



# SCOR EDC Member Update

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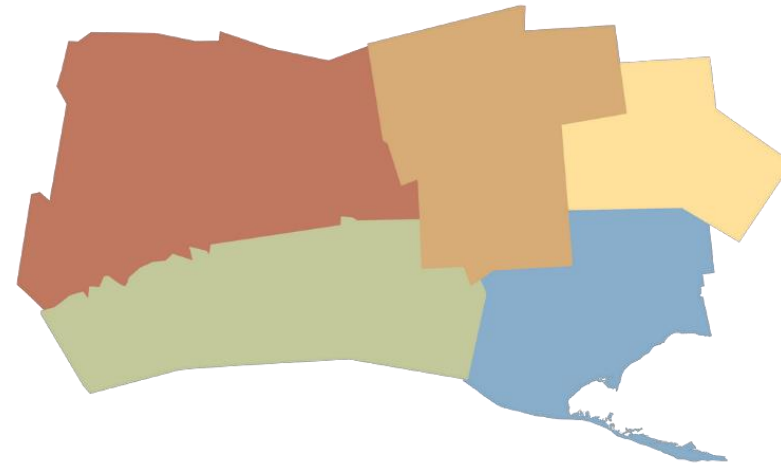
OXFORD 2023





# REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

NORFOLK COUNTY  
COUNTY OF BRANT  
OXFORD COUNTY  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY  
ELGIN COUNTY





# Our Focus

Created in 2010 as a result of the decline in the tobacco industry

Purpose: to diversify regional economies and prepare for prosperous future.

SCOR EDC came together because councils of the day recognized that a strong member-based partnership would benefit their individual counties and the region in the long term.

- Larger regional issues that have an impact on the region but would be difficult for one municipality to tackle on their own
- Shared resources; for more efficient use of tax payer dollars
- Strong voice for advocacy and moving forward large issues and opportunities





