



BCM&CC delivers new curriculum-based “Climate Change in a Box - Eni-aanjii-zhiwebak - the changing weather” resource to local schools

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, with partners Saugeen Ojibway Nation Coastal Waters Monitoring Program and Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO), presented a new “Climate Change in a Box - Eni-aanji-zhiwebak - the changing weather”, educational toolkit.



February 02, 2024

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, with partners Saugeen Ojibway Nation Coastal Waters Monitoring Program and Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO), presented a new “Climate Change in a Box - Eni-aanji-zhiwebak - the changing weather”, educational toolkit today to schools throughout Bluewater and Catholic District School Boards that supports hands on learning around the current Grade 8 curriculum science unit on water systems.

This initiative follows the late 2023 relaunch of the Museum’s Earth’s Climate in the Balance exhibit, which looks at the history of climate on our planet and inspires action to reduce its present and future impacts.

The new boxes expand the reach of the exhibit by bringing it directly into 60 different schools and classrooms across Bruce

County.

Director, Museum & Cultural Services, Cathy McGirr, says, “We are pleased to partner with SON EO Coastal Waters Monitoring Program and the NWMO to provide this reusable resource to educators.”

The boxes, developed in collaboration with Educator, Christine Brown and Saugeen Ojibway Nation Environment Office, Coastal Waters Monitoring Programs, Manager Emily Mansur contains curriculum-based materials that support hands-on learning around historical data collection on water use, how climate change is demonstrated in this data collection, soil systems and water quality, watershed conservation and management, as well as samples of technology used today to conserve and monitor water usage.

The boxes also contain additional resources for teachers such as sample lesson plans, experiments, and materials to expand on Indigenous contributions to water conservation both historically and modern technology uses.

The project was made possible with funding from the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO).

“NWMO is excited to support an initiative that relates so closely to the work we do,” said Michael Pahor, NWMO Director, Site Selection - South Bruce. “We’re proud to partner with organizations like the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, who are exploring ways to apply Indigenous knowledge and hands on education for local youth.”

This reusable kit is being made available to all Grade 8 Teachers within the Bluewater District School Board and the Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board. Teachers seeking more information about the “Climate Change in a Box - Eni-aanji-zhiwebak - the changing weather” initiative and the Earth’s Climate in the Balance exhibition are invited to contact Lauren Beer, Education/Outreach Coordinator for full details. The BCM&CC’s Earth’s Climate in the Balance exhibit is now fully available for online viewing at brucemuseum.ca or in person at 33 Victoria St. N., Southampton, Ontario.

About the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre offers adult and children’s programming, special events, and is home to the Bruce County Archives & Research Room. Our mandate is to preserve and make available the documentary heritage of Bruce County.

About NWMO

Founded in 2002, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) is a not-for-profit organization tasked with the safe, long-term management of Canada’s intermediate and high-level radioactive waste, in a manner that protects people and the environment for generations to come.

The NWMO has been guided for more than 20 years by a dedicated team of world-class scientists, engineers and Indigenous Knowledge Holders that are developing innovative and collaborative solutions for nuclear waste management.

About SON EO Coastal Waters Monitoring Program

The Coastal Waters Monitoring Program is a nearshore monitoring project through the Saugeen Ojibway Nation Environment Office aiming to build an extensive baseline inventory of the Traditional Territory’s habitats and wildlife.

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DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

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[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information and Updates

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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Council / Committee Meetings - Thursday, February 1, 2024

Bruce County Council met on February 1, 2024 beginning at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers and virtually through Teams. Video recordings of the meeting can be reviewed at www.brucecounty.on.ca/government/agendas-and-minutes



February 01, 2024

Bruce County Council Meeting

Council received a delegation from Allison Pepper, Director of International Plowing Match and Tom Evans, President of Bruce County Plowmen's Association regarding the 2026 International Plowing Match. [Presentation](#)

Council received a delegation from Chad Richards, Director- Policy & Partnerships Nuclear Innovation Institute and John Peevers, Director, Community - Media Relations & Economic Development Bruce Power regarding a Clean Energy Frontier Update. [Presentation](#)

Council received an update from the Community Development Office on the Clean Energy Frontier Program. [Report](#)

Council received an update from the Community Development Office on Spruce the Bruce 2023 Results. [Report](#)

Council received a report from the Museum on February 2024 Museum Information. [Report](#)

Council received a report from the Transportation and Environmental Services on the Third-Party Review for the Durham Street Bridge. [Report](#)

Council endorsed the proposed update to the Maitland Valley Source Protection Plan. [Report](#)

Council approved that a by-law be introduced to restrict the weight of vehicles passing over County bridges and that the Director of Transportation & Environmental Services be authorized to work with and enter into necessary agreements with Grey County, the Municipality of West Grey, the Municipality of Brockton, and the Municipality of South Bruce to implement an Alternate Truck Route (ATR) for the Durham Street Bridge. [Report](#)

