



Sunrise County Economic Council

Annual Report of Activities for Fiscal Year 2006

The Sunrise County Economic Council continues to set an example of what local people, driven by a desire to improve their communities, can accomplish when they work together. SCEC has spent the past year refining existing programs, and improving its capacity with new ones. We have helped businesses start and grow, and worked with communities on issues that affect the whole region.

SCEC develops programs based on the input we receive from local people. The Board of Directors brings their collective expertise to bear on program design and priorities. Staff works to implement the programs and provide needed services. Our funders provide the financial resources necessary for us achieve our mission:

The Sunrise County Economic Council initiates and facilitates the creation of prosperity and jobs in Washington County.

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Developing Enterprises

to increase incomes...to create jobs.

Sunrise Loan Fund

This fund allowed SCEC to provide \$53,000 in gap financing to two business ventures, resulting in 5 jobs.

Sunrise County Business Support Center

Working in partnership with Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (CEI), SCEC secured funding through the Maine Microenterprise Initiative program to continue offering business consulting services via the Washington County Women's Business Center in our Machias office four days a week.

WACOBIZ.com

WACOBIZ.com provides easy access to web based business development resources for planning, start-up, financing and development. Sponsored links to local business web sites sustain its operating costs. SCEC developed and released "Making Visitors Your Customers: A Guide to Washington County's Tourism Market." All businesses, whether or not they are directly involved in the tourism industry, are affected by tourists and benefit from their visits. The Guide is available on WACOBIZ.com.



Assisting Communities

to help local leadership address issues...to convene citizens to work toward common goals...to encourage regional cooperation.

Municipal Assistance Program

SCEC provided contracted technical assistance to Perry, Cutler, and Washington County Government, as well as the Delta Development Corporation and the Washington County Development Authority and helped the towns to attract \$320,000 for business development. Twelve full-time jobs have been created, with more than 51% filled by people of low-to-moderate income. The businesses have exceeded the required number of jobs, with more to come in the near future.

SCEC worked with Cutler Commercial Properties to facilitate the sale of the former Cutler Navy Base, putting the property back on the tax rolls. Currently, three local businesses call the Cutler Commercial Park home, including Cutler Residential Development, Engineering Technologies Inc, and Look's Gourmet Foods. To date, almost half of the housing units are sold or under contract.

Regional Initiatives

SCEC hosted our third Economic Summit for Washington County in November 2005. Over one hundred people from all over Washington County met at UMM to discuss important economic issues facing our county.

SCEC continues to inform the public and assist communities with Pine Tree Zone development. SCEC continues to enjoy a flexible relationship with the Washington County Council of Governments (COG), which allows both groups to pool their resources and better serve Washington County. By working with the COG, SCEC is able to keep up to speed on projects and initiatives going on all around the County that it might not otherwise have the resources to meet. Similarly, the COG draws upon SCEC staff to provide general assistance, financial services (bookkeeping, payroll, etc.), web design and--coming soon--hosting services.

SCEC staff contributed leadership by participating on the Boards of the Downeast Institute for Applied Marine Research and Education, the Downeast Heritage Museum, Greenland Point Center, Downeast Resource Conservation and Development, the Maine Economic Growth Council, the Governor's Economic Development Task Force for Washington County, the Delta Development Corporation, the Washington County Development Authority, the Eye of Machias Committee, the Vacationland Resources Committee, the Governor's Task Force for Nature Based Tourism, Harness the Wealth Management Team's Governing Board, as well as serving on other state and county-wide project committees.

SCEC provides valuable technical assistance to the Greenland Point Center, an outdoor educational facility in Princeton. The camp, formerly owned and operated by the University of Maine System, was purchased and

reopened for the first time in three years this summer. Over 220 children attended the weeklong sessions from June to August, many receiving scholarships through generous community contributions. Other outdoor programs are also being offered at the Center.

