

MEDIA RELATIONS



9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA
K8A 6W5
(613) 735-7288
Toll Free: 1-800-273-0183
FAX: (613) 735-2081
www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 24, 2005

COUNTY EMPLOYEE WINS ECONOMIC DEVELOPER OF THE YEAR AWARD Provincial Organization Recognizes Efforts of Local Business Development Officer

Pembroke, ON: The County of Renfrew is proud to announce that Mr. Carl Snelgrove, a Business Development Officer with the County's Economic Development Division, was selected by the Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO) as the 2004 Developer of the Year Award. The presentation was made at the 48th Annual EDCO Conference in Toronto.

Mr. Snelgrove, who joined the County's Economic Development Division in 2003, was recognized for his efforts in the recently completed Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) Survey and the OSTAR Program which helped create 200 jobs within the county.

Upon accepting the award, Mr. Snelgrove stressed that he was part of a larger team that deserves full credit for all the successes within the county. **"There were countless volunteers who took part in the BR&E Study and were integral to its success. This is in addition to the many businesses that helped get the OSTAR Program off the ground. This award is an extension of their efforts, and everyone's common belief that strong partnerships can develop into success."**

Snelgrove was project manager of a \$3.4-million County/Ministry (MMAH) OSTAR agreement which contained 60 line items with seven milestones. Included in the project was a \$2-million jobs creation module designed to create new economic partnerships and 200 full-time, permanent, primary sector jobs during an 18-month period. This is in addition to the recently completed Business Retention & Expansion Survey (BR&E), a comprehensive analysis of economic factors throughout the county. The county was divided into 5 regions, and over 600 individuals and business owners took part in the survey process. The *Business Retention & Expansion Study* is available to the general public.

For more information on these projects, visit www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca or contact:

Mr. Carl Snelgrove	Business Development Officer, County of Renfrew	735-0091
Mr. Mitchell Wilkie	Manager, Economic Development Division	735-0091
Bruce McIntyre	Media Relations Coordinator, County of Renfrew	732-5945



Mr. Robert Smith (right), President of the Economic Developers Council of Ontario presents Mr. Carl Snelgrove with 2004 Economic Developer of the Year Award.