

Emergency Planning for Seniors

Every household should have a plan in place that will provide necessities and ensure safety for their family during the event of an emergency. Seniors may have additional considerations during an emergency, especially if they are required to evacuate their home.



November 05, 2024

Every household should have a plan in place that will provide necessities and ensure safety for their family during the event of an emergency. Seniors may have additional considerations during an emergency, especially if they are required to evacuate their home. Making a list and keeping it with an emergency kit can help with knowing what to take with them. Everyone should keep in mind that they may not be able to get back to their home right away, so knowing what they need for an extended period will be important. This may be the case for seniors who require special equipment or medications. Having a list may also assist others that are providing a helping hand.

Additional items may include:

assistive devices such as canes, walkers, hearing aids, breathing apparatus, etc. prescription eyewear and footwear

extra medications and vitamin supplements (including a list of allergies and all prescribed medications with required dosages)

supply of food items appropriate to any dietary restrictions

extra dentures (if required) and cleanser

personal documentation and identification

list of names and telephone numbers, such as family members, doctors, caseworkers, seniors' group contact person, etc.

"Emergencies can be frightening and stressful times. Whether you are sheltering in your home or having to evacuate, having a plan and creating a network of people who can assist you are important steps, especially for seniors," said Ray Lux, Bruce County Emergency Management Coordinator.

Times of emergency can often be overwhelming. If a senior anticipates that they may need assistance during an emergency, it is a good idea to create a network ahead of time. Seniors should talk to family members, friends, and trusted neighbours to see if they can provide support. Once those people have been identified, seniors may want to share their plan, their list of required items, how to access their house, where to find their required items, and how to work assistive devices that may be required. Having a plan with their network, and then practicing it, will help seniors be prepared and feel more confident during an emergency.

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

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DEPARTMENTS

Office of the CAO

Corporate Services

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Planning & Development

Human Services

Human Resources

Library

Long Term Care and Senior Services

<u>Transportation and Environmental Services</u>

Museum





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 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



County Administration Buildings Closed for 2024 Remembrance Day Long Weekend

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, November 9 to Monday, November 11 (Remembrance Day Long Weekend). Virtual customer service and in-person service will be available again on Tuesday, November 12 at 8:30 AM.



November 06, 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, November 9 to Monday, November 11 (Remembrance Day Long Weekend). Virtual customer service and in-person service will be available again on Tuesday, November 12 at 8:30 AM.

Bruce County Public Library Branches will be closed on Monday, November 11. Library Branches will be open for regular hours on Saturday, November 9 and Sunday, November 10. Online resources are available 24/7. library.brucecounty.on.ca

Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre and Archives will be closed on Sunday, November 10 and Monday, November 11,

and will open for regular hours on Saturday, November 9. For Museum programming, visit <u>www.brucemuseum.ca</u>. For more information about Bruce County Veterans, please visit <u>www.bruceremembers.org</u>.

EarlyON Child and Family Centre programming will be closed from Saturday, November 9 to Monday, November 11. EarlyON schedules are available online.

Please remember with your local Royal Canadian Legion, www.legion.ca.

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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f

Tourism

f w

Library

f y

Museum



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DEPARTMENTS

Office of the CAO

Corporate Services

Paramedic Services

Planning & Development

Human Services

Human Resources

Library

Long Term Care and Senior Services

<u>Transportation and Environmental Services</u>

<u>Museum</u>





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 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

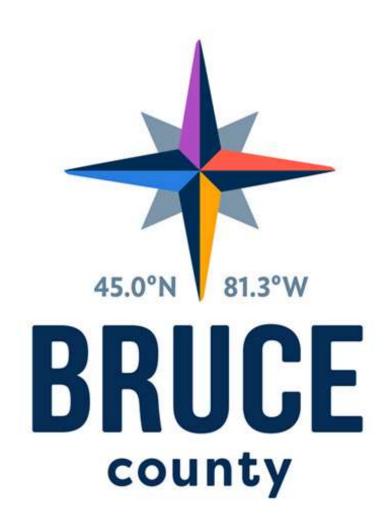
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Bruce County Launching Smart Commute App - A Ride-Matching Program to Connect Drivers and Riders to Jobs

Bruce County is excited to announce the launch of Smart Commute, an app dedicated to increasing transit options and helping connect drivers and riders to jobs through ride-matching.



