

Community Spaces, Faith Places Rural Virtual Conference

**NOVEMBER 24TH
10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM**

**Join our online conference to learn about the
impact of faith building closures on nonprofit
and community groups in a rural context.**

**Help us take action to build stronger,
more resilient communities.**

**Register now and come be a part of the
conversation**

Check out early results at www.communityspacefaithplace.org

Join the Community Spaces, Faith Places Rural Virtual Conference on **November 24th, 10 am-12 pm EST**. Come learn about the impact of faith-building closures on nonprofit & community groups & help us take action to take to build stronger, more resilient communities. Register at bit.ly/CommunitySpaceFaithPlace

#NoSpaceForCommunity

Estimates suggest that 1/3 of Canada's faith buildings could be in danger of closing. The United Church of Canada reports one building closing a week while the Anglican denomination forecasts a trendline toward a complete loss of members around 2040. With the funding support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the City of Toronto, a collaborative team of institutional members designed and executed this survey & report to learn more about the impact of faith-building closures on nonprofit and community groups at a local level and now the conversation continues in this virtual conference.

This Virtual Conference will dive deep into the data collected in the Community Space, Faith Place, or No Space for Community two-year study, with a focus on Huron County and Rural Ontario. The Community Spaces, Faith Places virtual conference will discuss community and not for profit usage of faith buildings and how municipalities, communities, and individuals stop the loss of Faith Building infrastructure in our communities.

Join the conversation on how faith places are invisible infrastructure in rural communities and help frame what actions to take to create stronger, more resilient communities.

Kelly Lush

From: Food Secure Canada <communications@foodsecurecanada.org>
Sent: October-19-20 2:54 PM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: Nov. 12 - 18, join us for Cultivating Change!

[Unsubscribe](#)

[View in your browser](#)



Registration open for Cultivating Change November 12 - 18, 2020

Join Food Secure Canada from **November 12 - 18, 2020** for a series of online conversations and workshops to explore the intersections between food systems, anti-racism, decolonization, and environmental justice movements.

Cultivating Change will showcase the work of Indigenous, Black and racialized food leaders, and build consciousness and capacity for anti-racist and decolonized approaches and allyship within the food movement.

Over the week, we will discuss topics including:

- Cultivating change in a post-Covid world
- Supporting Indigenous food sovereignty
- Championing decent work and justice for workers along the food chain
- Building resilient local food systems
- Ensuring everyone is at the policymaking table

We are excited to welcome Elizabeth Mpofu (La Via Campesina) among our speakers, as well as Buffy Sainte-Marie for a special performance.

[Register now](#)

FSC in the media



Planting seeds in a food desert (Globe and Mail)

SEPTEMBER 29, 2020 – According to our ED Gisèle Yasmeen, “People want to eat healthy and organically, but there’s an income barrier and it’s that element that needs to be broken down.” ...She adds that empowering communities, building local food systems and educating youth on what can be done to grow sustainable food are important steps toward the right to healthy food for all.”

[READ MORE](#)



Want to support women and families during the pandemic? Then support school food programs (Ottawa Citizen)

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 – “Canada is the only G7 country without such a program and UNICEF expressed concerns about the state of child nutrition in this country as far back as its 2017 report.” Read more in Gisèle and Debbie’s op-ed.

[READ MORE](#)

Dispatch from the food movement

FSC has been speaking with leaders across the food movement to hear about their work and their vision for the future. Stay tuned for our ongoing series.



Dispatch from Vancouver: Sarah Kim, Vancouver Neighbourhood Food Networks

“The work that we do is all about aiming to build relationships and using food as the vehicle. It’s all about bringing people together and emphasizing that we need each other.”

[READ MORE](#)



Dispatch from Toronto: Anan Lololi, Afri-Can FoodBasket

“Anti-racism is about learning about racism, learning about how we can live together, so we don’t keep making the same mistakes over and over again.”