Council approved, in advance of the 2025 capital budget approval, to commit to the purchase of one tandem axle cab and chassis snowplow with a proposed budget of \$430,000. [Report](#)

Council approved the Long-Term Care Committee of Management Terms of Reference. [Report](#)

Council approved the Accessibility Advisory Committee Terms of Reference. [Report](#)

Council approved the Emergency Management Program Committee Terms of Reference. [Report](#)

Council approved that the Warden, CAO, and Deputy CAO be appointed to the Clean Energy Frontier, that the Commissioner of Community Development be appointed to the Green Ribbon Panel, and that the Deputy Warden be appointed to the Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) board. [Report](#)

Bruce County Housing Corporation

Council approved the resignation of the Treasurer, Edward Henley effective January 26, 2024; and appointed Lynn Hatten to the role of Treasurer effective January 26, 2024. [Report](#)

Council approved to reallocate \$250,000 of surplus capital funding from 2023 to the 2024 capital one-off budget to complete approximately 35-unit turnovers and to reallocate \$150,000 of surplus capital funding to complete two emergency projects, totaling approximately \$150,000 (backup power for 7432 Hwy 6, Tobermory and elevator modernization for 401 Cayley, Walkerton). [Report](#)

Council received a report on Mortgage Information for 539 Ivings Drive, Saugeen Shores. [Report](#)

Council received a report on National Housing Co-Investment Fund Renewal and Repair. [Report](#)

This publication identifies highlights from recent Bruce County Council and Committee meetings. Bruce County's Office of the CAO maintains complete agendas and minutes from all Council and Committee meetings, which can be reviewed at www.brucecounty.on.ca/government/agendas-and-minutes

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[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

[COVID-19 Information
and Updates](#)

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

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Council Receives Update on Walkerton Bridge Project

Council heard that a recently completed Bridge Condition Survey confirms that the existing bridge is generally structurally sound and “rehabilitation should be investigated as this could be a feasible and economical solution to extending the overall life of the bridge”.



February 01, 2024

On Thursday, February 1, 2024, Bruce County Council received an update from Triton Engineering Services Limited (Triton), regarding the ongoing third-party review of the Durham Street Bridge in Walkerton. Council heard that a recently completed Bridge Condition Survey confirms that the existing bridge is generally structurally sound and “rehabilitation should be investigated as this could be a feasible and economical solution to extending the overall life of the bridge”. As a result, rehabilitation alternatives will be added to the on-going Schedule ‘C’ Environmental Assessment following the completion of the third-party review. Further consultations with a contractor that specializes in half-joint rehabilitation suggest the work could be completed while maintaining one lane of traffic over the bridge.

A letter provided by sub-consultants, Burgess Engineering, also recommends that Heavy Truck Traffic, with exceptions to Municipal maintenance and Fire/EMS vehicles, should be restricted from crossing the bridge and that an alternate truck route (ATR) be established until rehabilitation/repairs are made to the bridge.

“A rehabilitation option could prove to be cost effective and provide significant life extending measures for the Durham Street Bridge,” said Adam Stanley, Director of Transportation & Environmental Services. “These alternatives would need to be investigated further and added to the on-going Schedule ‘C’ Environmental Assessment following the completion of the third-party review.” Triton Engineering has indicated the third-party review will be complete sometime in early March.

The Transportation and Environmental Services department will be seeking to implement two Alternate Truck Routes once agreements are reached with affected municipalities. The ATR’s will facilitate the continued movement of truck traffic during the bridge weight restriction period on the Durham Street Bridge. Advanced Warning signage for the ATR’s will be placed strategically ahead of the bridge to divert heavy truck traffic from passing over the bridge.

The weight restriction would be a 3-level load limit which differentiates various heavy truck types by the number of axels on the truck or trailers and permits a maximum vehicle weight. The recommended weight restrictions would apply to vehicles greater than 15, 25, and 30 tonnes, with corresponding axels.

The Durham Street Bridge in Walkerton, which spans the Saugeen River along Bruce Road 4, was constructed in 1937 and has served the community for 85 years.

Additional Project Information can be found on the Bruce County Website at www.brucecounty.on.ca/WalkertonBridge.

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[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information
and Updates

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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Getting Prepared for Power Outages

Being prepared for an unexpected power outage is important. Bruce County Emergency Management recommends that you plan to be self-sufficient for up to 72 hours. Learn how to build your family a 72 Hour Kit



February 01, 2024

Are you prepared if the power goes out? What if it stays out for a prolonged period of time? Do you know how you will stay warm or what you will eat? How will you keep your cell phone charged? Do you have 72 hours worth of supplies to get you and your family through those 3 days and longer?

“We often take our heat and electricity for granted. Being prepared for an unexpected power outage is important. Bruce County Emergency Management recommends that you plan to be self-sufficient for up to 72 hours. Learn how to build your family a 72 Hour Kit by visiting the Bruce County website and keep everyone safe and comfortable if the lights go out,” says Ray Lux, Bruce County Emergency Management Coordinator.

