



MERRICKVILLE-WOLFORD  
*Jewel of the Rideau*

**Email of February 2, 2021 from Doug Robertson:**

**RE: Congratulations Local Grant Recipients and More Info for Small Businesses**

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Dear Merrickville-Wolford Business Owner,

We are pleased to share some great news about local businesses in Merrickville-Wolford...

**Congratulations to Successful Grant Recipients of the Digital Main Street (DMS) Program** – Over the past few months, through a partnership involving the Village/Counties/Chamber/others, our Digital Service Squad member, Rebecca Bredin, has been working with many local businesses to help increase their online presence and access the Digital Transformation Grant. Congratulations to all **9 local businesses** approved so far, each for a \$2,500 grant! The success of these 9 local businesses means 9 more community businesses with digital transformation training and an overall investment of \$22,500 into businesses in Merrickville-Wolford.

The DMS grant period has ended and Rebecca Bredin is available to work with local businesses until February 12/21, offering digital audits, teaching new digital media skills, developing your online brand, and addressing general digital transformation questions. We encourage you to reach out to

[317 Brock Street West, P.O. Box 340, Merrickville ON K0G 1N0](http://317 Brock Street West, P.O. Box 340, Merrickville ON K0G 1N0)  
[www.merrickville-wolford.ca](http://www.merrickville-wolford.ca) [reception@merrickville-wolford.ca](mailto:reception@merrickville-wolford.ca)

[Rebecca](#) and you may be interested in the DMS webinar coming up on February 10/21 where best practices will be shared on topics such as building a social media plan, filling marketing calendars, creating shareable content and more. [Click here to register.](#)

**Government Support Programs for Small Businesses** – This Wednesday, February 3/21 from 2 – 3 pm, Lisa MacLeod, Ontario’s Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries will be hosting a webinar to discuss an overview of supports available to businesses and the government's response to COVID-19. In addition to providing an overview of available supports, the agenda includes a section on how to access and apply to programs using the government portals. To register for the free session, [click here.](#)

**EmployerOne Survey 2021** – As part of an annual project funded by the Ontario government, Workforce Development boards across Eastern Ontario are calling on all employers to help us better understand workforce issues and challenges facing your business. The EmployerOne survey is designed to collect information on a range of issues including the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on your workforce, projected vacancies, hiring intentions, recruitment strategies and challenges, as well as your perspective on candidate skills, education and training. All survey responses are held in strictest confidence and all answers used for statistical purposes and published in aggregate form only. After analysis, responses from local businesses will be compiled and released to local schools, community partners, government agencies and the public so that they may see the characteristics of the local labour market. Results from our community will also be added to regional responses to obtain an Eastern Ontario perspective. Surveys are open until the end of February [here.](#)

**Small Business Advisory Centre (SBAC) Virtual Business Advisory Service** – On February 1/21 the SBAC launched its Virtual Business Advisory program to connect business owners to professionals (one-on-one, no charge to businesses) in a wide range of business topics including Human

Resources, Accounting/Bookkeeping, Legal, Marketing and more. For more information and to sign up to receive expert advice, [click here](#).

As always, for a regularly updated listing of small business resources, government support and relief programs, and local PPE Suppliers, please see the [United Counties of Leeds Grenville Economic Development Covid-19 page](#).

Again, congratulation to the successful grant recipients and to all businesses taking the DMS digital transformation training!

Doug Robertson  
CAO/Clerk/Director, Economic Development  
Village of Merrickville-Wolford



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If you become aware of a local business owner who did not receive this e-mail that you feel would benefit from being added to our e-mail list, please invite them to e-mail a request directly to [edo@merrickville-wolford.ca](mailto:edo@merrickville-wolford.ca). Indirect, third party requests to add someone to the list will not be processed.