

Initiating and facilitating the creations of jobs and prosperity in Washington County

Board of Directors

Josh Bragg
Chair
CES Engineers/Surveyors

Leola Carter
Vice Chair
Bayside Shop 'n Save
4 Corners Shop 'n Save

Jody Grimes
Secretary
Lubec Rental Properties

Blaine Jones
Treasurer
Bangor Savings Bank

Susan Corbett
Axiom Technologies

Shirley Erickson
Maine Educational
Loan Authority

Tina Erskine
Washington County
Community College

Phil Grant
Retired, Husson University

Cindy Huggins
University of Maine at Machias

Chris Lyford
Machias Savings Bank

Representative Joyce Maker
State Representative

Sheridan Smith
Border Electric

Robert Tyler
Indian Township Planning
& Economic Development

Ex-Officio
Representative David Burns
Washington County
Legislative Delegation

Chris Gardner
Washington County
Commissioners

Cote, Closley Receive MaineSBA Awards!

Mike Cote of Look's Gourmet Food Company (left) and SCEC Executive Director Harold Closley (right) are the proud recipients of MaineSBA 2012 small business awards.

Earlier this spring, Cote was named Maine Small Business Person of the Year for reviving one of the state's last surviving canneries. But the story doesn't end there. The Whiting businessman was also named second runner up for the National Small Business Person of the Year award during a National Small Business Week ceremony in Washington D.C.

Closley, who has served as SCEC's Executive Director since September 2006, was



named SBA's Financial Services Champion for Maine and New England for his commitment to providing flexible, low-interest financing solutions to Washington County businesses. Under Closley's leadership, SCEC has established a loan fund for commercial

fishermen, partnered with the Finance Authority of Maine, and expanded existing lending programs. In 2011, SCEC loans and funds they leveraged totaled \$1,322,000, creating or retaining 78 fulltime jobs.

On behalf of everyone at SCEC, congrats to Mike and Harold for their commitment to making Washington County the best place to live, work and play.

Downeast Fisheries Trail Ribbon Cutting Celebrates Two County Collaboration



Representatives of the Downeast Fisheries Trail celebrated the first day of summer with a ribbon cutting ceremony at Cobscook Bay State Park in Edmunds.

The Fisheries Trail runs from the Penobscot Marine Museum in Searsport to Roosevelt Campobello International Park in New Brunswick, connecting historic and

active fisheries sites that illustrate the region's rich maritime heritage.

"We have an excellent opportunity to celebrate today's fisheries, and highlight the long-standing traditions of the Downeast coast," SCEC Assistant Director Jennifer Peters, said. "The Trail is an excellent educational tool, teaching us all how important natural resources are to both counties."

With support from the Maine Community Foundation, Downeast Acadia Regional Tourism (DART), the Bureau of Parks & Lands and Inland Fish & Wildlife and input from local communi-

ties, Maine Sea Grant worked with SCEC, Down East RC&D, the Lobster Institute and others to revamp the trail in Washington County and expand it into Hancock County.

Brochures can be found at local information centers or you can call 207-581-1435 for a printed copy.



Mobilize Maine and GROWashington-Aroostook Kick Off



An estimated 80 business and community leaders from across Washington County gathered at the University of Maine at Machias June 28 to learn more about two local initiatives that will be heating up with the summer temps — GROWashington-Aroostook and Mobilize Maine.

Mobilize Maine seeks to identify regional assets, set tangible goals, and collaboratively pursue economic opportunities that benefit Washington County.

"Mobilize Maine is perfectly suited for Washington County," UMM President and SCEC Board member Cindy Huggins said. "It is regionally focused. It is asset based. It is measurable. It is not focused on what we need or what the problems

are. It starts with what we've got, and if there's one thing Washington County's got, it is assets."

The effort is being coordinated by SCEC Project Manager Larry Saunders, who encouraged interested business leaders to contact him if they would like to be a part of the process.

"We're looking for volunteers on the leadership team – the group of business and community leaders who oversee the whole project – as well as the goal setting team, and other action teams that will emerge throughout the process. We want people who are ready to set tangible goals, to identify Washington County's assets, and begin future planning," Saunders said. "We want people who aren't afraid to roll their sleeves up and work aggressively."

