

# 2024-2025

## Prescott and Russell Development Corporation ANNUAL REPORT



**SOCIÉTÉ DE DÉVELOPPEMENT  
PRESCOTT & RUSSELL  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Funded by the Federal  
Economic Development  
Agency for Southern Ontario


Financé par l'Agence fédérale  
de développement économique  
pour le Sud de l'Ontario

**Canada** 



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The Chenail  
Hawkesbury ON



# Introduction

## *2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT*

Within these pages, the reader will find a comprehensive reflection of our ongoing commitment to fostering economic growth and supporting business communities in Prescott and Russell, as well as the broader Southern Ontario region. This report not only highlights our key achievements from the past fiscal year but also emphasizes our unwavering dedication to empowering local businesses, driving innovation, and cultivating a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem.


Among the highlights are detailed insights into our funding and service offerings, key milestones, and the significant impact we've had in nurturing the development and growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SME). We are excited to share the progress we've made and the exciting opportunities that lie ahead for our vibrant community.

As we reflect on the past year, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to our partners and clients whose collaboration and commitment have played a vital role in the continued growth and success of the Prescott and Russell communities. We look forward to building on our success and creating even greater value together in the year ahead.





# Welcome message



*In business,  
as in nature,  
every sunset  
marks not an  
ending, but the  
quiet promise  
of a new  
beginning.*

It is with great pride that we present to you the annual report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2025. This report serves as a summary of our activities and offers an opportunity to better understand our organization and its involvement in the development of the regional economy.

*Luc Filion*  
Chairperson

*John Candie*  
Executive Director



Indeed, thanks to the dedication of our team and our board members, you will see the important role that the Prescott and Russell Development Corporation plays in supporting businesses, organizations, and municipalities across the Prescott-Russell region.

Through its three lines of business—technical assistance, financing, and support for regional economic development—the PRDC has been involved in a wide range of regional projects and has invested \$1,996,051 in local businesses and entrepreneurs.

Additionally, the Council of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell has launched an 18-month pilot partnership with the Prescott and Russell Development Corporation to implement five key priorities of the 2024–2029 Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan. This partnership will not only contribute to the region's economic growth but will also attract investment, stimulate entrepreneurship, and enhance the international competitiveness of Prescott and Russell.

The community economic development is essential to the prosperity and stability of our regions. It encompasses efforts to improve economic well-being and quality of life for all communities by creating and maintaining jobs, supporting innovation, and helping small and medium-sized enterprises grow.

In closing, we would like to thank our staff as well as our volunteer board members for their dedication. We also extend our thanks to the Government of Canada, through FedDev Ontario, for its financial support. For nearly 40 years, the PRDC has worked collaboratively and with agility to help build a prosperous and sustainable local and regional economy. Finally, thank you to our clients and partners for the trust you continue to place in us.


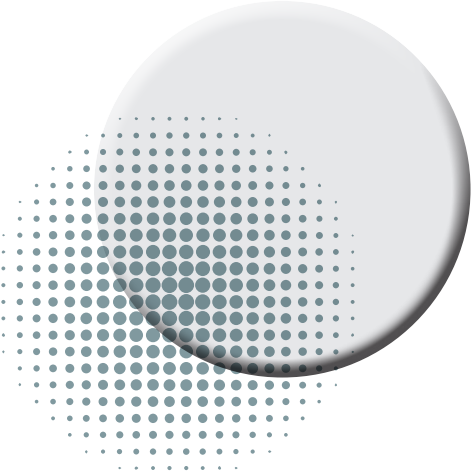


## Who we are

The Prescott and Russell Development Corporation (PRDC) proudly belongs to a robust and well-established network of 267 Community Futures offices spread across Canada. These offices play a crucial role in nurturing rural businesses and driving economic development, forming the backbone of growth in rural and remote areas.

Funded by the Government of Canada, the Community Futures Program (CFP) was officially launched in 1985 with a mission to foster sustainable business development in these often underserved regions. Over the past three decades, it has evolved into the country's largest, most comprehensive, and deeply-rooted national community economic development movement, continually empowering rural communities.

Each Community Futures office is intricately woven into the fabric of its local communities and represents a pivotal aspect of the Government of Canada's broader commitment to rural communities. These offices are not just service providers; they are local hubs that employ community members, ensuring that the people who understand the unique needs and challenges of the area are leading the way. Funding for Community Futures offices across Canada is provided by the Government of Canada's [Regional Development Agencies](#) (RDAs). [FedDev Ontario](#) supports those Community Futures organizations and their respective regional networks that are located within rural eastern and southern Ontario, to ensure that they have the necessary resources to drive meaningful change.



