

While undertaking the development of Shellbrook's 2014-2-17 Strategic Plan, the area of economic development was earmarked as a funding requirement.

"Since the dissolution of the North Central Enterprise Region, there has been a gap in our formal economic development action plan," commented Mayor George Tomporowski, "And we feel that partnering with Northern Lakes Economic Development Corporation (NLEDC) is beneficial for structured business growth."

Shellbrook's main partner in the project has been NLEDC since 2011. NLEDC is based out of Spiritwood. It is a non-profit organization focusing on "partnering for sustainable economic growth" in the Shellbrook, Shell Lake, Spiritwood area.

Business consultation, trade show presentations, and marketing initiatives are included in the partnership projects in the previous 3 years.

"Working with Shellbrook's town council, attending meetings and partnering on projects has built the ideal foundation on which to develop a more in-depth relationship," says Managing Director Bevra Fee.

"Our partners, while all unique in some way, do share a host of common goals- it makes sense to partner for strength and financial efficiency."

"Shellbrook is an important regional hub, with strong population growth from 2006, stable healthcare and a lifestyle that is attractive to several different demographics," states Fee.

Growth strategies (long term and short term) for Shellbrook and area are priorities for NLEDC and Shellbrook council.

Allyssa Yarrow – Fortier Mattila Appraisals

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