[READ MORE](#)



Dispatch from Rogersville: Rébeka Frazer-Chiasson, Ferme Terre Partagée

“At the Cooperative Ferme Terre Partagée, we have a feeling of solidarity with peasants across the world and a sense of obligation to try to make the world a little bit fairer by improving access to food.”

[READ MORE](#)

Coalition for Healthy School Food



School food programs pivot to keep feeding students during COVID-19 (CBC)

OCTOBER 13, 2020 – "There is no single policy measure like a national school food program to meet all these social needs," said Debbie Field of the Coalition for Healthy School Food.

[READ MORE](#)



Send a letter or meet your MP

It is a critical time to **show your support for a National School Food Program**. Join hundreds of Canadians and send your MP and Prime Minister Trudeau a letter now with just one click.

[SEND A LETTER](#)



Standing Strong: How Coalition Members Continue to Adapt in the Face of Covid-19

Read the latest blog post about how Covid-19 has presented a formidable challenge for school food programs looking to serve healthy food this fall.

[READ MORE](#)

Big ideas across the food system



Beyond Hunger: The hidden impacts of food security

The Community Food Centres of Canada has released their report, *Beyond Hunger*, which surveyed 561 people across the country, including first-hand accounts of those living with food insecurity and policy proposals.

[READ THE REPORT](#)



Food Sovereignty and Harvesting

The Qikiqtani Inuit Association released *Food Sovereignty and Harvesting* in March, 2019, outlining how Nunavut needs a shift from thinking about food security to food sovereignty. This means empowering Inuit to feed their own communities.

[READ THE REPORT](#)

Welcome to our team

Food Secure Canada is delighted to welcome two new short-term Policy Advisors, supported through project funding, to work on deepening two themes from our action plan [Growing Resilience and Equity](#). Erica and Ioana will be working on food justice and food policy governance respectively.



Ioana Radu, Policy Advisor (Food Governance)

Ioana Radu is a first-generation Romanian settler scholar based in Tiohtiá:ke/Montreal whose scholarship is situated at the intersection of health, justice and the land.



Erica Calder, Policy Advisor (Food Justice)

Erica Calder is currently a PhD student at the University of Waterloo, where she employs anticolonial, feminist and participatory frameworks, to examine racial inequity in Canada's food system, and ways to align policy and partnerships to support food sovereignty and build BIPOC capacity.

Meet our [full board and staff](#).

Do you have news or policy update to share from your community? E-mail us at communications@foodsecurecanada.org.

foodsecurecanada.org

3875 St-Urbain Street, Suite 502, Montreal QC,
H2W 1V1 (514) 271-7352



[CONTACT US](#) | [DONATE](#)

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From: Grey County <food@grey.ca>
Sent: October-16-20 11:29 AM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: Made in Grey Ag & Food News, Sector Support Info

[View this email in your browser](#)



Supports for Food Businesses of All Sizes

The agri-food and hospitality sectors are undergoing massive shifts right now. Here are some support program options offered by Grey County and our partners that may help you start, grow, pivot, or safeguard your business.



RTO7 PPE Support for Tourism and Hospitality Businesses

If you're a tourism operator in the counties of Bruce, Grey and Simcoe and have incurred business

expenses for PPE during COVID-19,
RTO7 can help!

RTO7 will reimburse a maximum of \$1,000 pre-tax towards your purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (defined as masks, sanitizer, shields, costs incurred to adhere to social distancing, touch-less payments, new technology, increased cleaning, sanitization, etc.) retroactive to April 1, 2020. Click [HERE](#) for more detailed information and the application form.

Have questions? Email Alex Hogan, Project & Administration Manager at ahogan@rto7.ca

Canadian Agricultural Partnership

The CAP program has shifted to offer many programs related to COVID-19 adaptation over the past several months. Other programs support research and innovation including the following two, which are currently accepting applications:

[The Agri-Science Program](#)

The program aims to accelerate the pace of innovation by providing funding and support for pre-commercial science activities and cutting-edge research that benefits the agriculture and agri-food sector and Canadians.