# Regional Strategic Plan

## Current Strategic Plan

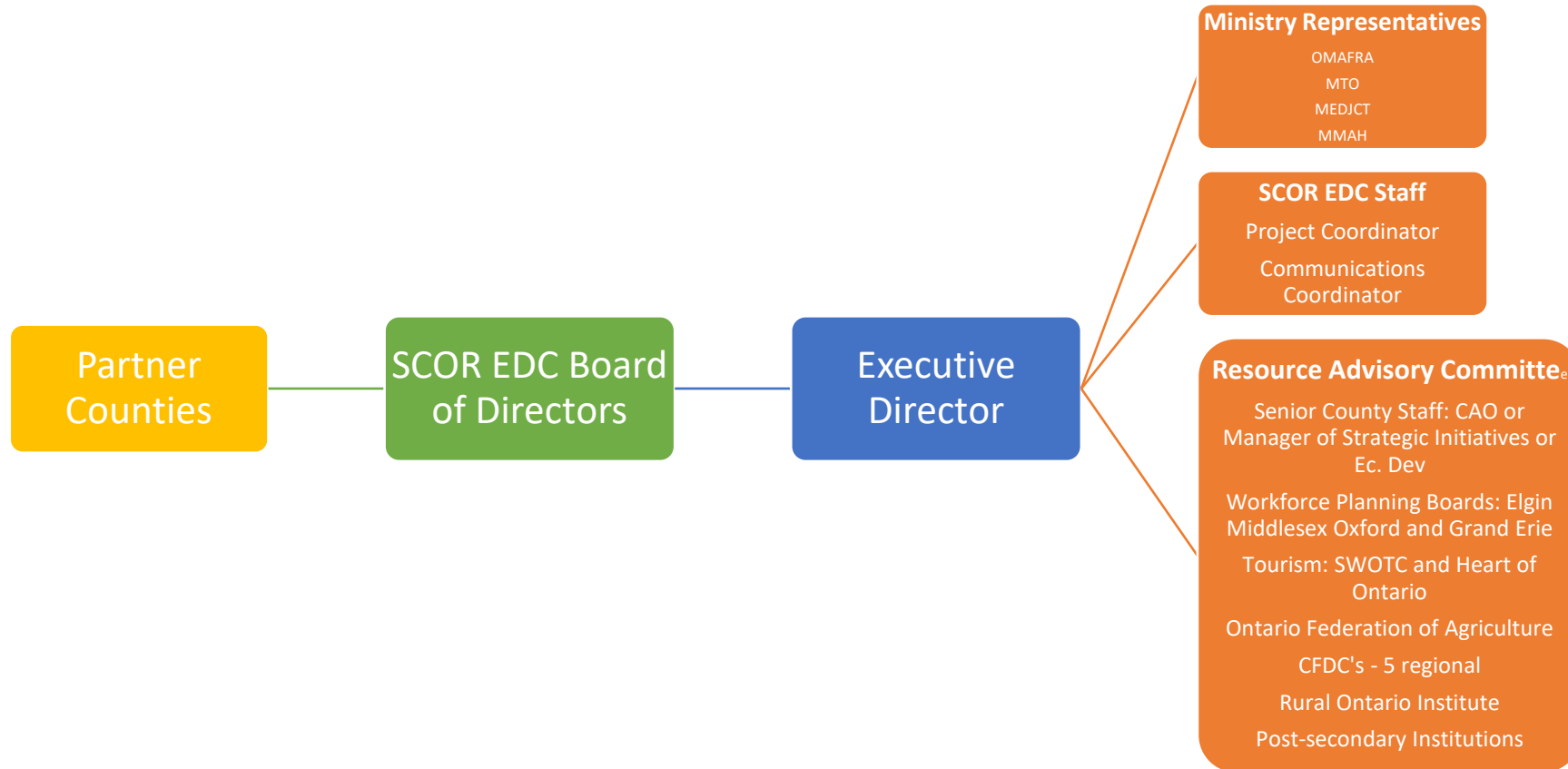
- Infrastructure required to support economic development
- human capital to support economic development
- Key sector focus is agriculture and agri-food

