

**Sunrise County Economic Council
Board of Directors, FY 2010**



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Debbie Archer has returned to her
home state of Texas. Please join us in
welcoming Carlene Lyford as SCEC's
new Finance Manager!



Sunrise County Economic Council

Annual Report of Activities Fiscal Year 2010

Energizing Washington County!



*Initiating and facilitating the creation of
prosperity and jobs in Washington County*



Sunrise County Economic Council

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To the Friends of SCEC

As chairman of Sunrise County Economic Council's Board of Directors, I am pleased to present you with our 2009-10 Annual Report of Activities. This year SCEC has been working with businesses, communities, individuals and nonprofit partners that energize Washington County's economy and position Downeast Maine for economic recovery.

While this has taken many forms, SCEC has zeroed in on several key areas: positioning Downeast Maine as a leader in wind, tidal and biomass energy research and development; building the region's capacity for broadband and high-speed internet technologies; improving Washington County's roads, bridges and ports of entry, making this county more accessible to the Maritimes, New England, and the world. SCEC is also working one on one with businesses of all sizes and from all walks of life to provide customized lending options that allow them to hire, expand, and flourish right here in rural Maine; and working with individuals to make sure that they are ready for the jobs of tomorrow through training and workforce development initiatives.

At its core, SCEC is a small business itself. We have five employees, who, over the past four years, have worked in tandem with businesses, communities, and nonprofit partners to leverage over \$270 million in investments in Washington County. We do not receive state or federal funds, but rely on community support to continue our mission of initiating and facilitating the creation of jobs and prosperity in Washington County.

In closing, I would like to thank my fellow Board members and SCEC staff for this past year of service. SCEC is a great organization that will continue to identify new and emerging economic opportunities that energize the entire county from Steuben to Eastport, and from Jonesport to Danforth, making Downeast Maine the best place to live, work and play.

Sincerely,



Roland "Skip" Rogers
Chairman
SCEC Board of Directors



Energizing Washington County

A FEW OF WASHINGTON COUNTY'S SHINING EXAMPLES

- ☆ **Ruth Cash-Smith**, SBA Maine and New England Women in Business Champion Award (2010)
- ☆ **Cooke Aquaculture**, Maine International Trade Center Foreign Investor of the Year (2009)
- ☆ **Cooke Aquaculture**, Atlantica Champions of Excellence (ACE) Visionary Award (2010)
- ☆ **Sunrise County Economic Council**, Noyce Award for Non-profit Excellence (2009)
- ☆ Washington Hancock Community Agency's **Down East Business Alliance**, Community Action Partnership's Entrepreneurship Encouragement Award (2010)
- ☆ **Mike Cote and Cynthia Fisher of Look's Gourmet Foods**, MaineBiz Small Company Business of the Year (2010)
- ☆ **Susan Corbett**, MaineBiz Maine Women to Watch (2010)
- ☆ **Axiom Technologies**, Maine Development Foundation, Champion of Economic Development Award (2010)
- ☆ **Judy East**, Maine Association of Planners Professional Planner of the Year (2009)
- ☆ **Judy East**, CDBG Administrator of the Year (2010)
- ☆ **ORPC**, TechMaine (the Technology Association of Maine) New Technology (Product or Service) of the Year (2010)
- ☆ **ORPC**, Energy Ocean Conference's Company Pioneer Award (2009)
- ☆ **E. Janie Small**, Nathan Cohen Award (2010)
- ☆ **Machias Savings Bank**, Best Places to Work in Maine (2010)

A message from the Executive Director

It is my sincere pleasure as the executive director of the only full-time economic development agency located exclusively in Washington County, to present Sunrise County Economic Council's 2010 Annual Report of Activities.

This past year has been a year of changes for Washington County's economy. New opportunities in alternative and renewable energy generation, on-going improvements to our county's basic transportation infrastructure, and the continued expansion of telecommunication systems are all real world examples of how Downeast Maine is redefining its economy by seamlessly blending tradition and innovation.

Over the past year or so, Washington County has seen a multi-fold increase in opportunities as evidenced by the number of grant dollars awarded, new initiatives underway and projects completed. While these things are tough to pull off in the best of times, we are working together to make it happen—despite the many challenges—in what some would argue are the worst of times given our country's current economic situation. We should all feel very proud as none of this is accomplished alone. It's achieved through hard work, collaboration, respect and a shared vision of creating a unique quality of place with good jobs and opportunities for success.

Last winter, SCEC was honored to accept the prestigious Noyce Award for non-profit excellence in leadership from the Maine Community Foundation. This is a testament to not only the Washington County Leadership Institute, but recognition that by working together local people can accomplish great things. We are very proud of the WCLI and its 223 graduates.

While some of SCEC's better known successes are featured in this report, there are many more that are not, as quite often SCEC plays a background, or behind-the-scenes role, in the County's economic development activities. This is a role that demands confidentiality and sensitivity, and the ability and skill to bring people together.

In closing, SCEC is fortunate to have a caring and dedicated staff. It is a privilege to work with a group of people who put their best foot forward each and every day to make Washington County a better place. Our staff is certainly the key to our success and the reason that SCEC gets things done. I would also like to thank our faithful supporters who have invested in SCEC. This grassroots support directly impacts how quickly and responsively we are able to meet new and emerging challenges that impact the entire region

Sincerely,



Harold W. Clossey
Executive Director

Energizing Washington County

Local people are playing a leading role in rebuilding our economy. Whether it's alternative renewable energy, communications, tourism, enhancement of rail, highways and port infrastructure, or information technology and transportation initiatives, SCEC is working hand in hand with businesses, communities, organizations and county government to make recovery a reality. By working together, we have helped shepherd over **\$270 million investment dollars, creating and/or retaining hundreds of jobs** in Washington County.

Energizing Businesses

to encourage prosperity, increase incomes, and to create and retain quality jobs

- Currently over **\$70,000,000** in projects and initiatives underway and/or in their infancy including:
 - ◇ Working with local stakeholders to develop the Maine Marine Energy Center in Eastport, **\$1.5MM (~75 FT jobs)** manufacturing commercial tidal generating units
 - ◇ Supporting new wind farm projects in northern and coastal Washington Co., **\$50MM, (~5-10 FT and 300 construction jobs)**
 - ◇ Assisting and arranging financing and other resources, for a new manufacturing facility, an investment of **\$24MM, (~30 FT jobs)**
 - ◇ Participating in and arranging financial loan packages leveraging over **\$917,676, (creating and/or retaining ~32 FT/8PT jobs)**
- Providing low-to-no cost Tourism Training programs to tourism-related business owners and employees

Energizing Communities

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

- Working with a community and a private enterprise interested in purchasing a long-idled industrial property, **~8-10 new jobs**
- Assisting the Port of Eastport and stakeholders secure **\$6.5MM** for infrastructure improvements (bulk cargo conveyor system) that will diversify and increase the Port's opportunities
- Supporting broadband infrastructure improvements to increase county penetration rate to **90%** by assisting w/grants totaling over **\$4.75MM, (~15 FT jobs)**

Energizing People

to build leadership, encourage educational success, and enhance opportunities

- Distributing nearly **\$68,300** last year for local scholarships to local people for workforce training & career advancement and community service opportunities
- Completing our **14th class**—now **223 graduates** of the Washington County Leadership Institute

