

## Monica Hawkins

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**From:** Patricia Carr <pcarr@neco.on.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 6, 2022 1:31 PM  
**To:** Monica Hawkins  
**Subject:** Clerk's office Municipality of East Ferris for Mayor and Council  
**Attachments:** What is NECO english and french.pdf; NECO Two Years of Pandemic Investments Statistics.pdf; Two Years of Pandemic Investments FR.pdf; NECO Board Recruitment 2022.pdf; NECO Board Recruitment 2022 FR.pdf

Dear Monica,

I am pleased to provide an update to you and your council regarding the past couple years here at NECO CFDC. If your council is not aware of how NECO is operated or what it is we do, I would be happy to make a presentation at a time convenient for them; it may not even be this year, but I'm always happy to come meet with the municipality in the future. If a presentation is not an option, I have attached some information that can be circulated:

1. What is NECO and what do we do. (one page document in both French/English)
2. Two-year update 2020-2021 (two separate 2 page documents; one in French and one in English)
3. Board member recruitment (two separate 2 page documents; one in French and one in English)

Personally, I have been with NECO for 16 months now (my former career was 32 ½ years with the Chamber of Commerce) and I want to ensure that the business community is aware of the options if their traditional bank is unable to assist with funding. We always direct new start-ups or expansions to their traditional lender first, and if they are unable to secure funding for their business, then NECO may be an option. We also do business counselling, mentorship or referrals to other partners that can assist. Just from my previous career, I have many connections in the area and I'm well aware of many programs that may assist businesses, not-for-profits and municipalities. I currently sit on the Muskoka Nipissing Parry Sound review team for Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) and I'm on the board of governors for Nipissing University. There are numerous other boards/committees, I have either participated in the past or I currently sit on, that have provided me with experience in many social, charity and business sectors.

While I do think that we tried to reach as many businesses in our region (Nipissing East and East Parry Sound) with some of the pandemic programs that were grants/loans, I also recognize that not everyone knows of NECO. I would suggest that all municipalities and townships keep NECO in mind, whether it is through word-of-mouth for your businesses or on social media, to keep apprised of programs as they change (especially through Covid – there were some grant programs that we normally don't see).

Our website is: [www.neco.on.ca](http://www.neco.on.ca)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NECOCF>  
Twitter: @NECOCFDC  
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/neco-community-futures-development-corporation>

As NECO is governed by a board of directors, we strive to have representation from all areas of our catchment, all sectors of business, as well as other demographics. If you know of someone from your region that would be beneficial to our board and represent your area well, please feel free to have them reach out to me directly and I can provide details of board membership. I believe we have good representation from East Ferris currently on the board, but we are always seeking new board members each year to move the organization forward.

Sincerely,  
**Patti Carr, Executive Director / Directrice Générale**



NECO Community Futures Development Corporation / Société d'aide au développement des collectivités  
222 McIntyre Street West, Suite 312 / 222 rue McIntyre ouest, suite 312  
North Bay ON P1B 2Y8

T: 705-476-8822 ext 100

C: 705-498-8181

E: [pcarr@neco.on.ca](mailto:pcarr@neco.on.ca)

W: [www.neco.on.ca](http://www.neco.on.ca)

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