Will undertake new strategic plan in 2024



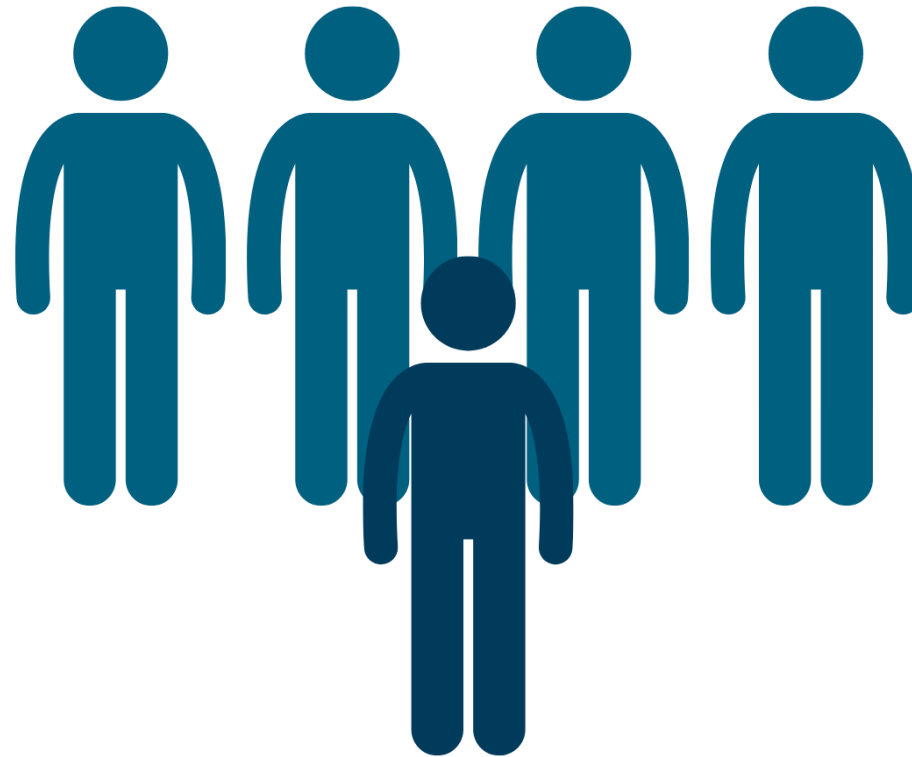


# SCOR EDC STRUCTURE AND STAFF / COMMITTEE RESOURCES





Right-sized      One in five





# ROI for Membership

SCOR Financial Impact Assessment 2020-2022	
Direct	
RED	\$42,000.00
RED-Targeted	\$64,000.00
CFDC's	\$7,000.00
YESP	\$84,000.00
CSJ	\$22,000.00
Feeding Your Future	\$32,000.00
Always in Season	\$10,000.00
Rural Transit Solutions Fund	\$60,000.00
<b>Total SCOR EDC</b>	<b>\$321,000.00</b>
<b>SCOR/ Regional Total</b>	<b>\$1,254,874.00</b>
<b>All</b>	<b>\$9,218,828.66</b>
Sand Plains Community Development	\$15,000,000.00
<b>All time direct funding total</b>	<b>\$24,218,828.66</b>

Partner supported	
Agricultural Equipment Operator Program	\$189,000.00
Feeding Your Future	\$396,000.00
Always in Season	\$25,000.00
OHA-Market Development	\$185,000.00
Rural Oxford Economic Development	\$50,000.00
WOWC RED	\$14,374.00
Bayham RED	\$19,500.00
OSWGA-e-business fund	\$40,000.00
FreshSpoke Ontario Agri-food Research Initiative – Commercialization Stream	\$15,000.00
<b>Total Regional</b>	<b>\$933,874.00</b>

Programming Resulting from Advocacy Efforts		
P	Community Pilot Transportation Program-Norfolk	\$765,000
P	Community Pilot Transportation Program-Tillsonburg	\$1,457,732
P	Community Pilot Transportation Program-Strathroy-Caradoc	\$1,450,000
P	Community Pilot Transportation Program-Middlesex	\$1,500,000
P	Extended CPTTP-funding - Norfolk	\$298,552.44
P	Extended CPTTP-funding -Tillsonburg	\$743,510.48
P	Extended CPTTP-funding -Strathroy-Caradoc	\$821,215.12
P	Extended CPTTP-funding - Middlesex	\$927,944.62
F	<a href="#">Rural Transit Solutions Fund</a> \$250 Million	
	<b>Recent Total Influenced</b>	<b>\$7,963,954.66</b>

\$30,000.00 Member Contribution







# Recent Projects and Initiatives

## Infrastructure: Inter-community transit



### Basic Information

Southwest Community Transit (SCT) was formed in early 2020 following the Province of Ontario's launch of the Community Transportation Grant Program (CTGP).

Counties Served: Brant, Grey, Lambton, Middlesex, Norfolk, Oxford, Perth

# of Municipal Transit Services Represented: 9

# of Fixed Route/Hybrid Transit Services: 7

# of On-Demand Transit Services: 2

# of CTGP Recipients: 8

2022 Ridership: 57,000+



### Key Benefits of SCT

- Knowledge and resource sharing
- Consistent messaging across all regions
- Alignment of routing where possible
- Coordination of marketing and promotions to leverage economies of scale

