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Solutions sought to begin healing battered economy

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Solutions sought to begin healing battered economy

Jon Thompson

Miner and News

The loss of Kenora's major industry went far deeper than a paper cut to the local economy, but as the the mill on Ninth Street North is dismantled, the city is moving on with clear plans for its future.

A small group gathered at the Lakeside Inn on Tuesday to discuss the impact of the global economic crisis locally, local resources needed for response, and what is needed from various sectors to exercise a rebound and healthy recovery.

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union sponsored Let's Talk Solutions forums across the province, with Kenora's panel including representatives of local governance and the business, labour, and non-governmental sector.

Deputy mayor, Charito Drinkwalter described the challenges to municipal governance, including working through a loss of \$61 million to the local tax base that resulted — among other things — in the sale of Kenora's crown jewel telephone service, KMTS. Overall, her tone was positive, seeing bright lights in the city's ability to attract Qualico Homes to build The Headwaters and ongoing efforts to attract business.

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