With its comprehensive approach, FedDev Ontario provides funding that supports three fundamental pillars of business development: Loans, Counselling, and Community Economic Development. This triad of support ensures that local businesses not only survive but thrive, creating a lasting impact on their communities and economies.



## Our VALUES

**INTEGRITY:** We act with integrity to listen to, advise, and support our businesses, entrepreneurs, and communities while providing quality services.

**INCLUSIVE:** Through our policies, we ensure diversity and inclusion within our administration, board members, and all the processes carried out by the organization.

**PROFESSIONAL:** We take our role as an economic development organization seriously through our knowledge, commitment to service quality, and transparency.

**COLLABORATIVE:** We advocate for collaboration with our peers while engaging all communities in an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust.

**VISIONARY:** We envision change by encouraging creativity, innovation, and the development of new sustainable ideas.

## Our MISSION

The main objective is to maintain and create jobs in the community. The Prescott-Russell Community Development Corporation (PRCDC), through an investment fund, offers high-risk funding to small and medium-sized businesses in the form of loans, loan guarantees, and shared capital. We support and encourage all job creation and enhancement initiatives.

The objectives of the PRCDC are as follows:

- Stimulate job creation by supporting existing businesses and the development of new ones;
- Stimulate entrepreneurship in the Prescott and Russell region;
- Promote the development of employment, education, and training.



## Our MANDATE

The Prescott-Russell Community Development Corporation is a support agency for local economic development in the United Counties of Prescott and Russell. A team of professionals offers its services in the following four areas:

1. Consulting and financial support for businesses.
2. Support for community projects and initiatives.
3. Support for development and access to training.
4. Promotion of local economic development.

## Our BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The PRDC is governed by a dedicated board of directors representing different regions in Prescott and Russell in various sectors of activity. These eight local volunteers share a common vision for the long-term prosperity of the region:

LUC FILION- Chairperson  
 PATRICK BROUSSEAU - Vice-chairperson  
 JULIE MÉNARD-BRAULT - Secretary-treasurer  
 SYLVAIN CHARLEBOIS - Administrator  
 ALAIN LAMARCHE - Administrator  
 ERIC DROUIN - Administrator  
 ÉRIC CHARLEBOIS - Administrator  
 CHRISTINE BONNEAU O'NEILL - Administrator

## Our STAFF

The PRDC is proud to introduce the dedicated professionals who make up its team. Each member brings a wealth of experience, a commitment to excellence, and a shared goal of delivering the highest standard of service.

JOHN CANDIE - Executive Director  
 DANIEL SIGOUIN - Business Advisor  
 KIM DENIS - Accounting Technician  
 PAULINE CHEVRIER - Communications and Loans Officer  
 KARIANNE SIMARD - Economic Development Officer  
 NICOLAS MALBOEUF - Regional Director of Economic Development and Tourism

# Funding Report

In the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the Prescott and Russell Development Corporation (PRDC) achieved remarkable milestones while supporting Prescott and Russell and Southern Ontario businesses with funding from the Investment Fund, Line of Credit, and the Economic Development Initiative of Southern Ontario programs. The substantial funding commitment underlines the PRDC's ongoing dedication to fostering local entrepreneurship and economic growth in these vital communities.



**SOCIÉTÉ DE DÉVELOPPEMENT  
PRESCOTT & RUSSELL  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Our funding programs are dedicated to supporting the municipalities across Prescott and Russell, including the following key areas:

- Alfred and Plantagenet Township
- Municipality of Casselman
- Champlain Township
- City of Clarence-Rockland
- Town of Hawkesbury
- East Hawkesbury Township
- The Nation Municipality
- Russell Township

We offer a range of funding options to support businesses and entrepreneurs across Prescott and Russell. These include:

- [Investment Fund Loan](#) (up to \$300,000)
- [Line of Credit](#) (up to \$150,000)
- [Young Entrepreneur Loan](#) (up to \$30,000)
- [Express Loan](#) (up to \$15,000)



**IDESO**

Initiative de développement  
économique du Sud de l'Ontario

The [Economic Development Initiative for Southern Ontario \(EDISO\)](#) is designed to support activities that will strengthen the foundation, sustainability, and competitiveness of Francophone communities in Southern Ontario. These communities include:

- |                     |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Brant             | • Leeds and Grenville            |
| • Bruce             | • Lennox and Addington           |
| • Chatam-Kent       | • Middlesex                      |
| • Dufferin          | • Niagara                        |
| • Durham            | • Northumberland                 |
| • Elgin             | • Ottawa                         |
| • Essex             | • Oxford                         |
| • Frontenac         | • Peel                           |
| • Grey              | • Perth                          |
| • Haldimand-Norfolk | • Peterborough                   |
| • Haliburton        | • Prescott and Russell           |
| • Hamilton          | • Prince Edward                  |
| • Halton            | • Renfrew                        |
| • Hastings          | • Simcoe                         |
| • Huron             | • Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry |
| • Kawartha Lakes    | • Toronto                        |
| • Lambton           | • Waterloo                       |
| • Lanark            | • Wellington                     |
|                     | • York                           |

The PRDC proudly serves many regions, encompassing Prescott and Russell as well as Southern Ontario areas. We are dedicated to supporting innovation, growth and prosperity in entrepreneurial projects ranging from start-ups to expansions to acquisitions through our funding and coaching programs.



# \$38,493,524

## Allocated funding since inception

The allocated funds have been a cornerstone in empowering local businesses and were instrumental in supporting a wide range of entrepreneurial projects, not only helping businesses get off the ground but also sustain and expand in an ever-evolving economic landscape. From the beginning, these programs have supported a wide variety of projects that contribute to the vibrancy and resilience of our region. To date, a total of \$38,493,524 has been allocated to businesses throughout Prescott and Russell and Southern Ontario, reflecting a strong, ongoing commitment to local economic development.

Approved and disbursed loans



A total of over \$1,996,051 in business funding across the Prescott and Russell and Southern Ontario regions has been approved in 2024-2025. Of the total approved funds, \$1,683,194 were successfully disbursed from a diverse array of funding programs, including the Investment Fund, the Line of Credit, and the Economic Development Initiative of Southern Ontario.

Our clients



By the close of the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the PRDC's loan portfolio stood strong, comprising 110 active loans across the Prescott and Russell and Southern Ontario regions. This dynamic portfolio reflects the PRDC's commitment to empowering local businesses with the capital they need to succeed.

Equal opportunity



Additionally, we take great pride in serving underrepresented groups, ensuring that growth opportunities are accessible to all. In 2024-2025, we supported a diverse array of entrepreneurs. 68% of the approved projects were members of the official language minority communities, 42% were women, 26% were young entrepreneurs, and 21% were visible minorities. These figures highlight our inclusive approach and reflect our determination to create a more equitable and vibrant business ecosystem across the region.

At the PRDC, our long-term vision is both ambitious and deeply rooted in our commitment to community. We aim to be more than just a resource—we strive to be the go-to partner for local businesses, both existing and emerging, as they work toward achieving their goals and growing their impact.

This means providing more than just access to capital. Whether it's through flexible financing solutions tailored to meet evolving needs, personalized advisory services designed to guide entrepreneurs through challenges and opportunities, or hands-on collaboration that fosters innovation and resilience, we are dedicated to meeting businesses where they are and helping them get where they want to go.

## Project goals

Clarence-Rockland represented the majority of the funding provided, accounting for 32% of the total, followed by Hawkesbury at 16%. Casselman and The Nation accounted for 11% each. Russell represented a smaller portion at 5%. And finally, 26% of the allocated funds were to Southern Ontario.

## Employment

The PRDC's funding supports business projects in all phases. This fiscal year, projects include:

- 42% maintains
- 32% expansions
- 26% start-ups

## Municipalities

Employment opportunity is one of the key priorities in our funding projects. This fiscal year, 135 jobs were created and maintained. A total of 5,626 since inception.



The 2024-2025 fiscal year, the PRDC hosted, partnered with, and participated in 15 conferences and events, engaging with the business community, sharing valuable resources, and supporting local business development.

## Support

We are here to help!  
For information on our services and programs:  
[www.sdcpr-prcdc.ca](http://www.sdcpr-prcdc.ca)  
[info@sdcp-prcdc.ca](mailto:info@sdcp-prcdc.ca)



## Partnerships

Over the past 39+ years, we have supported 747 businesses across Prescott and Russell and Southern Ontario. Through our programs and guidance, we have helped SMEs not only get established but also grow and thrive.

## Contact

Our approach is grounded in partnership. We believe that when businesses thrive, communities prosper. That's why we don't just support entrepreneurs—we invest in their potential. We walk alongside them through every phase of their journey: from ideation and launch to growth and long-term sustainability.

As we look toward the future, our purpose remains constant: to build a stronger, more inclusive economy by empowering those who are building the future of our community. Everything we do is guided by this mission—and it's this shared vision that drives us forward.