**Executive Committee**  
(Elected Official / CAO from each member)

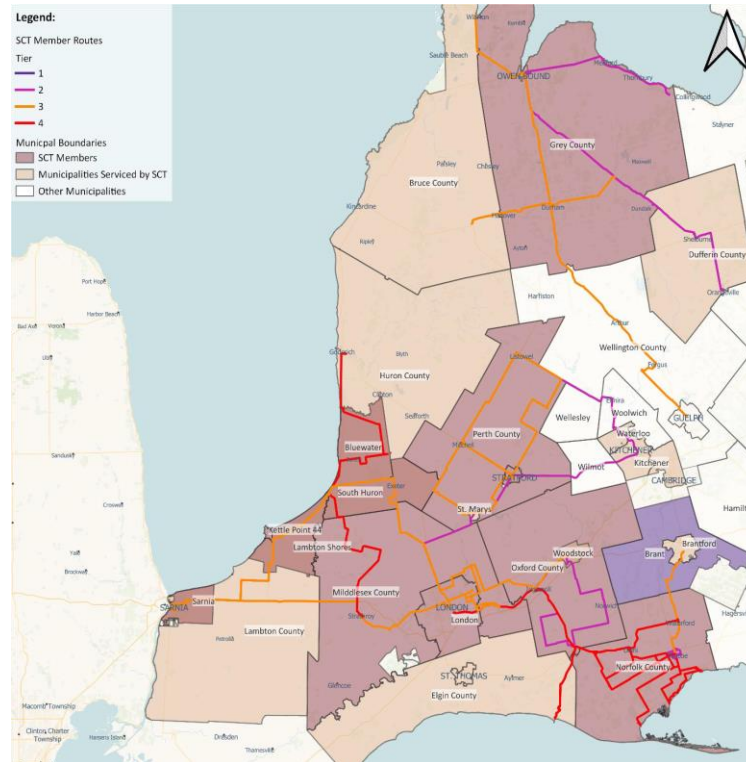
**Technical Committee**  
(Transit Operations Staff from each member)

**Stakeholder Committee**  
(Libraries, post-secondary institutions, hospitals, Workforce Planning Boards, etc.)

### Successes of SCT

- Successfully developed inter-community transit network across Southwestern Ontario
- Recently awarded Rural Transit Solutions Funding from Federal Government to conduct Needs Analysis
- Collaborated with local Workforce Planning Boards to integrate transit routes on job board

WWW.RIDE-SCT.CA







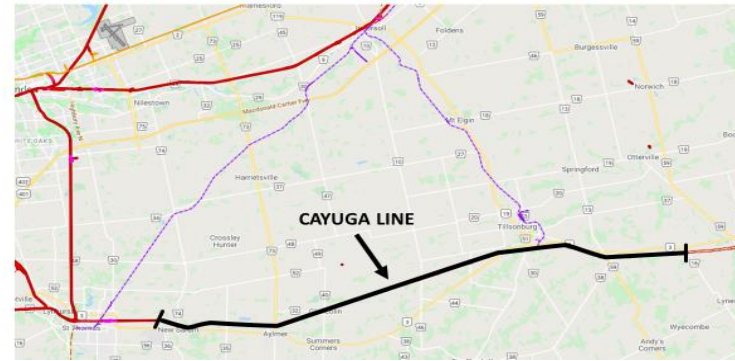
# Recent Projects and Initiatives Infrastructure: rail

## Industrial Sites along the Cayuga Line

	~Total Acreage	~Vacant Acreage	Number of Vacant sites	~Occupied Acreage	Number of Occupied Sites
Norfolk County	305.29	98.8	9	206.49	25
*Delhi	79.44	30.8	8	48.64	13
Courtland	67.11	0	0	67.11	7
Middleton	158.74	68	1	90.74	5
Oxford County	609.71	458.8	8	150.91	10
Elgin County	171.21	95.81	6	75.4	10
Aylmer	155.31	42.79	4	75.4	10
Bayham	53.02	53.02	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1149</b>	<b>653.41</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>495.01</b>	<b>49</b>

\*Shortline has been officially discontinued.