[Agri-Food Innovation Initiative - Strategic Solutions](#)

Strategic Solutions projects will focus on collaborative opportunities with partners throughout the value-chain to accelerate the creation and adoption of innovative solutions to sector challenges, and advance Sector opportunities to drive competitiveness and sustainability.

Canadian Agricultural Partnership Program Overview

Calling All Students Aged 15-29!

A new program offered through the [Grey County Business Enterprise Centre](#) is providing learning opportunities and grant funding to young entrepreneurs from across the region.



Through the Student Makers Market Micro Grant Program, approved students will receive grants of \$750 to be used towards the creation or continued development of a product.

Applications are open now and close October 19, 2020. The program is set to begin November 2, 2020. Spaces for the program are limited and individuals are encouraged to apply soon. Click [HERE](#) to apply.

Last Call to Have Your Say!

Grey County has partnered with our member municipalities and Western Ontario Warden's Caucus for the third Grey County Business Impact Survey.

This survey closes **today** (October 16), and we would love to hear from you if you haven't already taken part. Click [HERE](#) to complete the survey.

ANY QUESTIONS?

Please [connect with us](#) any time.



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Kelly Lush

From: Township of Huron-Kinloss <hknewsletter@huronkinloss.com>
Sent: October-19-20 3:02 PM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: Township of Huron-Kinloss Newsletter October 2020



Changes to Snowplowing

Starting this winter, Township of Huron-Kinloss Staff will maintain all roads along the Lakeshore and in Ripley rather than contracting these services as we have for many years.

Canadian winters can be harsh, and we appreciate your patience as our crews work to clear, maintain and provide safe routes of travel this winter.

Snow clearing times may fluctuate while we adjust; however, our staff will be working hard to maintain the same high-level of service.

The following roads will be maintained by Township staff:

- All local roads in the community of Ripley (not including Huron Street and Queen Street, which are maintained by the County of Bruce)
- All municipally owned roads west of Lake Range Drive, including Lake Range Drive

To report a problem or concern, please use our new Huron-Kinloss Connects mobile app. Download the mobile app from the Google Play or Apple App Store or visit the report a problem web portal at www.huronkinloss.com.



Huron-Kinloss Connects mobile App

We all want our community to be safe, beautiful and well cared for; so what do you do if you notice a park that needs cleaned, a pothole that needs fixed or a streetlight that needs replaced?

The Huron-Kinloss Connects mobile App and web portal is the answer!

Avoid waiting in line at the Municipal Office, or trying to figure out who to call to report the issue. Download the mobile app from the Google Play or Apple App Store or visit the report a problem web portal at www.huronkinloss.com. The portal is accessible in the blue bar at the top of every webpage.

To use the mobile account you will need to register an account – all you need is an email address, username and password (you can submit some requests anonymously and your information will not be used for any other purposes).

Submitting a request is easy. Touch the big orange button on the homepage of the app. Take a photo of the issue (if possible) and choose the problem from a list of categories. Provide as much information as you can so we can deal with the issue promptly and efficiently and leave the rest up to us! We'll keep you updated with the progress of your request and let you know when it's been resolved.

Helping us maintain a safe and beautiful community is easier than ever. Download the Huron-Kinloss Connects App today or [contact us](#) if you have any questions!

No Parking Notice

To ensure Municipal Snow Plow Operators are able to properly clear snow from roads, Huron-Kinloss would like to remind residents there is no parking on municipal

roads from November 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021, between the hours of 1 a.m. and 6 a.m.

Neither the Township, nor the Snow Plow Operators will be held financially responsible for any damages to a homeowner's property deemed to be on Township road allowance when performing their daily maintenance operations. This includes, but is not limited to, damages involving fences, mailboxes, blue boxes, entranceways, and entrance signage. Please ensure that recycling and garbage is clear from roads not to interfere with snow plow operations. There is the possibility that as snow is cleared, it will accumulate in driveways.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



Fall Leaf Collection

Communities of Lucknow and Ripley - November 2 and 3.

