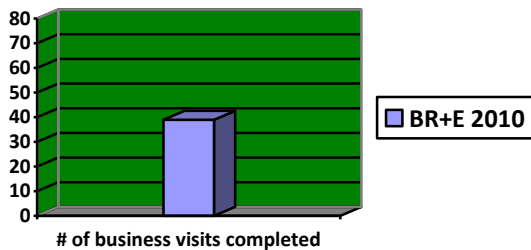


Municipality of North Grenville, in partnership with the North Grenville Chamber of Commerce

Business Retention + Expansion Program (BR+E)

Progress Report! – May 31, 2010

Our dedicated group of forty four BR+E volunteers have started visiting local businesses to identify opportunities and barriers that affect our local business community and are gathering the necessary data that will be used to develop a Business Retention + Expansion Action Plan for success.



We are well on our way to meeting our goal of visiting 80 businesses. Our volunteers have completed nearly 40 business visits which represents 50% of our target.

Participating businesses have been randomly chosen, are from all areas of our community in North Grenville and represent a broad range of industries and sectors, geographic locations and size.

When businesses interviewed were asked about their future plans for the next 3 years, 45% plan to remain the same size, 39% plan to expand, 10% plan to relocate within the community, 3% plan to relocate outside Canada and 5% plan to either downsize or close due to profitability and financing challenges.

Note: More than one response can be selected for this question.

Note: Percentages are based on the number of companies and may not total 100%.

Note: 38 companies responded to this question.

We have established a resource network of people with specific and specialized skills from various agencies and organizations who are recognized for providing valuable resources, to work with local businesses to address any issues identified specific to that business, such as expansion plans as an opportunity, or business downsize or closure as a red flag issue and of utmost importance to address.

The BR+E Leadership Team and our Volunteer Task Force are looking forward to working together to come up with a preliminary action plan to present to the business community and all stakeholders for consideration and final input once the business visits are completed and the data compiled.

For questions or comments, please contact BR+E Coordinator, Teri Devine at 613-258-9569 x 115,
tdevine@northgrenville.on.ca

Feel free to visit the BR+E link on the Municipality of North Grenville's website for information and progress reports at
www.northgrenville.ca/BRandE.cfm

Please note that the BR+E Program follows strict confidentiality guidelines and requires all participants to sign a contract to ensure that information collected is treated as confidential and is not disclosed to others except in the context of the work for which it was intended. Data is reported in aggregate only, with no individual information disclosed or published.