## Cayuga Rail Location



## Opportunity to Encourage Rail Usage and Investment for Economic Development

- Discontinuance applies to 27.28 miles of the Cayuga Rail Subdivision from New Sarum to Courtland
  - Across Elgin, Oxford and Norfolk Counties with Elgin having the largest stretch followed by Norfolk and then Oxford
  - Through the urban areas of Aylmer and Tillsonburg and terminating in Courtland
  - Majority of lands travelled through are agricultural, BUT there are significant existing and future industrial lands along the line

## Economic Impact Assessment – Survey

The purpose of the survey was to assess the economic impact of the Cayuga Rail Subdivision on the economy of the South Central Ontario Region.

- Total companies affected - 7
- Total number of employees (FTE) - 392
- Total annual revenue affected- ~170 million (n=4)
- Logistics costs increase - \$1,450,000.00
- Total Annual Revenue loss - \$7,910,00.00





# On-going Projects and Initiatives

- Inter-governmental, inter-ministerial committee
- Program Advisory Committee: Fanshawe College Agri-Business Management Program
- Program Advisory Committee: Conestoga College Agricultural Equipment Operator Program
- Oxford County Economic Development Committee
- Oxford County 10 Year Housing Plan
- Input on County of Brant economic development strategy update
- WOWC Economic Development Committee member







# Advocacy Specific to this Region





# Alignment with County Strategy

Promoting Community Vitality		
<p><b>Sustainable infrastructure and development</b></p>	<p>1.2.3 Support the long-term sustainability of agricultural land and industry through a balanced approach to growth and development</p> <p>1.2.6 Continue to support economic development initiatives in the County's local municipalities to foster a diverse and prosperous economy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCOR EDC has a priority focus on the agriculture and agri-food sector. Projects and supporting the sector include development of agricultural post-secondary programs. (Fanshawe &amp; Conestoga)</li> <li>• SCOR EDC works closely and collaboratively with local economic development staff to align resources and support local efforts through a regional lens</li> </ul>
<p><b>Community health, safety and well-being</b></p>	<p>1.3.4 Strengthen partnerships with area municipalities, community organizations and local service providers to implement policies and optimize outcomes</p>	<p>Oxford County is one-fifth owner of SCOR EDC which tackles large scale regional scope projects supporting economic development</p>
<p><b>Connected people and places</b></p>	<p>1.4.1 Continue to develop and implement the multi-modal Transportation Master Plan that connects people, goods and services</p> <p>1.4.2 Advocate for enhanced passenger and freight rail infrastructure and service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCOR EDC's priority of infrastructure fostering economic development has focused on transportation over the last several years including: shortline rail, inter-community transit and appropriate investment in highway systems to support economic development</li> <li>• SCOR EDC has a focused advocacy campaign to support transit and transportation infrastructure goals</li> </ul>





# Alignment with County Strategy

Enhancing Environmental Sustainability		
<b>Climate change mitigation</b>	2.1.2 Implement initiatives to support community members and stakeholders in embracing sustainable options, including education and awareness initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SCT network is a climate supportive initiative providing inter-community transit to residents and visitors.</li><li>• Shortline rail usage is a climate friendly means to transport goods regionally. One freight train can be the equivalent of moving about 300 trucks off the road</li><li>• SCOR EDC has been advocating for policies and programs supporting sustainable development</li></ul>
	2.1.3 Advocate to the provincial and federal governments for policy amendments that enable sustainable development	







# Alignment with County Strategy

## Fostering Progressive Government

### Advocate for Oxford County

3.5.1 Develop an intergovernmental advocacy strategy to champion evolving service priorities for the County

SCOR EDC is a strong partnership with success in advocating not only for the region as a whole but also for individual member counties







# Long Term Strategic Planning

- Partnership creates immediate value but more importantly cumulative value over time
- Action-oriented organization – with a focus on strategic planning and implementation
- SCOR is widely recognized with a positive reputation as a region
- Ability to tackle projects and issues that are larger in scale than one municipality can take on individually
- Small enough to reach a consensus and move forward on areas of focus
- Ability to attract and leverage funding on a regional scale





# Thank You!

We have accomplished a great deal as a five county partnership...good neighbours working together for the good of all!

Thank you!

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