# 2024-2025 Highlights



From left to right: Julien Martel, Aude Martel from Martel & Sons Inc., John Candie, Executive Director of the PRDC, André Martel, President of Martel & Sons Inc. and Luc Filion, Chairperson of the PRDC.



On September 25<sup>th</sup> 2024, the Prescott and Russell Development Corporation (PRDC) held their Annual General Meeting at the [Vankleek Hill Vineyards](#).

Each year, during its Annual General Meeting, the members of the PRDC's Board of Directors honor a person from Prescott and Russell for their commitment to the community, their contribution to local economic development and their support for the entrepreneurial ecosystem by presenting them with the President's Award. Mr. André Martel, President of Martel & Sons Inc., was recognized among other things for his support of regional economic growth, for his contribution to strengthening ties between SMEs and the community, and without forgetting his LEADERSHIP.

His vision and commitment have had a profound impact on the economic and entrepreneurial landscape of Prescott and Russell. Over time, he has not only stimulated economic growth but also promoted job creation and business prosperity. In addition to his professional contributions, his ability to guide, motivate and encourage others left an indelible mark on those who had the privilege of working alongside him. His dedication, vision and leadership will continue to inspire future generations and guide entrepreneurs towards a prosperous future." states Luc Filion, Chairperson of the PRDC.





## COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS



Les Dragons du CSDCEO is an entrepreneurial pitch competition organized by the [Conseil scolaire de district catholique de l'Est ontarien \(CSDCEO\)](#), in collaboration with the PRDC. It aims to foster entrepreneurial skills among high school students by giving them a platform to present their business ideas to a panel of judges. *The 2025 Winners of Les Dragons du CSDCEO.* A total of \$18,000 in funding was awarded this year to three teams who presented particularly outstanding projects:

Daphnée Keough, catholic High School in Embrun – Lily & Lamb

Pierre-Alexandre Poirier, Le Relais High School in Alexandria – PAP Baking & Co.

Océane Pigeon, L'Escale High School in Rockland – Serein'Age

These three projects stood out among the 13 student presentations submitted to a panel of judges composed of Daniel Sigouin, Chloé Lapensée, and Louis Béland.



**Conseil scolaire de district catholique de l'Est ontarien**



In August 2024, the Government of Canada announced an investment of over \$3.7 million for 27 organizations across Eastern Ontario that are diversifying their offerings and contributing to attracting new visitors to the region. This includes five projects that support Indigenous tourism across Eastern Ontario. The PRDC is thrilled to be among 27 agencies, businesses, and organizations across Eastern Ontario receiving federal funding for tourism-related initiatives.



Inspired by the spirit of Global Entrepreneurship Week, the PRDC, in collaboration with the [Fédération des gens d'affaires francophones de l'Ontario](#), hosted a free virtual workshop to empower aspiring business owners. Key subjects included:

- make informed decisions
- structure your actions and strategies
- learn how to better manage challenges
- develop a solid action plan
- introduction to GrowthWheel



## COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

**Deloitte.**



### Navigating Toward Success

2024-2029 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN



Prescott  
Russell

Canada

Federal investment helps businesses and organizations to grow in Prescott-Russell

To support rural businesses in the Prescott-Russell region and enhance their growth, the PRDC, in collaboration with the [United Counties of Prescott and Russell \(UCPR\)](#), has developed a multi-year strategy. This strategy provides a roadmap to strengthen the region's economy and create new opportunities for entrepreneurs. It aims to attract and retain business investments, create jobs, and foster innovation and growth in key sectors such as artificial intelligence, renewable energy, biodiversity, manufacturing, advanced robotics, and more.

The PRDC received over \$90,000 through the Economic Development Initiative, which was funded by the Government of Canada through FedDev Ontario, to help analyze current economic challenges and limitations and help increase competitiveness and opportunities for growth in the region.

To view the full report, visit our website at [www.sdcpr-prcdc.ca](http://www.sdcpr-prcdc.ca) or click on this [LINK](#).



The PRDC was happy to attend the [Leadership féminin Prescott et Russell \(LFPR\)](#) 2024 Symposium, held in August 2024.

What an incredible success! A forum that offered such a well-balanced program and created an atmosphere that fostered exchange and inspiration!

A discussion panel featuring Valérie Grenier and her father, along with Fannie Desforges, exceeded all our expectations! The conversation was rich and inspiring, focusing on concrete and innovative solutions to change systems and behaviors in favor of gender equality in Prescott and Russell.



**LFPR**  
Leadership féminin Prescott-Russell



In January 2025, the PRDC was proud to be part of the Economic Update Roundtable, hosted by [WELCH LLP](#), the Vice-President, Research and Chief Economist of the [BDC](#), Mr. Pierre Cl  roux and Moe Demyati of [Jenna Foods](#) in Vars.