Lakeshore Area – November 3 and 4.

The collection will start at the south end and working north.

- Leaves are to be bagged in paper bags only, placed at the curb by 7 a.m.
- Each street will only be done once.
- The collection is restricted to leaves only.
- Bags must not weigh more than 25 lbs. (11 kg).
- Inclement weather may delay collection to avoid wet & heavy paper bags.
- Leaves are accepted free-of-charge at the Huron Landfill Site year-round (2087 Concession 6 E).

Temporary Yard Waste Depots Close

The Township of Huron-Kinloss will be closing the Temporary Yard Waste Depots in Point Clark, Ripley and Lucknow effective November 5, 2020.

The Huron Landfill will continue to accept brush and yard waste free of charge year-round.

The Kinloss Landfill will be closed for the winter after October 31 and will no longer accept brush and yard waste.



Fall Hydrant Flushing/ Blow Off Flushing

The Lakeshore Area Water System will be flushed over a period of weeks starting October 19 through to November 30.

During this time you may experience changes in pressure and/or discoloration of water. Residents are encouraged to remove all faucet screens and filters and thoroughly flush their water systems.

If you have any questions, please call Veolia Water Canada at 519-524-6583.



Holiday Shopping Pass is Back!

Beginning Thursday, November 12th, pick-up a Holiday Shopping Pass in Lucknow or Ripley and make a purchase at one of the participating businesses listed on Pass. The amount spent will be recorded on your card in \$10 increments. Spend a total of \$150 and receive a chance to win one of THREE \$150 Huron-Kinloss Shopping Sprees!

The Pass can also be downloaded online at www.huronkinloss.com Contest ends December 24th.

Daylight Savings

Don't forget to turn your clocks back on Halloween Night!
Daylight Savings ends October 31. Time to turn the clocks back!



Remembrance Day Services

The Remembrance Day Services in both Lucknow and Ripley will be slightly different this year due to COVID-19 public safety guidelines.

For up-to-date information on the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 309 - Lucknow, please visit their Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/160602040625805/

For up-to-date information on the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 440 - Ripley, please call 519-395-2297.

Township of Huron-Kinloss Updates on COVID-19

On March 23, 2020, the Township of Huron-Kinloss declared [A State of Emergency](#) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. With this declaration, the

Township has made adjustments to the way we provide services to our residents. As per the October 9, 2020 Order from the Province of Ontario, all persons must wear a face covering while indoors in public places.

For Up-to-Date Information:

Website: [Township of Huron-Kinloss](https://www.huronkinloss.com)

 [@HuronKinloss](https://www.facebook.com/HuronKinloss)

 [@Huron_Kinloss.](https://twitter.com/Huron_Kinloss)

[Subscribe to News and Updates](#)

Email: info@huronkinloss.com

Call 519-395-3735

Subscribe Now!

Online Newsletters

Stay up-to-date on events and business information through the Township of Huron-Kinloss online newsletters.

[Subscribe](#) Now to online Newsletters

Community Events

Stay up-to-date on local events throughout the Township by subscribing to our Community Events page. You can also Submit an event to be included on this page.

[Subscribe Now](#) to our Community Events Page

[Submit an Event](#) to our Community Events Page

Municipal Careers

If you're looking for a potential career at the Township of Huron-Kinloss, keep up-to-date with current job opportunities.

[Huron-Kinloss Careers](#)

To Contact Staff:

Phone: 519-395-3735

Email: info@huronkinloss.com

Mail: 21 Queen St. PO Box 130, Ripley ON, N0G 2R0

For after hours emergency service regarding municipal issues, please call
1-866-299-5199.



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Kelly Lush

From: Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation <coastalcentre@lakehuron.ca>
Sent: October-18-20 10:01 AM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: Preventing an invasion: protecting Lake Huron's biodiversity



The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation



'Is the Coast Clear?' Lake Huron Virtual Conference continues Tuesday!