Your 72 Hour Emergency Kit:

The key is to make sure your kit is organized and easy to find. Make sure your kit is easy to carry and everyone in the household knows where it is. Keep it in a backpack, duffle bag, or suitcase with wheels, in an easy-to-reach, accessible place, such as your front-hall closet. Include:

Water – at least 2 litres per person per day
Food that won't spoil, such as canned food, energy bars, and dried foods
Manual can opener
Crank or battery-powered flashlight (and extra batteries)
Crank or battery-powered radio (and extra batteries)
First aid kit
Extra keys (vehicle and home)
Cash in smaller bills and change
A copy of your emergency plan and contact information
Special items such as prescription medication, infant formula, and equipment for people with disabilities

During a Power Outage:

Check if the power outage is limited to your home. If your neighbours have power, check your circuit breakers.
If your neighbours' power is also out, contact your electrical supply company.
Turn off all tools, appliances, electronics, and all but one light inside and outside.
Use your thermostat to turn off heating or air conditioning.
Avoid opening your freezer or fridge.
Do not use barbeques, camping heating equipment, or home generators indoors. They can produce dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.
Monitor a crank or battery-powered radio and online for weather warnings and instructions from authorities.
If possible, use a battery or crank-powered light source. If you must use candles, use proper candle holders. Never leave lit candles unattended. Always extinguish candles before going to bed.

When the power returns:

In cold weather, turn heating back on first, then wait 10 minutes before reconnecting everything else.
Check food supplies. If a freezer door has been kept closed, food should stay frozen for 24-36 hours. Food contaminated with bacteria does not necessarily smell or look spoiled. When in doubt, throw it out.

Discover more about Emergency Preparedness at www.brucecounty.on.ca/getprepared

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f

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DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information
and Updates

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)
[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)
[Agendas and Minutes](#)
[Employment](#)
[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)
[Application Links](#)
[File Transfer](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)
[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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Proposed Alternate Truck Route for Walkerton Bridge Project

The Transportation and Environmental Services department will be seeking to implement two Alternate Truck Routes once agreements are reached with affected municipalities.



February 01, 2024

On Thursday, February 1, 2024, Bruce County Council received an update from Triton Engineering Services Limited (Triton), regarding the ongoing third-party review of the Durham Street Bridge in Walkerton. A letter provided by sub-consultants, Burgess Engineering, recommends that Heavy Truck Traffic, with exceptions to Municipal maintenance and Fire/EMS vehicles, should be restricted from crossing the bridge and that an alternate truck route (ATR) be established until rehabilitation/repairs are made to the bridge.

The Transportation and Environmental Services department will be seeking to implement two Alternate Truck Routes once agreements are reached with affected municipalities.


The ATR's will facilitate the continued movement of truck traffic during the bridge weight restriction period on the Durham Street Bridge.

Advanced Warning signage for the ATR's will be placed strategically ahead of the bridge to divert heavy truck traffic from passing over the bridge.

The weight restriction would be a 3-level load limit which differentiates various heavy truck types by the number of axels on the truck or trailers and permits a maximum vehicle weight. The recommended weight restrictions would apply to vehicles greater than 15, 25, and 30 tonnes, with corresponding axels.

A North Map and a South Map of the proposed ATR's are attached to this notice.

Additional Project Information can be found on the Bruce County Website at www.brucecounty.on.ca/WalkertonBridge.

Attachment	Size
 Durham Street Bridge - Heavy Truck Detour - North Map.Pdf	168.62 KB
 Durham Street Bridge - Heavy Truck Detour - South Map.Pdf	138.46 KB

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DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

[COVID-19 Information
and Updates](#)

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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Spruce the Bruce Community Development Program Now Open

Bruce County's Community Development program, Spruce the Bruce, is now accepting applications. The program provides grant funding to maintain and grow local downtown businesses and communities.



SPRUCE the BRUCE

February 01, 2024

Bruce County's Community Development program, [Spruce the Bruce](https://sprucethebruce.com), is now accepting applications. The program provides grant funding to maintain and grow local downtown businesses and communities. Grant criteria and applications can be reviewed online at sprucethebruce.com.

Grants available for commercial properties located within downtown cores:

- Façade Building Improvement
- Fascia Signage
- Perpendicular Signage
- Awning
- Patio Installation
- Community Marketing

Note: Properties must be located within a downtown [Community Improvement Project Area \(CIPA\)](#) identified in an active [Community Improvement Plan \(CIP\)](#).

Grants available for eligible municipalities, community partners, not-for-profits, and charitable organizations:

- Community Marketing
- Streetscape Beautification
- Community Signage
- Destination Infrastructure and Active Transportation.

Note: Communities must have a [community brand toolkit](#) in place to be eligible.