We had the opportunity to get a good understanding of the consequences and challenges of what is coming with the new US tariffs, the impact it will have on SME's and how the new IRCC reduction in immigration levels will impact small businesses as well. We also had the opportunity to hear from many business owners and Economic Development partners for the Prescott and Russell region.



Congratulations [Groupe Convex](#) on 20 Years of Impact!

Over the past two decades, Groupe Convex's unwavering commitment to social inclusion, employment equity, and community development has made a meaningful difference in the lives of countless individuals across Prescott and Russell. Through their innovative social enterprises and dedicated leadership, they have shown how business and social purpose can come together to build a stronger, more inclusive future.





## The PRDC's annual golf tournament

Our end of summer wouldn't be complete without our annual golf tournament. With the generous support of all the players, participants, sponsors, and volunteers, we have been able to make a meaningful contribution of \$2,500 to [Valoris Foundation](#). We can't thank you enough. Your involvement and enthusiasm have truly made a difference, and we are incredibly grateful for your support.





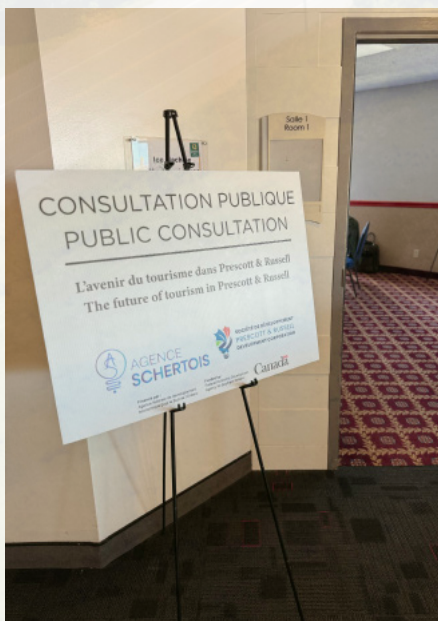
# 2025-2030 Tourism Strategy

In December 2024, the Prescott and Russell Development Corporation (PRDC), in collaboration with the [Schertois Agency](#), officially launched preparations for the 2025-2030 tourism development strategy. The PRDC aims to create favorable conditions for the growth of tourism activities in the Prescott and Russell region.

By the end of this year, the Prescott and Russell Development Corporation, through regional public consultations, will seek recommendations from municipalities, stakeholders, tourism businesses, travelers, First Nations, underrepresented groups, and citizens on the future of tourism in Prescott and Russell. The feedback gathered will contribute to the creation of this new strategy for sustainable tourism growth.

The main objective of the tourism strategy, which is funded by the Government of Canada through FedDev Ontario, is to establish favorable conditions for the development of bilingual tourism activity in the Prescott and Russell region. Having a clearly defined mission, vision, and set of values will provide direction for the development of the tourism strategy, guide its actions, and help build a strong and sustainable tourism industry for Prescott and Russell. This strategy must meet the needs of visitors while supporting the development of local businesses and the regional economy.

*The first public consultation was held on March 27<sup>th</sup> in Hawkesbury. Thank you to everyone who attended and provided invaluable feedback. The public consultation on the future of tourism in Prescott and Russell brought together businesses, organizations, and citizens to share their ideas and concerns. Discussions focused on developing attractions, improving infrastructure, and promoting regional identity, thereby helping to shape the future direction of tourism in the region. Thank you also to Ms. Guylaine Scherer, visionary, leader, and authentic communicator from the Schertois Agency for hosting the event.*





# 2024 Gala of Excellence

On this memorable evening, more than 250 guests gathered at the Camille Piché Community Centre in Embrun to celebrate the vision, dedication, and entrepreneurial spirit that define the heart of Prescott and Russell. The 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the Gala of Excellence, organized by the Prescott and Russell Development Corporation, was held on October 19, 2024 under the theme *Black and White Evening*. This was not just a celebration of success, but a tribute to the resilience, innovation, and drive that shape our local economy and community.

Each small businesses plays a pivotal role in the growth and prosperity of Prescott and Russell. Their passion for innovation, their commitment to community, and their unwavering determination have made our region a place of opportunity and pride.

Congratulations to all the awardees, finalists, and everyone who contributes to the success of this incredible community. Here's to another year of growth, success, and continued excellence!

*Excellence reconnue. Succès célébré.*  
*Excellence recognized. Success celebrated.*





## Successful evening

It is important to take a moment to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made the 2024 Gala of Excellence a success.

