

From: Kim.Rudd@parl.gc.ca [mailto:Kim.Rudd@parl.gc.ca]

Sent: February-19-19 12:29 PM

Subject: RE: Cobourg Taxpayers Association Has Concerns

Ms. Smith,

I'll let you know that I fully support Venture13 and the efforts they're making. I won't be answering any questions in regard to Venture13 or the NCFDC, as I suggest you direct any and all questions to those organizations directly, as it would be inappropriate for me to respond as I was not privy or party to why Argentum Electronics, for example, was chosen as the N100 winner.

I think the N100 is an amazing program that has greatly benefitted Eastern Ontario. There is one engineering position alone forthcoming; every high-paying job such as an engineering position is something we can all be proud of. Where founders of companies were educated, for example, is irrelevant; where certain partners are located is also irrelevant. The majority of private-sector businesses here in Northumberland County are foreign-owned. I see absolutely no duplication of service between any economic development organization and what the NCFDC is doing. They are primarily federally-funded, and frankly I think they have done an excellent job in being the catalyst for what I call the "rural Renaissance." They have taken a building that sat fallow for over a decade, costing the Cobourg taxpayers approximately \$70,000/year, and are now filling it with businesses that I would never have anticipated in my over 30 years living here as a resident.

As to your references to IDEAHUB and the GEL lab; it's unfortunate that those entities did not move forward, but I would certainly rather see us try and fail than not try at all.

Again, you will have to direct any and all questions regarding Venture13 to either the Municipality of the Town of Cobourg or Wendy Curtis, Executive Director of the NCFDC directly, as they would have far more specifics than I do. You should be aware that the Community Futures Development program is a program of the Northumberland Business Development Assistance Corporation, a private entity that has certain funds that are private and outside the purview of any taxpayer.

Best regards,



Kim Rudd

Member of Parliament, Northumberland—Peterborough South