In addition, eligible businesses and properties within the **municipalities of Arran-Elderslie, Brockton, Northern Bruce Peninsula, and South Bruce** can apply to the following grants*:

- Agri-food Innovation
- Business Accessibility Adaptability
- Product and Experience Development
- Residential Improvement

“Bruce County’s Spruce the Bruce program works with local businesses, municipalities and community partners to support the revitalization of buildings and properties, public spaces, and experiences,” says Bruce County Warden Chris Peabody. “Together with our businesses and partners we are creating a livelier and more vibrant Bruce County.”

Funding is available on a first-come, first-serve basis, and Bruce County will fund 50 per cent of the total project cost, excluding taxes, up to a set maximum amount per grant. Properties that have received Spruce the Bruce funding in past years may be eligible for funding in 2024 for projects

Bruce County is invested in our local and future residents, businesses and communities. The Spruce the Bruce program helps to build healthy and vibrant communities by offering resources to maintain and grow commercial areas and public experiences.

[Learn more and apply today.](#)

*Brockton Council endorsed an updated Municipal-wide CIP in 2022, Arran-Elderslie, Northern Bruce Peninsula, and South Bruce Councils endorsed updated Municipal-wide CIPs in 2023, all of which provide policy for additional grants to be awarded. In 2024, Bruce County is supporting municipalities in updating their CIPs, which will allow their eligible businesses access to these four specific grants.

For program information connect with:

Lindsey Glazier
Business Development Coordinator, Planning and Development
Bruce County
226-909-2860 or lglazier@brucecounty.on.ca

Bruce County is an upper-tier municipality in Southwestern Ontario, Canada, made up of 8 lower-tier municipalities and 73,396 residents. The explorers who visit, live, and work here are the dreamers who take roads less travelled and see tried and true as an invitation to try something new. Be an Explorer and call Bruce County home.

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DEPARTMENTS

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[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)
[Bruce County Public Library](#)
[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)
[Bruce Remembers](#)
[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information and Updates

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)
[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)
[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)
[Bruce County Bids](#)
[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)
[Road Construction](#)
[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)
[Agendas and Minutes](#)
[Employment](#)
[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)
[Application Links](#)
[File Transfer](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)
[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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Bruce County Paramedic Services and Ontario Provincial Police Hosting Recruitment Event

Bruce County's Paramedic Services will be joined by the Ontario Provincial Police for a joint recruitment event in Kincardine on Thursday, February 15, 2024.



February 07, 2024

Bruce County's Paramedic Services will be joined by the Ontario Provincial Police for a joint recruitment event in Kincardine on Thursday, February 15, 2024. Bruce County and the OPP are currently hiring and are seeking applicants that are eager to serve their community. All those considering a career as a Paramedic or a Police Constable are welcome to visit the Kincardine District Secondary School from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM on February 15 to learn more about these exciting opportunities. Local Paramedics, Police Officers, and Recruiters will be present to answer questions and share application and training information.

Recruitment Event Details:

Thursday, February 15, 2023
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Kincardine District Secondary School
885 River Lane, Kincardine

Learn more about Bruce County Paramedic Services opportunities at www.brucecounty.on.ca/jobs.
Learn more about OPP opportunities at www.opp.ca/careers.

Additional Information about [Living and Working in Bruce County](#).
Discover more about [Bruce County Paramedic Services](#).

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[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)

[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

[COVID-19 Information
and Updates](#)

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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Human Trafficking Education Events in Bruce and Grey County

February 22 is National Human Trafficking Awareness Day. Human trafficking is a serious issue that is affecting communities of all sizes across the country, including in Grey and Bruce County.



Grey Bruce CSWBP **Community Safety & Well-Being Planning**

February 07, 2024

February 22 is National Human Trafficking Awareness Day. Human trafficking is a serious issue that is affecting communities of all sizes across the country, including in Grey and Bruce County. The Crime Prevention Action Table, operating under the umbrella of the Community Safety and Well Being Plan, is supporting two education events occurring in Grey and Bruce County. In partnership with the Anti-Human Trafficking Committee, Women's House Serving Bruce & Grey, The Women's Centre Grey Bruce, and Violence Prevention Grey Bruce, these community events are being held to provide education, resources, and real-life experiences of human trafficking to Grey Bruce community members.

The informative events will be held in Kincardine on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at Kincardine District Secondary School (KDSS) and in Owen Sound on Thursday, February 22, 2024, at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre. Both events will take place from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM.

The educational events will provide attendees with knowledge about human trafficking including warning signs and reducing your risk, information on available community resources, and internet safety for youth, their caregivers, and service providers.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions of professionals who work with victims of human trafficking. Both events will provide the opportunity to hear from survivors of human trafficking, as they share their unique perspective and experiences.

To sign-up to attend this free educational event please visit: <https://trellis.org/htawarenessday>.

To learn more about Human Trafficking please visit: www.thewomenscentre.org/trafficking.