Together, we created an unforgettable experience.

Every sponsor was invaluable in all aspects of the celebration.

A special mention goes out to the [United Counties of Prescott and Russell](#) and the [Prescott-Russell Employment Services Centre](#), the official partners and **PLATINUM** sponsors. We were honored to have [Desjardins Business](#) and the [Prescott and Russell Development Corporation](#) as **GOLD** sponsors. The **SILVER** sponsors, [Groupe Convex](#) and the [Eastern Ontario Training Board](#) were also highly valued. The indispensable **BRONZE** sponsors included [Marcil Lavallée](#), [RBC Royal Bank](#), [Hawkesbury and region](#), [Chambre of Commerce](#), [Cassellview Golf & Country Club](#), [Laplane Automobile Group](#), [Les Jardins Lamoureux](#), the [Clarence-Rockland Chamber of Commerce](#), the [Prescott-Russell Entrepreneurship Centre](#) and [KB Media Corp.](#) And the evening wouldn't be complete without our essential **ACTIVE** sponsors: [Arboris Inc.](#) sponsored the red wine bottles, the [Prescott-Russell Chamber of Commerce](#) sponsored the white wine bottles, the [Conseil scolaire de district catholique de l'Est ontarien](#) sponsored the table centerpieces and the Photo Booth area, [SOL-Air Consultants](#) sponsored the cocktail area, [MNP](#) sponsored the chocolates, and the [Traiteur La Bonne Bouffe](#) sponsored the music area.

Thank you all for contributing to our goal to highlight and celebrate the Prescott and Russell businesses and entrepreneurs.

16<sup>th</sup>  
édition

**Excellence**  
célébrons nos succès! • Celebrating our success! 2024

### Jury committee

#### President

Thuy Vuong Blais

#### Administrators

Éric Renaud

Adam Hamidi

Oussama Naciri

Éric Brousseau

Sarah Bouchkhi

### Organizing committee

#### President

Éric Charlebois

#### Coordinator

Karianne Simard

#### Administrators

John Candie

Kim Denis

Pauline Chevrier

Daniel Sigouin

### Suppliers

#### Photographer

Lexine Photographie

#### Technical

Proson

#### Music

The Rock Junkies

Centre d'Excellence artistique de l'Ontario

#### Decorations

Sam & Bee Collective - Event Design

#### Caterer

Traiteur La Bonne Bouffe

#### Trophies

Régimbald Group

#### Venue

Camille Piché Community Centre

#### Master of Ceremony

Éric Charlebois





## CATEGORY

### ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD

#### Finalists

1. Microtel by Wyndham Casselman
2. Baker Design
3. La Binerie Plantagenet

#### Winner

***Microtel by Wyndham Casselman***

Sponsored by



*platinum*





## CATEGORY

### EXCELLENCE AWARD

Winner

*Académie Shanthaly*

Sponsored by



Centre de **services à l'emploi**  
**Employment Services** Centre





# CATEGORY

## EMERITUS AWARD

Winner

*Estelle Patenaude*

Sponsored by



**SOCIÉTÉ DE DÉVELOPPEMENT  
PRESCOTT & RUSSELL  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**



gold







## CATEGORY

### JURY AWARD

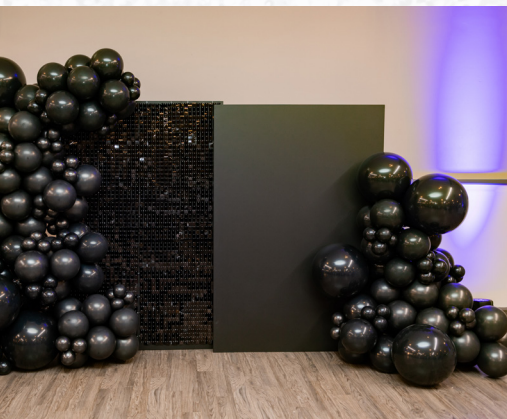
#### Finalists

1. Contak Staffing Solutions
2. Kyan Cuisine
3. Les Jardins Lamoureux

#### Winner

**Contak Staffing Solutions**

Sponsored by





## CATEGORY

### DANIEL GIGAUT AWARD

Winner

*La Cuisine Passionnée*

Sponsored by



*silver*







## CATEGORY

### INCLUSIVE BUSINESS AWARD

#### Finalists

1. A & W Rockland
2. Calypso Theme Waterpark
3. L'Original Packing Ltd.

#### Winner

*L'Original Packing Ltd.*

*Sponsored by*





# bronze





## CATEGORIES

### MANUFACTURING BUSINESS

Finalists

1. Mexican Corn Products
2. Martel & Sons Inc.
3. L'Original Packing Ltd.

Winner

**Martel & Sons Inc.**



### RETAIL BUSINESS

Finalists

1. Baker Design
2. Martel & Sons Inc.
3. L'Original Packing Ltd.

Winner

**L'Original Packing Ltd.**



### SERVICES BUSINESS

Finalists

1. Contak Staffing Solutions
2. Microtel by Wyndham  
Casselman
3. Studio Shanthaly

Winner

**Studio Shanthaly**



Chambre de commerce  
**HAWKESBURY**  
et région / and Region  
Chamber of Commerce

### COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Finalists

1. L'Original Packing Ltd.
2. Brauwerk Haufman Rockland
3. AHOY Adventures

Winner

**AHOY Adventures**



### AGRIFOOD BUSINESS

Finalists

1. Les Jardins Lamoureux
2. Brauwerk Hoffman Rockland
3. L'Original Packing Ltd.

Winner

**Brauwerk Hoffman Rockland**



### NEW BUSINESS

Finalists

1. Euphie d'Ici
2. Académie Shanthaly
3. Brauwerk Hoffman Rockland

Winner

**Académie Shanthaly**



### YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR

Finalists

1. Kyan Cuisine
2. Bastien Physio
3. Martel & Sons Inc.

Winner

**Martel & Sons Inc.**



### TOURISM BUSINESS

Finalists

1. La Binerie
2. Brauwerk Haufman Rockland
3. AHOY Adventures

Winner

**AHOY Adventures**



### INDEPENDENT WORKER

Finalists

1. La Cuisine Passionnée
2. Leduc Designs
3. Impressions Design

Winner

**Impressions Design**



CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE  
**CLARENCE-ROCKLAND**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### WOMAN ENTREPRENEUR

Finalists

1. RDH Dental Hygien
2. AHOY Adventures
3. Studio Shanthaly

Winner

**Studio Shanthaly**





# Business Surveys

Business surveys are a vital tool that helps us better understand the realities, needs, and priorities of local entrepreneurs and business owners. By gathering direct feedback, we can identify trends, challenges, and opportunities that may not be visible through data alone.

This information allows us to make informed decisions, develop targeted programs, and advocate more effectively on behalf of the business community.

In January 2025, the PRDC conducted a business survey to better understand the business needs of entrepreneurs and businesses across the Prescott and Russell region. As the business landscape is constantly changing and evolving, this survey is a part of our ongoing effort to strengthen our business communities and will play a key role in shaping our future strategies.

## Building **Stronger** Relationships

### *Encouraging Outlook for Prescott and Russell's Business Communities*

The survey findings were both insightful and encouraging for our region. A significant 67% of respondents express optimism about revenue growth over the next 12 months—an important indicator of confidence and forward momentum. In addition, 87% of businesses report having clear investment goals, reflecting a strong sense of ambition and a desire to innovate, expand, and improve.

Even more notably, 82% of respondents anticipate no major changes to their business status, signaling a sense of stability across the local business landscape. Meanwhile, 11% are actively planning for growth through expansion or acquisitions—further evidence of a proactive and opportunity-focused mindset within our entrepreneurial community. This data paints a clear picture: Prescott and Russell enjoy a largely steady and consistent business climate, underpinned by resilience, vision, and a readiness to embrace new opportunities.

For the full report, visit our website at [www.sdcpr-prcdc.ca](http://www.sdcpr-prcdc.ca) or click on this [LINK](#)





Ultimately, our goal is to ensure that the support we offer is relevant, timely, and impactful—driven by the voices of those we serve.



In March 2025, the PRDC launched a preliminary survey to better understand how current and potential U.S. tariffs are impacting local businesses in Prescott and Russell. With cross-border trade playing a significant role in our regional economy, it is essential to assess how tariffs are affecting operations, costs, supply chains, and overall business confidence.

## Tariffs: Understanding the **impact** on your business

### *How are tariffs impacting our local businesses?*

The business community respondents provided valuable data that enhanced the accuracy and reliability of the findings. Their insights offered a clearer picture of the local business trends, challenges and strengths.

The responses helped identify the diverse range of businesses in Prescott and Russell, showcasing what makes the region distinctive. This included its economic resilience, innovative entrepreneurs, and industries that inspire others. The participants input both improved the quality of the survey and revealed key factors.