November 07, 2024

Bruce County is excited to announce the launch of <u>Smart Commute</u>, an app dedicated to increasing <u>transit options</u> and helping connect drivers and riders to jobs through ride-matching.

The launch of the Smart Commute App is one way the county is advancing the recommendations outlined in the <u>Transit Feasibility and Demand Study</u> completed in December 2023.

The implementation of the ride-matching platform, Smart Commute, is one of the early actions recommended in the Transit Feasibility and Demand Study to increase transit options in County.

Smart Commute is focused on meeting the following immediate transit needs including:

Connecting Smaller Communities to Jobs and Services

Connecting Seasonal, Service, and Occasional Workers to Jobs

"Smart Commute provides a great opportunity for Bruce County to onboard local employers into the Smart Commute Program to help connect their employees with a cost-effective and sustainable commuting option through carpooling. This app helps reduce single-occupancy trips and creates an opportunity to share costs between drivers and riders." says Claire Dodds, Commissioner of Community Development.

The County is pleased to be connecting with local municipalities and employers to grow the Smart Commute program in Bruce County.

"Smart Commute provides a new transit option for Bruce County that allows employees to easily connect to jobs by encouraging drivers and riders to commute together. We encourage employers in our County to sign up to become members of the Smart Commute Program." says Chris Peabody, Warden of Bruce County.

Local employers who are interested in the program are encouraged to email transit@brucecounty.on.ca to find out more information about how their workplace can become part of the Smart Commute Program.

Download the Smart Commute App today at brucecounty.smartcommute.ca.

For additional information about transit services available in Bruce County, please visit: https://www.brucecounty.on.ca/transit.

Background:

Bruce County is part of a larger network of municipalities that have launched a Smart Commute Program, including municipalities in the Greater Toronto Area, Hamilton, City of London and City of Greater Sudbury.

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Tourism

Library

Museum

Talk to us

DEPARTMENTS

Office of the CAO

Corporate Services

Paramedic Services

Planning & Development

Human Services

Human Resources

<u>Library</u>

Long Term Care and Senior Services

Transportation and Environmental Services

<u>Museum</u>





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 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

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Council Meeting Highlights - Thursday, November 7, 2024

Bruce County Council met on November 7, 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



November 07, 2024

Bruce County Council Meeting

Warden Peabody highlighted the Explore the Bruce Rewards Economic Developers Association of Canada (EDAC) Award Recognition. Report

Council received a report from Transportation & Environmental Services on Short-term Winter Operations Changes and the Walkerton Patrol. Report

Council received the November 2024 Museum Information Report. Report

Council provided direction to County Staff related to proposed funding and staffing within the draft 2025 Operating and Capital Budget. Council directed staff to set the 2025 tax levy increase to 5%. Council directed staff to bring forward the Budget By-law to the January 9, 2025 Council meeting. Report

Council approved By-law 2024-060, a by-law to authorize a Loan Agreement with the 2026 International Plowing Match & Rural Expo Local Committee Inc. <u>By-law</u>

Council approved By-law 2024-061, a by-law to authorize the execution of a Primary Public Safety Answering Point agreement between Bruce County and the Owen Sound Police Services Board. <u>By-law</u>

Council approved By-law 2024-062, a by-law to authorize the execution of a Project Funding Agreement between Bruce County and Russell Meadows Non-Profit Accommodations for the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) - Repair Component. <u>By-law</u>

Council approved By-law 2024-063, a by-law to authorize the execution of a Project Funding Agreement between Bruce County and Russell Meadows Non-Profit Accommodations for the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) - Repair Component. <u>By-law</u>

Council approved By-law 2024-064, a by-law to authorize the execution of a Project Funding Agreement between Bruce County and Bruce County Housing Corporation for the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative. <u>By-law</u>

Council received communication from the Town of Tillsonburg on Cellular Coverage Concerns. Communication

Council received communication from the Municipality of Kincardine with a Request for a County Accessibility Coordinator position. <u>Communication</u>

Council received communication from Grey Bruce Public Health with the 2024 Report on Food Affordability.

<u>Communication</u>

Council received communication from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing with a Response to Inquiry Re Status of Housing and Homelessness Plan Reviews. <u>Communication</u>

Council received communication from Grey Bruce Public Health with September 27 Board Minutes. 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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Tourism

f y

Library

f 🐷

Museum

f s

Talk to us

DEPARTMENTS

Office of the CAO

Corporate Services

Paramedic Services

Planning & Development

Human Services

Human Resources

Library

Long Term Care and Senior Services

Transportation and Environmental Services

<u>Museum</u>





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 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

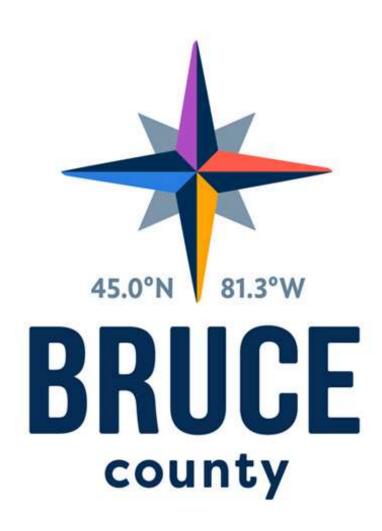
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Highway For Peace Unveiled in Bruce County

On Friday, November 8, 2024, community members joined local historians and officials in Walkerton for the unveiling of the designation of Bruce County Road 19 as the "Highway for Peace", in tribute to the 160th Bruce Battalion that fought in the First World War.



November 08, 2024

On Friday, November 8, 2024, community members joined local historians and officials in Walkerton for the unveiling of the designation of Bruce County Road 19 as the "Highway for Peace", in tribute to the 160th Bruce Battalion that fought in the First World War.

The 160th Bruce Battalion, part of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, featured close to 1,200 young men from across Bruce County. On June 3, 1916, the Battalion marched 16 miles from Walkerton to Chesley, on Bruce Road 19, to receive the Battalion Colours and Banner in a ceremonial presentation by then-Ontario Premier William Hearst. On June 5, 1916, the young soldiers again marched along Bruce Road 19 to return to Walkerton. The Battalion would depart Walkerton on June 12, 1916 for training in England and then an eventual arrival at the war front in Belgium and France.

More than 100 of these young soldiers are named on cenotaphs throughout Bruce County and hundreds more returned with lives changed by the burden of war.

Following a recent presentation and proposal by local Southampton historian G. William (Bill) Streeter, Bruce County Council approved the designation of Bruce County Road 19 as the "Highway for Peace". In time for Remembrance Day on Monday, November 11, Bruce County has installed commemorative signage approximately every 8 kilometres in both directions along Bruce Road 19, marking the historic journey of the 160th Bruce Battalion.

"Thank you to our local historians and heritage experts who work with such passion and community-spirit to preserve the significant history and culture of Bruce County," said Bruce County Warden Chris Peabody. "With this memorial designation, we honour the sacrifices and contributions of the 1,200 young soldiers of the 160th Bruce Battalion, who helped shape Bruce County into what it is today."

For more information about Bruce County Veterans, please visit www.bruceremembers.org.

For more information about Remembrance Day services with your local Royal Canadian Legion, please visit www.legion.ca.

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Economic Development

f

Tourism



Library



Museum



Talk to us

DEPARTMENTS

Office of the CAO

Corporate Services

Paramedic Services

Planning & Development

Human Services

Human Resources

Library

Long Term Care and Senior Services
Transportation and Environmental Services
Museum





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 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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Any documents found on this page are available in a variety of accessible formats or communication supports upon request. Due to conditions beyond our control, there are some instances where we are unable to provide information in an accessible format (for example, our mapping information). We will be monitoring these sections, and develop an accessible solution as technology

| improves. If you use assistive technology and the format of any content on this web site interferes with your ability to access the information, please contact the Clerk at 519-881-1291 or LWhite@brucecounty.on.ca | | | |
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Bruce County's Explore the Bruce Rewards App Recognized for National Award from EDAC

Bruce County is proud to announce that it's Explore the Bruce Rewards app has earned a prestigious Marketing Canada Award under the category Social Media/App from the Economic Developers Association of Canada (EDAC).



November 08, 2024

Bruce County is proud to announce that it's <u>Explore the Bruce Rewards app</u> has earned a prestigious Marketing Canada Award under the category Social Media/App from the <u>Economic Developers Association of Canada (EDAC)</u>.

Launched in 2024, this innovative app highlights tourism destinations, activities, culinary experiences and local shops to explore across Bruce County, while incentivizing users to collect points.

The Explore the Bruce Rewards app invites both residents and visitors to discover Bruce County in an interactive and rewarding way. By visiting destinations across the County—from trails, parks, restaurants and shops—users collect points that can be redeemed for rewards. The app's goal is simple: the more destinations visited, the more points earned, and the more rewards unlocked.

The Economic Developers Association of Canada (EDAC), which represents economic developers nationwide, attracted award submissions from across Canada. EDAC recognized the Explore the Bruce Rewards app and related social media promotions for its innovative approach to promoting tourism and supporting local businesses.

"Bruce County has so much to offer, and this app showcases it in an engaging and interactive way. It's exciting to see our efforts recognized on a national level. This initiative not only encourages exploration but also supports our small businesses and fosters community pride." says Chris Peabody, Warden of Bruce County.

In addition to enhancing visitors' experiences, the app aims to achieve several key goals for Bruce County:

- Increase the number of visitors and lengthen their stays
- Encourage visitation throughout all seasons
- Disperse visitors to less-trafficked areas
- Promote local tourism destinations, attractions and businesses

Developed in collaboration with Driftscape and supported by local tourism operators, businesses, and municipalities, the app plays a crucial role in Bruce County's tourism strategy by boosting awareness and increasing visits. The app has been proven successful through the social media campaign results and 1,341 app downloads for 2024 so far, surpassing the 750 downloads goal in the second quarter.

<u>The Explore the Bruce Rewards app</u> and related tourism initiatives can be accessed at <u>explorethebruce.com</u>. Start exploring Bruce County and earn rewards today!

About The Economic Developers Association of Canada (EDAC): The Economic Developers Association of Canada (EDAC) is Canada's national association of economic development professionals, representing every province and territory across Canada with nearly 1,000 members. The Association's mission is to enhance the professional competence of economic development professionals and ensure placement of qualified people in the field of economic development, to advance economic development as a distinct, recognized, and self-governing profession and to contribute to Canada's well-being.

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

f

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DEPARTMENTS

Office of the CAO

Corporate Services

Paramedic Services

Planning & Development

Human Services

Human Resources

Library

Long Term Care and Senior Services

Transportation and Environmental Services

<u>Museum</u>





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 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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Honoring the Legacy of Murray Sinclair: A Visionary Leader for Truth and Reconciliation

Bruce County joins communities across Canada in mourning the passing of the Honourable Murray Sinclair, a champion of Indigenous rights, justice, and reconciliation, who passed away on Monday at the age of 73. Senator Sinclair dedicated his life to uncovering truths and fostering healing, establishing a lasting path for reconciliation across Canada.



November 08, 2024

Bruce County joins communities across Canada in mourning the passing of the Honourable Murray Sinclair, a champion of Indigenous rights, justice, and reconciliation, who passed away on Monday at the age of 73. Senator Sinclair dedicated his life to uncovering truths and fostering healing, establishing a lasting path for reconciliation across Canada.

As Chief Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) from 2009 to 2015, Senator Sinclair was pivotal in documenting the profound impact of the residential school system on Indigenous Peoples. Under his leadership, the TRC released the landmark report Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future, along with 94 Calls to Action to deepen understanding and drive meaningful change. His unwavering commitment to truth inspired Canadians to reflect on our shared history and work toward healing.

Bruce County will lower flags to half-mast beginning today in recognition of Indigenous Veterans Day and again on Saturday and Sunday to honor Senator Sinclair's memory and immense contributions. His work reminds us of our collective responsibility to support reconciliation.

"Murray Sinclair's legacy is a powerful call to action, urging us to confront our past and walk together toward a more just and compassionate Canada," said Chris Peabody, Warden of Bruce County. "His work as Chief Commissioner, and the 94 Calls to Action guide our reconciliation efforts with the Saugeen Ojibway Nation. We are humbled by his wisdom, and guidance. We encourage all residents and Canadians to reflect on Senator Sinclair's legacy, and commit to the continued journey of reconciliation."