Our Lake Huron virtual conference continues on Tuesday with a live speaker series!



SESSION 4

SPEAKER SERIES: *Biodiversity & Invasive Species*

Tuesday, October 20,
2020

6:00 - 8:00pm

Speakers:

Preventing An Invasion...the New Reality. Invasive Species, Climate Change and the Work of the GLFC

Greg McClinchey, BA, MPM, Legislative Liaison, Great Lakes Fishery Commission

Recognizing and Controlling Local Non-Native Invasive Plants

Lynn Short, Professor in Horticulture/Environmental Stewardship Coordinator, Humber College/ Humber Arboretum

Population losses of gulls, terns, and cormorants in Lake Huron after the regime shift of 2003-2004: consequences of the shift to a benthic-dominated large-lake ecosystem and losses of prey in the water column.

Dr. Jim P. Ludwig, Ecotoxicologist, Retired, Former owner of Ecological Research Services Inc. and Science, Ecological Research and Education Inc. Consulting Groups

Hog-nosed snakes and the function of coastal and nearshore systems

Marcus Maddalena, County Biologist / Stewardship Coordinator, County of Huron / Huron Stewardship Council

REGISTER NOW!

Coming Next Week...



SESSION 5

SPEAKER SERIES: Lake Huron's Plastic Problem

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

6:00 - 8:00pm



These events are part of our Lake Huron **virtual conference series** that is happening from September 29 - November 3. Check out our [website](#) for more information about our fantastic conference program! All proceeds from this **charitable fundraiser** go towards important coastal conservation programs.



THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 PARTNERS!



NUCLEAR WASTE
MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION
DES DÉCHETS
NUCLÉAIRES



The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation is a registered charity founded in 1998 with the goals of protecting and restoring Lake Huron's coastal environment. We are the voice for Lake Huron.



www.lakehuron.ca

The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation | PO Box 477, Goderich, Ontario N7A 4C7
Canada www.lakehuron.ca

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Kelly Lush

From: Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation <coastalcentre@lakehuron.ca>
Sent: October-24-20 3:46 PM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: Lake Huron's Plastic Problem



The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation



'Is the Coast Clear?' Lake Huron Virtual Conference continues Tuesday!

Our Lake Huron virtual conference continues on Tuesday with a live speaker series. Learn more about how plastic pollution is impacting our Great Lakes, and some innovative solutions being used to tackle this emerging issue.



SESSION 5

SPEAKER SERIES: Lake Huron's Plastic Problem

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

6:00 - 8:00pm

Speakers:

Drummond Island to Penetanguishene: A Father/Daughter tandem SUP pilgrimage across Lake Huron for microplastics research

Scott & Acadia Parent, Explorer/ Photographer/ Standup Paddleboard Guide

Getting to the Bottom of Microplastics: The Persistence of Microplastics in Offshore Benthic Sediments of Lake Huron

Sara Belontz, PhD Candidate, Department of Earth Sciences, Western University

A cleanup initiative: Seabins in the Great Lakes

Cassandra Sherlock, Community Outreach and Research Specialist, U of T Trash Team

The Pollution of the Great Lakes with Plastic Pellets

Dr. Patricia Corcoran, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Earth Sciences, Western University

What Citizen Science Can Tell Us About Plastic Pollution in the Great Lakes

Tanya Otero, Assistant Manager, Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup

REGISTER NOW!

Coming Next Week...



