

Six new agreements signed at Economic Summit

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— PLATTSBURGH — The Fourth Quebec-New York Economic Summit ended with the signing of six agreements by entities on both sides of the border.

GREEN CORRIDOR

Federation of Quebec Chambers of Commerce President Françoise Bertrand and Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce President Garry Douglas signed a cooperation agreement to create the Quebec-New York Green Corridor Council.

Their representative and others, including the Commission for Environmental Cooperation, will work to identify and address topics such as transportation, supply-chain management and logistics, energy, economic development and the role of municipal governments.

SECURITY

The two leaders also signed a memorandum of understanding with Partnerships for Research on Microelectronics, Photonics and Telecommunications President Charles Despins.

It is intended to encourage identification and support of homeland-security projects on both sides of the border and to bring industry and research together in that sector.

SCIENCE

In addition, Bertrand and Douglas signed a memorandum of understanding with Hydro-Québec Research Institute Director of Technical Business Development Charles Gagnon and College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering of the University of Albany Senior Research Scientist Dr. Harry Efstathiadis.

That pact calls for meetings to possibly establish a partnership for joint projects or establish a framework to work together.

RESEARCH

Deputy Assistant Minister Dr. Genevieve Tanguay of the Ministry of Economic Development, Innovation and Exportation of Quebec and New York State Foundation for Science, Technology and Innovation Executive Director Edward Reinfurt signed a guideline agreement calling for collaboration in research and innovation from 2008 to 2011. Priority areas include environment and energy, health and life sciences, nanotechnology and advanced materials, optics and photonics, and information and communication technologies.

SUPPLY CHAIN

Dr. Colin Read, dean of the Plattsburgh State School of Business and Economics; Plattsburgh State President Dr. John Ettling; and Dr. Ahmet Satir, a professor at the John Molson School of Business at Concordia University, signed an agreement of cooperation concerning their supply-chain-management programs.

It includes faculty and student exchanges, joint-course delivery and shared resources.

The two schools will also work to bring a Cross-Border Supply Chain Management Conference to Plattsburgh in May 2009.

BUSINESS INCUBATION

The final agreement is a memorandum of understanding signed by Network IncubAction President Charles Lambert and Business Incubator Association of New York State Executive Director David Hochman to develop cooperative projects.

It includes sharing of best practices in business incubation, with a focus on the green-energy sector.

The two will share commercial contacts and help clients of incubators in one jurisdiction access those in another.

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