

## **Audet named new Economic Development Officer**

---FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE---

**February 26, 2016, Fort Erie, Ontario** – Karen Audet has been selected as the new economic development officer (EDO) for the Fort Erie Economic Development and Tourism Corporation (EDTC) effective April 4, 2016.

“After a lengthy and vigorous recruitment process, Karen emerged as the top candidate of the 19 candidates under consideration”, said James Thibert, General Manager.

Audet has been the Operations Manager of the Greater Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce since 2008. In that capacity, Audet has led the board and staff to record levels of membership, increased successful member-related events, promotions, advocacy and fundraising.

Audet has a diploma from Niagara College in Journalism and a Bachelor's degree (with distinction) in Communication from Athabasca University. She has been involved with media relations and communications with a number of companies throughout Ontario prior to joining the Greater Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce.

“Those experiences and Karen's knowledge of many Fort Erie business stakeholders, political environment, geography and demographics, along with her work ethic, energy and her ability to hit-the-ground running make her the top candidate for the position”, said Thibert.

Effective April, 4, 2016 in her role as EDO, Audet will work to support the EDTC's business development, site promotion, development policies, and economic analysis by working with clients, residents, stakeholders, business leaders, and members of the development and investment community.

“I'm proud to be born and raised in this community,” said Audet, and “I am excited for the opportunity to liaise with my contacts and peers across the region and play an integral role in the Town's economic and tourism growth and sustainability.”

The EDTC is an arms-length, stand-alone corporation established by the Council of the Town of Fort Erie in 1992 as a means to consult with, support and advocate for the business community in an offsite, confidential manner. Audet joins the EDTC staff comprised of General Manager Jim Thibert, EDO Caralee Grummett, Executive Assistant Ricci O'Kane, and board of directors including Chairman Claude Pilato, Vice-Chair Ric Gorham, Treasurer Wayne Nelson, Mayor Wayne Redekop, and Councillor George McDermott.

For more information contact Mr. Jim Thibert, General Manager at the Fort Erie EDTC at 905-871-1332 or via e-mail at [jthibert@forteriecanada.com](mailto:jthibert@forteriecanada.com)

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