

**Adirondack Gateway Council
Economic Development Focus Group – Fort Edward, NY
April 23, 2015**

What are some of the assets located in the AGC region that we can build upon?

- Good employee base
- Quality of life
- Good schools
- Close to everything
- Access to markets in northeast
- Good quality of life
- Natural environment (2)
- Adirondack Park
- Glens Falls Hospital
- Lake George
- Saratoga race way
- Schools
- Enhance value of natural resources
- Recreation, winter and summer
- Many established families who would be able and willing to work at a job other than low pay Big Box stores
- Historical buildings and history
- Undeveloped land
- Funding per BID model (i.e., focused)
- Complement of rural-urban areas

What do you feel are some potential barriers to attracting businesses to locate or expand in the AGC region?

- Aging population
- Aged infrastructure
- Sewers/Queensbury Exit 18/Kingsbury
- Skilled trained potential employees
- Apathy
- Letting buildings go
- Infrastructure
- Zoning restriction to affordable housing
- Lack of affordable education locally so workforce leaves
- Outdated municipal structure (too many levels of government)

- Money – lack of state and federal assistance
- Adirondack Park
- Infrastructure – water and sewer
- Small town thinking

Are there specific products, services or experiences that you believe would be successful in the Adirondack Gateway Council (AGC) region?

- Would be great to use some money and land in rural areas for affordable housing for workers and displaced aged farmers
- Proximity to Higher Ed eg. SUNY ACC
- Restaurants
- Music
- Arts
- Breweries – use old farm land. A lot of elderly farmers can't sell but need money for senior housing.
- Forestry
- Build on agriculture and forest