



## Summary of BIA Information Evening October 10 2013

The purpose of the BIA information evening was to build upon the [final report](#) presented to Cramahe Council in May 2013. In the intervening period, almost all businesses in Cramahe were visited and informed about the information evening. These activities paid off with over 45 people in attendance.

The evening commenced with a brief welcome by Mayor Marc Coombs followed by an in-depth presentation by Kent Fitzhugh on behalf of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The presentation dealt with the process by which a BIA could be formed. The presentation was well received followed by questions about the boundaries, financial management, potential levies by participating business and who was eligible to join. A copy of the presentation is available at the Cramahe township website or by [clicking here](#).

There were two further presentations by **Andrew Hall, Event & Business Coordinator, Cobourg DBIA** and **Denise Williams, Business Retention and Expansion Coordinator, City of Kawartha Lakes**.

Both of these presentations provided their own perspectives on how a BIA can contribute to improving the business environment and how one organization can address the varied interests of participating businesses. There were several questions from the audience about the structure, relationship with the municipalities and shared responsibilities. Some people expressed concern about the degree of control over the levies which would be implemented if a BIA was to be formed. Other questioned whether the municipality would also contribute to improving the business environment.

The meeting was capped off with a summary by the Mayor and the renewed commitment by the municipality to provide the necessary support to facilitate the next steps towards forming a BIA for a designated area.

**Next Steps:** Attached to this summary of the evening is a short evaluation form along with the link to the presentation. Over the next few weeks, potential business owners will be asked to form a steering committee to move the BIA to the next step. As we move ahead, the process will be managed by a facilitator to ensure that business owners and operators have full access to all relevant information.

If you are interested in being part of a steering committee please email [christie@cramahetownship.ca](mailto:christie@cramahetownship.ca) (Christie Alexander CAO) to indicate your interest, and we will be in touch with you.

Once again, on behalf of Cramahe Township thank you for taking the time to attend and we look forward to working with you as we move ahead.

Christie Alexander, CMO, CMMIII  
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk