose@mapleton.ca

Wellington North & Southgate Job Fair

An employment, careers, and volunteer fair for students and the general public.

April 15, 2026
10:00am-2:00pm

Wellington Heights Secondary School
405 Sligo Road East
Mount Forest
ON N0G 2L2

Open to students & the general public

Community programs & volunteer opportunities

Careers

For more information:
Sadia Batool
Programs & Events Manager
sadiab@careereducationcouncil.ca
events@careereducationcouncil.ca
519-827-6468

Exhibitor Registration!

www.careereducationcouncil.ca/events

Town of Minto 519-338-2511 Belinda Wick-Graham ext. 241

Township of Wellington North Robyn Mulder 519-848-3620 ext. 4234

Mapleton Township Amy Grose 519.638.3313 ext. 037

* Please review your proof and reply with changes or approval*