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# INFO Magazine for entrepreneurs

The PRDC offers many services and programs to support entrepreneurs. One of which is providing valuable insights, local highlights and practical guidance through our INFO Magazine for entrepreneurs. Each edition is thoughtfully curated to address the challenges and opportunities faced by small business owners and features tips, advice and resources that empower entrepreneurs to make informed decisions, adapt to market changes, and grow their ventures. Also included are local success stories and events, and a special publicity section dedicated to local entrepreneurs. By delivering relevant, accessible content, our INFO Magazine for entrepreneurs serves as an ongoing source of insight and support for the entrepreneurial community. Here is an overview of the 2024-2025 editions. To view the magazine, visit our website at [www.sdcpr-prcdc.ca](http://www.sdcpr-prcdc.ca) or click on the titles below.

MAY  
2024

## 2024-2029 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

*Community, business and industry partners consultations.*

While this edition contains a wealth of information, its primary focus is the 2024-2029 Economic Development Strategy. In partnership with the United Counties of Prescott and Russell, this forward-looking plan outlines key priorities, goals, and initiatives designed to drive sustainable growth, foster innovation, and strengthen our local economy over the next five years.



OCTOBER  
2024

## FEDERAL FUNDING FOR TOURISM

The Government of Canada, through FedDev Ontario, announced an investment of over \$3.7 million to more than 27 organizations in Eastern Ontario to enhance tourism experiences and attract more visitors to the region. The PRCD is proud to be among the recipients. Also included in this edition are success stories from 2 local entrepreneurs, the unveiling of the 2024 Gala of Excellence finalists, our annual golf tournament and treasured testimonials from past and present clients.



CHRISTMAS  
2024

## 2024 HOLIDAY SEASON SPECIAL EDITION

This issue is entirely dedicated to celebrating our local entrepreneurs, offering them a special opportunity to extend warm holiday wishes to their clients, employees, families, and friends. It's a heartfelt showcase of appreciation, community spirit, and the strong relationships that drive local business success.



MARCH  
2025

## PROUDLY MADE IN PRESCOTT AND RUSSELL

As we navigate through rough waters, many challenges and uncertainties with tariffs, inflation and labour shortages, it's more important than ever to support our local existing and new small businesses. This SPECIAL EDITION focuses on the manufacturing sector of Prescott and Russell, with an overview of what is manufactured, built, crafted, produced, and developed in each community. The list is impressive.







# Thank you



## To our esteemed Board of Directors

The Prescott and Russell Development Corporation's staff would like to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for your unwavering commitment and exceptional service to our Board of Directors. The invaluable role you play with your dedication, expertise, and unwavering commitment has been pivotal in guiding our organization toward maintaining our mandate, objectives and values and making a profound difference in our organization and communities

Your leadership and support have been crucial in steering our organization toward a brighter future, and for that, we are deeply grateful. As we continue to pursue our mission, we are inspired by the shared commitment and passion that each of you brings to the table. Your volunteer service is a testament to your belief in our cause, and we are excited about what we can accomplish together in the future.



## To our dedicated clients

We sincerely thank you for placing your trust in us for your business financing needs. It has been a privilege to partner with you and play a role in supporting your goals. We understand how important it is to have the right financial backing when growing a business, and we're honored that you chose us to be part of that journey. At the PRDC, our mission is to provide financing solutions that go beyond numbers—we aim to deliver peace of mind, flexibility, and a foundation for sustainable success. Every client we work with is unique, and we're proud to offer services tailored to your vision and business goals. Your trust and confidence mean more to us than words can express. We value the relationship we've built and look forward to continuing to support your growth, every step of the way.



## To our valued partners

The PRDC recognizes that its success in promoting economic development and supporting local SMEs is deeply intertwined with the support and collaboration of our esteemed partners. As we reflect on our journey and celebrate our achievements, we want to extend our sincerest gratitude to each of you.

Your commitment, trust, and partnership have been instrumental in our growth and accomplishments. Your unwavering dedication and shared vision have helped us navigate challenges and seize opportunities, paving the way for mutual success. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey. Your partnership is not just a business relationship but a shared commitment to excellence and success. We look forward to continuing our collaboration and achieving new milestones together.





Building our economy  
One SME at a time





As we close the 2024–2025 fiscal year, we reflect with pride on the progress we’ve made—not only in advancing our strategic goals, but also by investing and strengthening the communities we serve. These investments reflect our belief that sustainable success is only possible when communities thrive alongside us. Looking ahead, we remain committed to expanding our impact—through our mandate, mission, values and continued support for the business communities that form the heart of our vision.



# 2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT



**SOCIÉTÉ DE DÉVELOPPEMENT  
PRESCOTT & RUSSELL  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**