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[Talk to us](#)

DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)

BRUCE & GREY
COMMUNITY INFORMATION

[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

**COVID-19 Information
and Updates**

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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Family Day set to bring Bruce County history to life at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre

This Family Day (Monday, February 19), see Bruce County history come to life at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre with interactive live theatre shows by award-winning theatre company Live History.



February 08, 2024

This Family Day (Monday, February 19), see Bruce County history come to life at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre with interactive live theatre shows by award-winning theatre company Live History.

Guests will journey back through time as they travel through the museum's exhibits, reaching five different checkpoints along the way. Each checkpoint will have its own local historical character in costume who will present guests with a variety of different puzzles and quests to solve. Your choices will matter! Will you help or hinder? The clock is ticking, with a one-hour time limit to conquer your selected challenges!

Shows will run throughout the day from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, happening every 15 minutes. Each show takes approximately 30-45 minutes to complete. The show is suitable for school-age children to adults.

The Museum will also have drop-in improv classes to keep the theatre fun going, led by professional acting coaches Leo Dragonieri and Julia Scaringi!

Southampton Rotary Club will be on site offering a BBQ lunch from 11:00 AM. Cash and debit accepted.

Family Day is proudly presented by Ontario Power Generation.

For full details and registration, visit brucemuseum.ca.

About the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre offers adult and children's programming, special events, and is home to the Bruce County Archives & Research Room. Our mandate is to preserve and make available the documentary heritage of Bruce County.

About Live History

Live History (www.livehistoryshows.com) is a Governor General's Award nominated theatre company that specializes in bringing your local history to life. Live History has toured international venues in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Bermuda, England, Wales, and Ireland.

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[Talk to us](#)

DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information
and Updates

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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New Explore the Bruce Rewards App Launches to Encourage Destination Discovery in Bruce County

Bruce County Economic Development is excited to launch Explore the Bruce Rewards, a new mobile tourism marketing app that features destinations within Bruce County that focuses on culinary tourism, hiking trails, prominent landmarks and other attractions.

explore the BRUCE

February 12, 2024

Bruce County Economic Development is excited to launch Explore the Bruce Rewards, a new mobile tourism marketing app that features destinations within Bruce County that focuses on culinary tourism, hiking trails, prominent landmarks and other attractions.

Exploring new places has never been more rewarding in Bruce County — in more ways than one. Not only is the app a convenient tool for people wanting to explore Bruce County, but it also incentivizes the experience. The more destinations visited; the more points earned. And the more points earned, the more rewards. It's that simple.

“If you’re looking to explore Bruce County but don’t know where to start, download Explore the Bruce Rewards,” says Jeffrey Loney, manager of economic development. “We’ve highlighted places for you to eat, shop, see and do and curated

lighthouse, hiking and additional tours to help plan your next Bruce County adventure.”

By using Explore the Bruce Rewards to promote Bruce County as a tourism destination and increase awareness and visitation to key areas and attractions, Bruce County is working to:

- Increase the number of visitors to Bruce County
- Lengthen the stays and increase money spent by visitors
- Disperse visitors to less-trafficked areas of Bruce County
- Encourage staying and spending during spring, fall and winter seasons
- Promote local tourism businesses and operators

Bruce County’s Economic Development team worked with Driftscape to create Explore the Bruce Rewards. Additional support came from local tourism operators, businesses and municipalities.

Get Explore the Bruce Rewards now and enjoy every moment exploring beautiful Bruce County. What are you waiting for?!

You can learn more about Explore the Bruce Rewards [here](#).

For more information, contact:

Lindsey Glazier,
Business Development Coordinator, Planning and Development
Bruce County
226-909-2860 or lglazier@brucecounty.on.ca

Bruce County is an upper-tier municipality in Southwestern Ontario, Canada, made up of 8 lower-tier municipalities and 73,396 residents. The explorers who visit, live, and work here are the dreamers who take roads less travelled and see tried and true as an invitation to try something new. Be an Explorer and call Bruce County home.

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Library



Museum



[Talk to us](#)

DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

**COVID-19 Information
and Updates**

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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Bruce County Seeks Input on Child Care and Early Years Services

Bruce County has begun developing an updated Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan for 2024 to 2029 and is eager to hear input from parents and guardians of children aged 0 to 12 years old who reside in Bruce County, through an online survey.



February 12, 2024

Bruce County has begun developing an updated Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan for 2024 to 2029 and is eager to hear input from parents and guardians of children aged 0 to 12 years old who reside in Bruce County, through an [online survey](#).

Feedback gathered from this survey will help Bruce County ensure that all children and families have access to a range of high-quality, inclusive, and affordable early years and child care programs and services that are centered on the child and family and contribute to children's learning, development, and well-being.

We value your opinion! Take the [Parents and Guardians Survey](#), available now!

Parents and guardians are asked to share input by Sunday, March 17, 2024. This opportunity to provide feedback will only take a few minutes to complete. Responses will only be published in anonymous format.

