## Monthly Report Economic Development

### June-2019

#### Demographic and Business Support

The Business Development Officer completed research and preparation of an economic development dashboard and community economic analysis for Amherst. These documents will be valuable to measure different aspects of economic health while identifying areas that would benefit from initiatives and strategic interventions.

The dashboard includes 16 economic indicators under four categories: business outlook, population, housing and labour force. The economic dashboard will be updated regularly to track trends and measure the effectiveness of interventions.

The community economic analysis provides deeper insights to the economic indicators and a comparative analysis of Amherst in relation to other communities, the province, and Canada.

#### **Respond to Business Investment Opportunities**

Two inquiries related to the industrial park were received and the Business Development Officer is working with both site selectors to encourage them to choose Amherst.

#### Support Initiatives at the Community Credit Union Business Innovation Centre.

A total of 209 hours of bookings were seen during May, an increase of more than 33 hours compared to May 2018. Bookings included business training workshops provided by the Town of Amherst, a fundraiser event for the LA Animal Shelter, a community theatre performance, economic development meetings and high school tutoring in the Hub networking space. The conference room, boardroom and hub meeting room were used by businesses, community groups, and government organizations.

#### Increase the Impact of Tourism on the Local Economy

- Completed design of a local and regional map and activity guide for distribution to visitor information centres and tourism operators.
- Met with economic development partners to explore how the new Canadian Experiences Fund could be used for projects supporting tourism in Amherst and region.
- Updated the shopping guide and dining guide.



#### 20 Amherst Summer Night Market

Noon-9:30 PM Ratchford St. behind Dayle's Grand Market. Chalkmaster Dave, art sale, live music, artisans, food trucks.

#### 23 Cumberland Car Show

Antiques, special interest, hot rods. Robb Complex, 53 Laplanche St.

#### 26 Rug Hookers on the Street

10 am-3 PM A "plein air" style hook-in with rug hookers and fibre lovers on downtown sidewalks! To join: 1-800-328-7756.

Take the "Great Amherst Mysteries" walking tour of downtown Amherst or enjoy a horse-drawn carriage tour through charming old neighbourhoods. Thursday evenings from July through October. Tickets at Amherst Town Hall or www.amherst.ca/book-a-tour.html

# **1** Canada Day Celebrations



11:30 am - 4:00 PM. Live music at Victoria Square, downtown Amherst. Fireworks at dusk at Robb Complex, 53 Laplanche St.

#### **4 Downtown Date Night**

5:00-8:30 PM. Take your favouite person downtown and play board games at sidewalk cafe tables, listen to live music, take a horsedrawn carriage tour and enjoy 2-for-1 dining specials.

#### 12-14 Bordertown Biker Bash

Canadian Tire parking lot on South Albion St., Amherst Show and shine, stunt rider shows, live music, vendors, food.

#### 18 Amherst Summer Night Market

5:00-9:30 PM, Ratchford St. behind Dayle's Grand Market Classic cars, live rockabilly bands, vendors, food trucks.

#### 25-27 Christmas in July

Start your holiday shopping early with sidewalk sales, festive treats and a Thursday night snow dance and movie at Victoria Square.



#### 15 Amherst Summer Night Market

Noon-9:30 PM, Ratchford St. behind Dayle's Grand Market. Acadian Day celebration, live music, vendors, food trucks.



AMHERST PERFORMING Nov. 8-Dec. 7 Expiry Date ARTS SERIES 2019 SEASON

May 8-11 Honky-tonk Highway June 7-8 The Lion King Jr. July 24-27 Possessed by Esther Cox Dec. 11-14 A Charlie Rhindress Christmas Dec. 18-24 **One Christmas Carol** 

All shows are presented by community theatre group partners at the Community Credit Union Business Innovation Centre, 5 Ratchford St. Amherst. For details and tickets visit www.amherst.ca/events.html