SESSION 6

SPEAKER SERIES: *Protecting 20% of the world's freshwater: Water quality & restoration work on Lake Huron*

Tuesday, November 3, 2020

1:00 - 3:00pm

Speakers:

The perplexing contrast between water quality concerns at the shoreline and the open waters of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay

Todd Howell, Great Lakes Ecologist, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

The unseen source: impact of groundwater-lake interactions on nutrient and fecal contaminants in nearshore waters

Dr. Clare Robinson, Associate Professor, Western University

Rehabilitating Coastal Habitat in Severn Sound

Michelle Hudolin, Wetlands & Habitat Biologist, Severn Sound Environmental Association

Together with Giigoonyag - Saugeen Ojibway Nation Fisheries Assessment Program

Ryan Lauzon, Fisheries Assessment Biologist
& **Alexander Duncan**, Fisheries Research Coordinator
Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation



These events are part of our Lake Huron **virtual conference series** that is happening from September 29 - November 3. Check out our [website](#) for more information about our fantastic conference program! All proceeds from this **charitable fundraiser** go towards important coastal conservation programs.



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Thank you for your generous
donation to Huron Bruce Minor
Hockey, in memory of my
father. Your kindness and
thoughtfulness means so much
to us.

Matt + Butlene
McCluney + boys

October 15, 2020

MEMORANDUM TO: Municipal CAOs

SUBJECT: Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Program Review

The Ministry of the Solicitor General (ministry) is committed to keeping communities across Ontario safe, supported and protected.

As you may recall, in August 2020, the ministry communicated to stakeholders and municipalities that a Request for Services would be issued to retain an external vendor to review programs that support the delivery of court security and inmate transportation across the province, including the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation (CSPT) Transfer Payment (TP) Program. Under the CSPT TP Program, the ministry allocates funding to municipalities to offset costs associated with both court security and prisoner transportation services to and from courts.

The ministry has now retained an independent consultant, Goss Gilroy Inc. (GGI), with expertise in public safety and security to conduct the review, following a competitive procurement process.

In the upcoming weeks, Goss Gilroy Inc. will engage ministry stakeholders – including municipalities, police services and other justice sector partners – to help assess and identify improvements to the court security and inmate transportation process and the design of the CSPT TP Program.

The review will explore best practices and ways to improve the delivery of services, streamline processes and maximize effectiveness to ensure the continued safety of Ontarians. This continuous improvement effort is part of the government's ongoing work to build a more responsive and resilient justice system.

Throughout this process, the safety of Ontarians and frontline staff will remain the ministry's top priority.

Be well and stay safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Stubbings'.

Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division

Kelly Lush

From: Women Optimizing Women <sarahasaso@gmail.com>
Sent: October-15-20 6:44 PM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: Breaking News: WOW launches Network



,Breaking News ...for immediate release

October 15, 2020

Contact: **Sarah Saso Co-Founder, 519.372.4324**

WOW Network Launches in Huron Bruce and Grey Counties

Professional and Entrepreneurial Women come together to optimize success

TRI-COUNTY AREA: Two local women are creating a network of and for like-minded female small business owners that are committed to helping women enhance their lives and succeed in business. Sarah Saso and Genny Smith of [SaySmith Coaching](#) are two dynamic go-getters who share a passion for business development and love connecting women to enable them to thrive.

Not just another networking group, WOW means business!

Women Optimizing Women (WOW) will offer innovative programs throughout Huron, Bruce and Grey Counties including networking and learning events. panel discussions, coffee chats, mentoring get togethers, a woman-to-woman marketplace and workshops - all with the goal of creating a forum to connect

women to one another. Each session will end with a post-event action to move personal, professional and business goals forward.

WOW also offers a mentorship program which is designed to connect women who have some experience in a particular field with those who are learning or looking to gain more knowledge. It's doesn't matter what point they are at in their career, having a mentor is an important part of building a women's capacity, skill set and confidence. To ensure that the mentoring experience is both useful and rewarding for both the mentor and the mentee, WOW members are asked to sign up to give twelve hours annually to mentor/coach/champion another woman in our community, helping to grow the personal and the professional capacity of both participants.

A member-to-member marketplace will further connect members and their wide range of products and services.

Why WOW now? "What's become so clear while working in isolation from my home during the pandemic is that I need human contact," says Smith, "I need women in my sphere that I can trust and relate to." Saso added, "Operating a business is a complex undertaking, especially in these times of uncertainty. A group of women from all over the province have been meeting online since March – our big "aha moment" was the realization that bringing women together for collective support and problem-solving was really successful and rewarding for everyone and so WOW was born.