For those unable to complete the survey online,

Call or email to request a hardcopy of the survey be mailed to you:

1-800-265-3005

childcare@brucecounty.on.ca

“Input from parents and guardians of the County’s youngest residents is essential for enhancing the programming and partnerships that support early learning and development,” adds Warden Chris Peabody. “By working collaboratively with partners and the public, Bruce County is actively and strategically building strong and inclusive communities.”

Bruce County Children’s Services will also be engaging and consulting with child care operators and service partners in the months ahead as we develop the updated Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan.

Thank you for participating in shaping the future of child care and early years services in Bruce County.

Discover more about [Bruce County Children’s Services](#).

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[Talk to us](#)

DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information
and Updates

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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County Administration Buildings Closed for Family Day (Monday, February 19, 2024)

Please take notice that the Bruce County Administration Centre in Walkerton, the Lakeshore Hub in Port Elgin, the Peninsula Hub in Wiarton, and the Penetangore Hub in Kincardine will be closed from Saturday, February 17 to Monday, February 19 (Family Day Long Weekend).



February 14, 2024

Please take notice that the Bruce County Administration Centre in Walkerton, the Lakeshore Hub in Port Elgin, the Peninsula Hub in Wiarton, and the Penetangore Hub in Kincardine will be closed from Saturday, February 17 to Monday, February 19 (Family Day Long Weekend). Virtual customer service and in-person service will be available again on Tuesday, February 20 at 8:30 AM.

Bruce County Public Library Branches will be closed on Monday, February 19. Library Branches will be open for regular hours on Saturday, February 17 and Sunday, February 18. Online resources are available 24/7. www.library.brucecounty.on.ca

Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre will be open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday, February 17 and 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Monday, February 19. The Museum will be closed on Sunday, February 18. The Museum Archives will be open on

Saturday, February 17 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM, and will be closed on Sunday, February 18 and Monday, February 19. www.brucemuseum.ca

EarlyON Child and Family Centre programming will be closed on Monday, February 19. EarlyON programming schedules are available [online](#).

For essential services, please call 211 to assist with accessing community services and support. The service is 24/7 and multilingual interpretation is available.

For emergencies, please call 911. For less serious incidents, report online by visiting opp.ca/reporting.

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[Talk to us](#)

DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information
and Updates

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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SIGNIFICANT WEATHER EVENT: Bruce County has declared a significant weather event has started due to forecasted or observed weather conditions. For more information [click here](#)



Council / Committee Meetings - Thursday, February 15, 2024

Bruce County Council met on February 15, 2024 beginning at 9:30 AM virtually through Teams. Video recordings of the meeting can be reviewed at www.brucecounty.on.ca/government/agendas-and-minutes



February 15, 2024

Bruce County Council Meeting

Council received a report from the Community Development Office on the 2024-2025 Small Business Enterprise Centre Program Extension. [Report](#)

Council received a report from Corporate Services on 2023 Summary of Pandemic Funding. [Report](#)

Council received a report from Corporate Services on 2024 Education Tax Rates. [Reports](#)

Council received a report from Corporate Services on Property Assessment Change and Notional Rates. [Report](#)

Council received from Corporate Services the Investment Annual Report. [Report](#)

Council received a report from Human Services on 2023 Dorrell Young Christmas Program Results. [Report](#)

Council received from Human Services the Q4 2023 Licensed Child Care and Early Years Report. [Report](#)

Council received from Human Services the Q4 2023 Housing Services Report. [Report](#)

Council received from Human Services the Q4 2023 Income and Support Services Update. [Report](#)

Council received a report from the Office of the CAO on the Q4 2023 Business Plan Update. [Report](#)

Council received an update from Paramedic Services on the Port Elgin Paramedic Station Build. [Report](#)

Council adopted the County Official Plan Amendment – C-2023-008 Implementation Amendment. The appropriate By-Law will be forwarded to County Council for adoption. [Report](#)

Council approved support for the efforts of the Bruce County Plowmen’s Association to host the 2026 International Plowing Match in Bruce County and approved start-up funding support of up to \$100,000, with the conditions of which being brought back at a future meeting. [Report](#)

Council approved the 2024 County-wide tax ratios and class discounts and that staff be directed to prepare the necessary tax rates and ratio by-law. Council also approved that the tax relief program for charities and other similar organizations be continued for the 2024 taxation year, that the tax relief program for low-income seniors and low-income persons with disabilities be continued for the 2024 taxation year, and that no Optional Property Classes are recommended. [Report](#)

Council approved that the capital spending overages outlined in the report for 2023 be allowed to be absorbed in the yearend surplus or deficit as they are immaterial in nature. [Report](#)

Council approved that the Warden and Councillor Goetz be appointed to the Accessibility Advisory Committee. Council approved that Councillor Craig and Councillor Goetz be appointed to the Community Drug & Alcohol Strategy. [Report](#)

Council approved a by-law to restrict the weight of vehicles passing over County bridges. [By-law](#)

Council received communications from the Town of South Bruce Peninsula on their resolution on the Social and Economic Prosperity Review. [Communication](#)

This publication identifies highlights from recent Bruce County Council and Committee meetings. Bruce County’s Office of the CAO maintains complete agendas and minutes from all Council and Committee meetings, which can be reviewed at www.brucecounty.on.ca/government/agendas-and-minutes

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[Talk to us](#)

DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

**COVID-19 Information
and Updates**

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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Home > Bruce County Public Library Starts Booking Community Tax Program Appointments

Bruce County Public Library Starts Booking Community Tax Program Appointments

Bruce County Public Library is pleased to announce that they will start booking appointments for the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) on Tuesday, February 20. This program is designed to assist low to moderate-income individuals and families with simple tax returns.

