

501
Oct 12/16



CENTRAL ALMAGUIN
It's better here.

Swedridge • South River • MacIs • Strong • July

CAEDA Priorities

- Investment attraction – i.e. manufacturing, small business
- Business retention & expansion
- Tourism development
- Fostering entrepreneurship
- Housing

CAEDA Initiatives (in no order of importance)

- Immigration attraction
- Film & video attraction
- Business visitation & outreach
- Cycling tourism
- Kent Trusses
- Housing development
- Strategic alliances
- Information programs
- Industrial/commercial properties
- Strategic plan
- BR&E project

Central Almaguin Issues

- Workforce
- Expansion obstacles
- Succession planning
- Infrastructure gaps

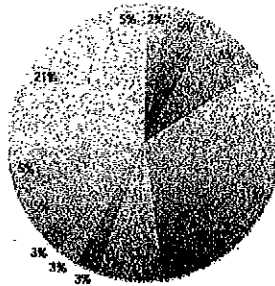


**Appendix D:
Sundridge Community Overview
& Survey Results**

PARTICIPANT PROFILE

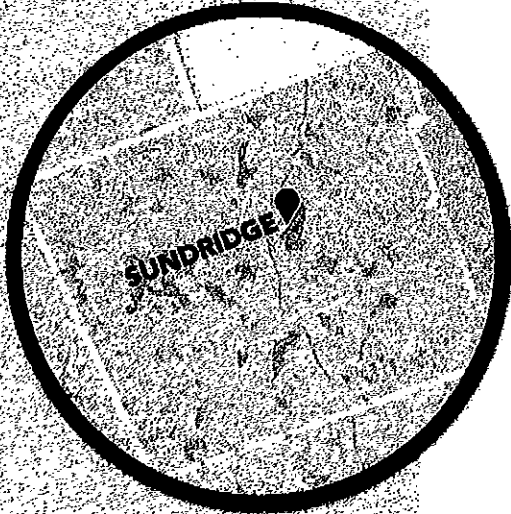
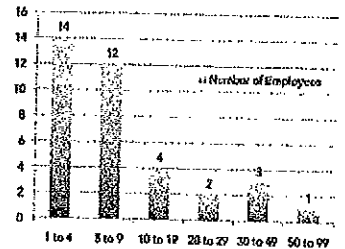
Of the 38 businesses that participated in the interviews, 79% were "locally owned and operated with one location" and 22% were "locally owned and operated with more than one location."

The 38 businesses surveyed were represented in the following industries:



- ▣ Agriculture
- ▣ Construction
- ▣ Manufacturing
- ▣ Retail
- ▣ Transportation and Warehousing
- ▣ Other Information Services
- ▣ Finance & Insurance
- ▣ Real Estate Rental & Leasing
- ▣ Professional, Scientific & Technical Services
- ▣ Education Services
- ▣ Health care & Social Assistance
- ▣ Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation
- ▣ Accommodation & Food Services
- ▣ Other Services

Data indicated that out of the 38* businesses surveyed:



WORKFORCE



45%

of businesses stated they are looking to hire within the next 18 months

57%



of businesses stated they have difficulty finding qualified people

EXPANSION OPPORTUNITIES



28%

of businesses stated they are looking to expand within the next 18 months

50%



of businesses stated there is limited service land or available space for rent or lease.



EXIT STRATEGY

of businesses stated they plan to retire in the next 18 months

3%

100%



of those stated they do not have a succession plan.

REGIONAL COLLABORATION



74%

of businesses stated they had no contact with service organizations and were unaware of programs and services available.

of businesses stated they are interested in collaborating on local and regional initiatives.

76%



TOP DISADVANTAGES AS A PLACE TO DO BUSINESS

- Small aging population / workforce and limited labour pool
- High taxes and utility costs
- Limited space for lease and development lands; lack and unreliability of infrastructure services such as municipal water, 3 phase electricity and fibre communications

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TOP ADVANTAGES AS A PLACE TO DO BUSINESS

- Strong sense of community contributes to overall quality of life
- Potential for further development of the tourism sector due to natural amenities and location
- Diversity of existing businesses including commercial, service based, retail and industrial

*Note: Number of responses may not correspond to the number of surveys completed due to respondents not answering identified questions.