SCEC and the Washington County Council of Governments (WCCOG) also unveiled a two-county regional planning initiative known as GROWashington-Aroostook (GRO-WA) which focuses on job creation, modern infrastructure, and healthy, affordable communities in

Aroostook and Washington counties. "GROWashington-Aroostook is an opportunity for the people of our two counties to embrace the future," SCEC Assistant Director Jennifer Peters said. "There are multiple components with a place for everyone to be involved."

Peters, and WCCOG Executive Director Judy East, who works directly with municipal governments across Washington County, urged meeting attendees to participate in a host of workgroups on topics including healthy communities, economic development, workforce development, renewable energy, transportation, communications, sustainable housing, water infrastructure, reforming the state's Growth Management Law, and others (see page 3).

To learn more about GRO-WA or to get involved in the project, visit <http://www.gro-wa.org> or contact Peters at 255-0983.

To learn more about Mobilize Maine, contact Saunders at 259-5004 or by email at lsaunders@sunrisecounty.org.

SCEC Bids Farewell to Hedlund, Welcomes New Board Member Erskine



On behalf of Sunrise County Economic Council's Board and staff, Executive Director Harold Clossey would like to thank retiring Washington County Community College President Joyce Hedlund (left) for her service on the Council's Board of Directors.

Hedlund joined SCEC's Board in 2011 and worked with the Council to align Washington County's education, economic and workforce development strategies. During Hedlund's tenure, SCEC strength-

ened its relationship with WCCC by opening up an office on campus, making the Council more accessible to clients in northern and eastern portions of the county. Hedlund retired from WCCC on June 30.

Clossey also welcomed WCCC Human Resources Director Tina Erskine (right) to the Board. Erskine, a Washington County native who has been with the community college since 1994, is involved in numerous community outreach efforts.



Mobilize Maine and GROWashington-Aroostook Kick-off Brings Together More Than 80 Local Community and Business Leaders



Jen Peters
Assistant Director
Sunrise County
Economic Council

Regional Plan Components

- Economic Development
- Workforce Development
- Renewable Energy Related Training
- Brownfields Economic Renewal
- Transportation Infrastructure for Economic Development
- Modernizing Communications Electric Utility Infrastructure
- Sustainable Housing
- Transportation Housing
- Healthy Communities
- Climate Change Infrastructure Resilience
- Water Infrastructure Investment
- Growth Management Law Change



Judy East
Executive Director
Washington County
Council of Governments

Local Training for Your Business!



In May, 30 small-businesses and non-profit organizations learned how to get the most out of social media sites like Facebook and Twitter thanks to a joint effort between SCEC and UMM.

Earlier in the month, SCEC teamed up with WCCC to offer food safety manager certification (ServSafe) training in Calais. In July, the Council partnered

with the Downeast Business Alliance to hold QuickBooks training for businesses who want to learn the popular book-keeping software.

SCEC has offered these and other trainings on a host of topics ranging from government contracting to customer service for managers. They are presented locally — either on-site or through video-conferencing technology.

Thanks in large part to funding from the Boston Foundation and the Maine Woods Tourism Training Initiative, you can attend without breaking the bank. SCEC is generally able to ensure that

trainings are free or presented at a reduced rate. Please contact Will (wtuell@sunrisecounty.org) if you've got suggestions or would like information on upcoming training.



SCEC Welcomes New Employees



Larry Saunders
Project Manager



Sharon Foss
Project Coordinator



Sunrise County Economic Council

SCEC Machias Office
Machias Telebusiness Center
17 Stackpole Road
P.O. Box 679
Machias, ME 04654
Phone: (207) 255-0983
Fax: (207) 255-4987

SCEC Calais Office
Washington County
Community College
1 College Drive
Calais, ME 04619
Phone: (207) 259-5004

SCEC Website
www.sunrisecounty.org

Contact
wtuell@sunrisecounty.org

"Like" us on Facebook



Sunrise County Economic Council Local Happenings

SCEC's weekly electronic bulletin, *Local Happenings*, keeps you connected with Washington County and features the latest:

- Trainings & Workshops
- Community Events
- Arts, Music & Entertainment
- Meetings & Notices
- Continuing Education & Scholarship Opportunities
- Fun Facts
- And much more

To sign up, click on the photo (right) or email Will!
(wtuell@sunrisecounty.org)



SCEC Economic & Community Development Partners



MAINE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