Tax clinics will run from March through the end of April, and with four Branches to choose from including Port Elgin, Walkerton, Chesley and Kincardine, there are many appointments available. To book your appointment and receive full details on required documentation, interested participants are encouraged to [contact the Branch](#) they wish to attend.

BCPL extends its heartfelt gratitude to the community members who responded to their call for volunteers. Their support ensured the continuation of this vital program. In 2023, their dedicated volunteers assisted 259 individuals and families in filing their income tax returns, highlighting the significant impact of this program on our community.

“I am deeply appreciative of the overwhelming response from our community members who have offered to volunteer their time to offer this much-needed tax program at BCPL. These clinics reflect our commitment to providing services that directly impact the well-being of our community members,” said Library Board Chair Mark Goetz.

Other CVITP clinics can be found by calling 211 or visiting <https://brucegreycommunityinfo.cioc.ca/record/GRE0364>.



CVITP

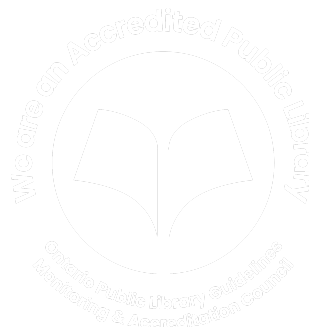
Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

Appointment Bookings are now OPEN



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So what is there to discover?

Bruce County Public Library is a vibrant hub and pillar of the community. From eBooks to fishing rods, video games to educational workshops, Bruce County Public Library offers something for everyone.

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 Show Me How

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NOTICE: Alternating Lane Closures on Durham Street Bridge in Walkerton

Please take notice that there will be an alternating lane closure on the Durham Street Bridge in the Town of Walkerton on Wednesday, February 21, from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.



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county

February 20, 2024

Please take notice that there will be an alternating lane closure on the Durham Street Bridge in the Town of Walkerton on Wednesday, February 21, from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM. (Alternate dates identified as February 22 and February 23).

This alternating lane closure is to carry out the quarterly bridge inspection.

One lane of traffic will be maintained at all times.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we complete this important infrastructure work in Bruce County.

Additional Project Information can be found on the Bruce County Website at www.brucecounty.on.ca/WalkertonBridge

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[Talk to us](#)

DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)

BRUCE & GREY
COMMUNITY INFORMATION

PLAN the BRUCE...

[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information
and Updates

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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Weight/Load Restrictions will be in effect on several Bruce County Roads

Effective Monday, February 26, 2024, Bruce County Transportation & Environment Services Department will place weight/load restrictions of 5 tonne per axle on several County roads until further notice.



BRUCE

county

February 23, 2024

Effective Monday, February 26, 2024, Bruce County Transportation & Environment Services Department will place weight/load restrictions of 5 tonne per axle on several County roads until further notice. Please refer to the [Weight/Load Restrictions Map](#) to verify the impacted Bruce County roads.

With the warmer conditions in recent weeks, Bruce County staff have implemented road weight/load restrictions to protect the integrity of our road infrastructure. During Spring thaw, roads are susceptible to damage and the reduction of axle-weights helps preserve the life span of Bruce County roads.

For up-to-date Road Weight/Load Restriction information call 519-881-1291 or visit the [County Website](#).

See the [Map of Restricted Roads](#).

Discover more about [Transportation & Environmental Services](#).

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Economic Development

f

Tourism

f 

Library

f 

Museum

f 

[Talk to us](#)

DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)

BRUCE & GREY
COMMUNITY INFORMATION

 PLAN the BRUCE

[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information
and Updates

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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Let's Inspire Inclusion by Networking with Local Business Owners for International Women's Day in Chesley

Join Women's House Serving Bruce and Grey, and Bruce County's Business to Bruce, for a do-not-miss International Women's Day event - Count Her in: Accelerating Gender Equality Through Economic Empowerment on Thursday, March 7, 2024, from 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM at the Klages Mill and Garden in Chesley.



BRUCE

county

February 23, 2024

Join Women's House Serving Bruce and Grey, and Bruce County's Business to Bruce, for a do-not-miss International Women's Day event - Count Her in: Accelerating Gender Equality Through Economic Empowerment on Thursday, March 7, 2024, from 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM at the Klages Mill and Garden in Chesley.