SCEC's partnership with the Island Institute has resulted in a \$20,000 grant for two years from the Maine Coast Protection Initiative to work with the University of Maine at Machias to establish a GIS Service Center for Coastal Land Trusts, two SHIP Grants (\$35,000 total) on behalf of the towns of Addison and Harrington, two maritime planning efforts -- in Machiasport and Harrington -- in conjunction with the Washington County Council of Governments, GIS mapping assistance on two comprehensive plans (Machias and Jonesboro), the creation of a series of maps and graphs representing the distribution of clam harvesting across Maine for the Down East Institute, and assistance with Working Waterfront Bond pilot programs - there are currently four Washington County applications.

SCEC and the Delta Development Corporation launched the Blight Busters initiative to renovate dilapidated properties in Cherryfield and Harrington for eventual business use, as part of their Integrated Village Planning Initiative. Blight Busters has enlisted the support of local businesses from both towns, and has raised \$9,550 since the initiative began in July. Delta Development Corporation consists of the towns of Cherryfield, Harrington, Milbridge, and Steuben.



Investing in People

to build leadership...to encourage educational attainment.

Washington County Leadership Institute

SCEC coordinated the Washington County Leadership Institute (WCLI), which provides Washington County citizens with the skills, insight, and professional network to be more effective leaders. The 2006 Kappa class--one of the Institute's largest ever--visited communities from Jonesport to Princeton. Over the past 10 years, a total of 164 people have learned how to improve and utilize their leadership skills to understand and to help address Washington County's challenges and opportunities as they increase their network and learn to fully appreciate the Washington County community.

The Gracie Fund

SCEC works with the Maine Community Foundation, assisting in the administration of the Gracie Fund, a student loan repayment program for Washington County residents. In exchange for community service involvement, recipients are awarded \$5,000 per year for three years. Three recipients were chosen in 2005, and three in 2006.



Ensuring Excellence

to be an effective, sustainable organization...to be responsive and flexible.

The Sunrise Fund

SCEC's endowment, the Sunrise Fund, continues to grow as pledges are remitted, and program related investments in the region result in revenue. Our goal is to reach \$1 million, enabling us to use the interest generated as revenue to support our mission.

The Opportunity Fund

The Opportunity Fund is a pool of revenue raised from businesses and individuals with an interest in helping Washington County's economy. As in the past, this fund was used to support SCEC's efforts in developing new programs, and working with several businesses interested in moving to or investing in Washington County. SCEC launched our third annual fund drive in June, raising over \$16,000 in first-time contributions, exceeding the challenge for a \$15,000 matching grant from the C F Adams Charitable Trust. SCEC raised nearly \$53,000, making it our most successful effort to date, thanks to the tireless efforts of our Board of Directors and campaign committee members.

**SUNRISE COUNTY
ECONOMIC COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2006**

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Maine Educational Loan Authority

Skip Rogers, **VICE CHAIR**
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Carol Carew, Healthways

Anne Hahn, Broadway Inn B&B

Scott Beal, Domtar

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Ex Officio

Thomas Lewey
Pleasant Point Passamaquoddy Tribe

Representative Anne Perry
Washington County Legislative
Delegation

Kevin Shorey
Washington County Commissioners

FY 2006 Income Statement

	<u>Oct 05</u>	<u>Sep 06</u>
Revenue		
Annual Fund	\$	53,450.00
Endowment gifts	\$	6,200.00
Donations & Contributions	\$	21,677.49
Foundations	\$	15,000.00
Municipal Contracts	\$	8,457.86
Grants	\$	233,512.87
Program Income	\$	15,448.86
Miscellaneous Income	\$	1,753.90
Interest Income	\$	419.26
Interest on Notes Receivable	\$	5,437.23
Total Revenue	\$	361,357.47
Expense		
Employee Expenses	\$	177,756.57
Conference, Seminars & Training	\$	1,499.48
Administrative Expenses	\$	47,331.16
Contributions	\$	1,000.00
Scholarships & Awards	\$	1,050.00
Interest Expenses	\$	1,625.43
Professional Fees	\$	6,799.96
Travel	\$	8,939.58
Office Expenses	\$	29,667.08
Licenses and Permits	\$	50.00
Equipment	\$	3,734.08
Meeting Expense	\$	7,175.90
WCCOG expenses (paid by SCEC)	\$	8,851.33
Outside Contract Labor	\$	31,604.25
Total Expense	\$	327,084.82
Net Ordinary Income FY 06	\$	34,272.65

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