



THE MONIESON CENTRE

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CREATIVE ECONOMY SEMINAR SERIES

"THE RURAL CREATIVE ECONOMY: AGENDA FOR RESEARCH"

Craig Desjardins, Executive Director, PELA CFDC

Biography

Craig Desjardins is Executive Director of the Prince Edward, Lennox & Addington Community Future Development Corporation (PELA CFDC). A federally funded, not-for-profit corporation providing business and community economic development services to Prince Edward and Lennox & Addington Counties, PELA CFDC has offices in Napanee and Picton Ontario. He also serves as Acting Executive Director of the Prince Edward, Lennox & Addington Institute for Rural Development, a rural research and policy development organization.

Craig continues to serve as an elected municipal official in the City of Quinte West (population 43,000 with yearly budget of \$95 million). Since 1998, he has held such roles as Chair of Finance and Corporate Services, Chair of Public Works, Chair of Public Library and Chair of Waterfront & Trail Development.

His educational background includes an MBA from Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario and a B.A. Economics from the University of Western Ontario, King's College.