Enjoy an incredible night of inspiring stories, paired with networking, refreshments and hearty appetizers. At this event, hear from distinguished TED Talk & global keynote speaker Sarah Baldeo, who has a passion for sharing her knowledge and inspiring others to practice integrity and accountability. Sarah will be speaking on How to Use Technology to Drive Revenue for Your Small Business. During the evening guests will also hear from Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advocate and Lawyer Andrea Clarke, while the evening will be moderated by community influencer Spicy Jan, from Tasty Road Trips Inc.

“Bruce County is proud to continue our partnership with Women’s House Serving Bruce & Grey to host this event for the 6th year. When we can highlight and showcase local entrepreneurs that are changemakers in our community, while also supporting an organization that protects some of the most vulnerable members of our community, it results in positive outcomes for all involved” says Chris Peabody, Bruce County Warden.

[Tickets](#) are \$50 per seat and can be purchased until March 6 at noon. Tables of eight can be reserved by emailing jglazier@brucecounty.on.ca. If you are interested in donating but unable to attend, you can [donate directly](#) to Women’s House Serving Bruce and Grey.

“We’re thankful for the continued support of our sponsors and the generosity of the community. Last year’s event was a huge success, and we hope the 6th annual International Women’s Day event will be as well. This generosity allows us to be part of important initiatives that give back to the businesses and assist the women in our community,” comments Candice McQuade, community relations & fund developer.

In addition, an online auction, with funds raised going directly to Women’s House Serving Bruce & Grey, will be held and recipients of the annual Women’s House Woman of Distinction award will be presented at the event.

Purchase tickets: <https://business.brucecounty.on.ca/iwd-2024>

#IWD2024 #InspireInclusion

For more information, contact:

Lindsey Glazier

Business Development Coordinator

Bruce County, Planning and Development

226-909-3059 or jglazier@brucecounty.on.ca

About Women’s House Serving Bruce & Grey (WHSBG):

WHSBG provides free and confidential services, within a supportive environment, to women 16 years of age and older, and their children, who have or are experiencing abuse, sexual violence or homelessness. Women’s House operates a 24/7 shelter in Kincardine, Ontario to provide a safe, supportive and secure environment for women and children fleeing domestic violence. Women’s House also provides sexual assault services in Bruce and Grey, a child witness program, transition services, education services, a volunteer program, community counselling and second-stage housing in Kincardine, Saugeen Shores and Wiarton. WHSBG is a registered not-for-profit charity governed by a volunteer Board of Directors and staffed by trained professionals.

About Bruce County:

Bruce County is an upper-tier municipality in Southwestern Ontario, Canada, made up of eight lower-tier municipalities and 73,396 residents. The explorers who visit, live, and work here are the dreamers who take roads less travelled and see tried and true as an invitation to try something new. Be an Explorer and call Bruce County home.

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Economic Development

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Museum

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DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information
and Updates

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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New fibre art exhibit “The Whisper Project” and upcoming artists talk at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre

The creative focus on fibre art continues this month at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre with the opening of its second spring exhibit, The Whisper Project - on now until April 30.



February 26, 2024

The creative focus on fibre art continues this month at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre with the opening of its second spring exhibit, The Whisper Project - on now until April 30.

The exhibit follows the opening of The Thread of the Story, a showcase of imaginative and intricate works of fibre art, all individually inspired by artefacts from the Museum’s collections.

The Whisper Project, previously on display at the Stratford-Perth library, also celebrates the artistic medium of fibre, offering a playful take on the childhood game ‘telephone.’ Participating members of the Fergus-Guelph Studio Art Quilt Association (SAQA) pod were assigned into five groups with five members in each. The expectation was to complete a 12”x12” block within a two-month timeframe. Each member was welcome to use their own style and techniques when creating a piece inspired by previous work.

A total of 5 photographs inspired the 25 art quilts now on display at the BCM&CC, all showing a range of approaches and techniques.

Tying both exhibits together, the Museum will host an artist Meet & Greet on March 23 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Artists from both of the current fibre art exhibits on now at the BCM&CC will be present to answer questions and share more about their unique inspirations and processes in creating the incredible pieces on display.

The event is free for all. Light refreshments will be served. Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP online at brucemuseum.ca by March 16.

About the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre offers adult and children's programming, special events, and is home to the Bruce County Archives & Research Room. Our mandate is to preserve and make available the documentary heritage of Bruce County.

About Studio Art Quilt Associates, Inc. (SAQA)

SAQA is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the art quilt: "a creative visual work that is layered and stitched or that references this form of stitched layered structure." Over the past 30 years, SAQA has grown into a dynamic and active community of over 4,000 artists, curators, collectors, and art professionals located around the world.

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Economic Development



Tourism



Library



Museum



[Talk to us](#)

DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

[COVID-19 Information
and Updates](#)

USEFUL LINKS

[Road Conditions](#)

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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