Business Retention and Expansion Business Consent Form

Enter Community Name_____ is implementing a Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) program as a key step in supporting local businesses and building a strong relationship between business and the front line providers of economic and business development programs and services in the region. This program allows for the exchange of information that leads to real understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing local businesses.

We ask that you consent to participation in this program and to the use and/or sharing of information as set out below. In order to best satisfy your needs, and to assist in our being able to deliver a high level of quality services on a timely basis we ask for your cooperation and consent in the following areas:

A) Questionnaire: The Local BRE Lead Enter Name of Local BRE Lead_____ and BRE Researchers consider your individual answers to this questionnaire to be confidential and will be kept confidential as outlined in the researcher confidentiality agreement. All researchers with access to individual or aggregated company information have signed a confidentiality agreement.

B) Database: Enter Community Name_____ is working alongside the Selkirk College Rural Development Institute toward the compilation of a regional database using the questionnaire, which will show summary data for statistical reporting purposes, and will not be specific to your Company. This database will not include any proprietary information. Access to the database, and its background information, will require an undertaking that any specific information will be kept confidential, as outlined in the confidentiality agreement. The information collected will be aggregated into a provincial database for statistical reporting purposes. This initiative, part of the BC Business Counts program, uses the Executive Pulse web-based data and referral management system to store data. Executive Pulse is a U.S. company located and is subject to U.S. laws. In particular, the US Patriot Act which allows authorities access to the records of Internet service providers.

C) Referrals: During the course of the BRE consultation a specific business issue, opportunity or challenge may be identified that may require further action and service from one or more partner organizations to respond to the identified business need. **With your written approval** below, referrals will be forwarded to appropriate partners for follow up. This may entail the sharing of certain business information with appropriate service providers as deemed necessary. If you chose not to authorize referrals at this time, the BRE Lead will contact you as referral opportunities arise to seek your approval.

_____	_____
Signature – BRE Researcher	Print Name – BRE Researcher
_____	_____
Signature – Person Interviewed	Print Name – Person interviewed
_____	_____
Company Name	Date

_____

Signature – Person Interviewed: Referrals Approved at discretion of your community's BRE Lead