Saso, having recently moved to Grey County is excited to have found her group of action-oriented women. "There is no way I would have been able to connect in my new community if it wasn't for our weekly Zoom calls. I am excited to share my business skills and provide resources and support for women in the tri-County area" she noted.

Membership in WOW is a small investment, offering many different ways to grow, connect, learn, problem solve and share skills in a safe and nurturing space. Members will have time to reflect and recharge through their participation. You'll get far more out of membership than what you put into it, and every WOW member has the opportunity to achieve peak potential in their personal, professional, business and community life.

For membership benefits please visit:

<https://womenoptimizingwomen.com>

Created to be an inclusive, diverse and action-oriented membership organization for Women in Grey, Bruce and Huron Counties, WOW is designed with women and their success in mind. All women are welcome no matter their profession. If you looking for a way to grow your network, expand your business, learn new things and meet action-oriented women in your community then WOW is for you.

For more information visit: <https://womenoptimizingwomen.com>

-30-



L-R: Dynamic Entrepreneurs Genny Smith and Sarah Saso of [SaySmith Coaching](#) have teamed up to launch a bold new women's group. They're reaching out to women in Grey, Bruce and Huron counties with WOW which aims to help women optimize each other by building a caring, supportive community in which to increase their confidence, skills and social connectedness.

Find Out More

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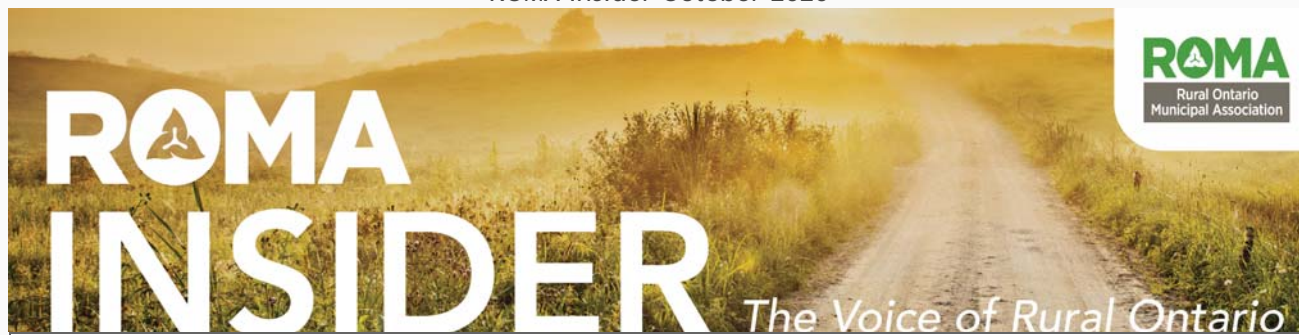
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Kelly Lush

From: Your ROMA Zone 2 Representative <roma@roma.on.ca>
Sent: October-16-20 12:41 PM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: ROMA Insider: 2021 Conference, new Board members, Blue Box news and more

ROMA Insider October 2020



[View an online version of this mailing.](#)

In this issue:

- 2021 Annual Conference - ROMA: Connecting Rural Ontario
- ROMA Board: New Faces and New Facebook!
- What does the full producer responsibility mean for rural communities?
- ROMA provides input on farm safety regulations
- LAS Spotlight: Municipal Group Buying Program

2021 Annual Conference - ROMA: Connecting Rural Ontario

The annual ROMA Conference will be a virtual event from January 25-26, 2021. Coming nearly one year into the pandemic, this will be a critical moment to connect with each other and the province.

The 2020 AMO Conference demonstrated the value and importance of moving ahead with opportunities for municipal leaders to come together. A lot can be accomplished, including speeches from leaders, delegation meetings, Ministers' Forums and important concurrent sessions.

Plenary and in-depth concurrent sessions on rural priorities like broadband, policing, flooding, and much more are all in the works. ROMA: Connecting Rural Ontario will open with Chantal Hebert, national affairs commentator and columnist for the Toronto Star, as the keynote speaker.

[Register](#)



ROMA Board: New Faces *and* New Facebook

The ROMA Board welcomed two new members at its October 2 meeting: Mayor Christa Lowry of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills and Mayor Christine Robinson of the Municipality of West Grey. Lowry and Robinson were elected to the AMO Rural Caucus at the AMO Conference this past August.

These members serve on the ROMA Board alongside [10 zone representatives](#), who are elected at the ROMA annual conference. This structure helps ensure that AMO benefits from the perspectives of rural communities from across the province and strengthens collaboration and cooperation.

"Rural municipalities face many issues, ranging from affordable housing and broadband to funding for transit and infrastructure improvements," Robinson said. "I am pleased to serve on the ROMA Board as it works to represent the voice of rural communities on these key issues."

"In these unprecedented times, ROMA's advocacy on behalf of rural municipalities is more important than ever," said Lowry. "I'm honoured to work with my colleagues to deliver the best possible outcomes for Ontario's rural communities. I am particularly interested in rural gaps in broadband and healthcare/long-term care."

This fall, the Board will be setting strategic objectives for 2021. Communications is one of the top priorities and the ROMA Board also created a communications working group to ensure it reflects your interests, concerns and needs. ROMA has ramped up its presence on social media platforms to better connect our municipal community, share rural successes and update you on our news. Please follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) - share content with others and if you have an interesting story to share, make sure to tag ROMA so it can spread the word!

What does full producer responsibility mean for rural communities?

The federal government's plan to ban single-use plastics was a reminder that plastics continue to take a toll on our environment - and waste diversion budgets. The crisis in plastics- from disrupted recycling markets to multi-layered packaging - have been key drivers in Ontario's move to full producer responsibility.

On the Blue Box, many ROMA municipalities deserve thanks for passing Council resolutions that helped ensure servicing for communities with populations less than 5,000 people, parks and public spaces. Under the regulation, producers will either provide the service directly to the public or they can negotiate commercial terms with a municipality to provide services on their behalf.

Municipalities will have to decide if they want to stay in the business of recycling. For many, that decision will be informed by negotiations with producers and/or their representative organizations on providing the service. This will drive some of the financial implications of opting in or out of service delivery.

Having good data on the cost of current programs - and making those programs as strong resilient and sustainable as possible - will help rural municipal governments navigate these decisions, according to Cathie Green, Public Works Assistant for Drummond/North Elmsley. Cathie has worked on both rural curbside and depot recycling programs. Green said that cost calculations needs to include hidden costs like finance, legal, customer service, maintenance, overhead and Clerk's Office resources.

Green noted that strengthening local programs now will put municipalities in a good position as the program transitions between 2023 and 2025. The most important thing is that by making the shift, producers and packagers will have a stronger financial incentive to make better packaging choices - which helps both the planet and residents. [Learn more.](#)

ROMA provides input on farm safety regulations

ROMA supported measures by the Ontario Government to help secure safety on farms, while respecting people's rights to express their views. Now, it is providing the Province with input on the regulation under the Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act. ROMA is advocating for clear definitions and rules that minimize red tape to achieve the Act's goals. Peaceful protests should also ensure the safety of farms, farm families and their staff, and our food supply.

LAS Spotlight: Municipal Group Buying Program

Group buying can be a powerful tool to help municipalities reduce the cost of the products and services. LAS's [Municipal Group Buying Program](#) offers Ontario municipalities the combined purchasing power of more than 1,600 municipalities across Canada with more than 100 different suppliers. Not only does this program reduce both the time and expense of getting the products and services your municipality needs, but it allows you to buy from local suppliers using national discounts. The program is constantly adding new vendors and categories, so check back often.

Have feedback? Find Your [Zone Representative](#)

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