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Economic Development

f

Tourism

f 💆

Library

f y

Museum

f 3

Talk to us

DEPARTMENTS

Office of the CAO

Corporate Services

Paramedic Services

Planning & Development

Human Services

Human Resources

Library

Long Term Care and Senior Services

<u>Transportation and Environmental Services</u>

Museum





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 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

<u>File Transfer</u>

Privacy Policy

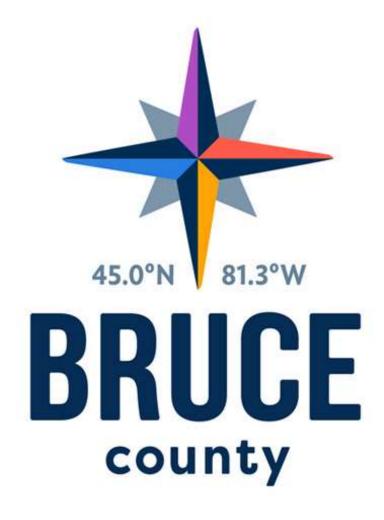
Public Washrooms Map

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Help Support Families this Holiday Season through Bruce County's Dorrell Young Christmas Program

Give the gift of hope and inclusion for children and families in need this holiday season. Bruce County's Human Services Department seeks the community's support with donations to the annual Dorrell Young Christmas Program.



November 12, 2024

Give the gift of hope and inclusion for children and families in need this holiday season. Bruce County's Human Services Department seeks the community's support with donations to the annual Dorrell Young Christmas Program.

Until December 12, 2024, Bruce County is accepting gift donations at the Bruce County Administrative Centre in Walkerton, the Lakeshore Hub in Port Elgin, the Peninsula Hub in Wiarton, and the Penetangore Hub in Kincardine.

You may consider supporting the Dorrell Young Christmas Program in one of the following ways:

A monetary donation, which can be made online at https://payment.psps.ca/county-of-bruce/index.php/ (any amount \$20 or greater is eligible for a tax receipt).

An unwrapped gift suitable for a child or teenager.

Sponsor a family (County Staff will provide gender and ages of family members, as well as wish lists).

Annually, the Dorrell Young Christmas Program provides a gift, often a toy, book, or article of clothing, for children and teenagers served by Bruce County's Human Services department, whose families and caregivers struggle during the holiday season. In partnership with our generous sponsors, we are proud to provide packages that align with "Something you want, something you need, something you wear, something you read." The program supports approximately 500 children within Bruce County, as well as supporting adult members of households through direct sponsorship. The program relies solely on donations, through the support of generous individuals and organizations in our community.

"Thank you so much for your generosity and meaningful contributions to the Dorrell Young Christmas Program this holiday season," says Tina Metcalfe, Director of Human Services. "Your support is bringing hope and joy to children and families in communities across Bruce County."

Discover more about the **Dorrell Young Christmas Program**.

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Tourism

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Library

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Museum

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DEPARTMENTS

Office of the CAO

Corporate Services

Paramedic Services

Planning & Development

Human Services

Human Resources

Library

Long Term Care and Senior 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 and Bridge Construction and Detours

Nuclear Innovation Institute

Bruce County Bids

<u>Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule</u>

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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Durham Street Bridge Project in Walkerton Progressing On Budget

The Bruce County Transportation & Environmental Services department highlights that the Durham Street Bridge project, located on Bruce Road 4 in Walkerton, is on budget and progressing well.



November 15, 2024

The Bruce County Transportation & Environmental Services department highlights that the Durham Street Bridge project, located on Bruce Road 4 in Walkerton, is on budget and progressing well. Phase 1 of the project, which includes immediate repairs on the bridge, began in May 2024. It is anticipated that Phase 1 construction will be completed in late February of 2025. It is expected that Phase 2, which involves the remaining rehabilitation and restoration work as per the completed Schedule 'C' Environmental Assessment, will be completed in the Fall of 2025.

Motorists can continue to drive to and through Walkerton with alternating lane closures while bridge construction is underway. Downtown businesses in Walkerton remain open.

The alternate truck routes (ATR) 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 are placed strategically ahead of the bridge to

divert heavy truck traffic from passing over the bridge. The weight restriction is a 3-level load limit which differentiates heavy truck types by the number of axles on the truck or trailers and permits a maximum vehicle weight. The weight restrictions apply to vehicles greater than 15, 25, and 30 tonnes, with corresponding axles.

Weight restrictions will be re-assessed upon the completion of the Phase 1 work.

View the Alternate Truck Route Map at www.brucecounty.on.ca/WalkertonBridge.

Updated Phase 1 Project Timeline:

Concrete Beam Repairs: 66.0% Complete - May 2024 to October 2024

Installation of Temporary Shoring: October 2024

Repair of Lap Joint: October 2024 to November 2024

Repair of Expansion Joint: November 2024 to December 2024 Completion of Phase 1 (Stage 1 -north side): December 2024

Phase 1 (Stage 2 - south side) Repairs: December 2024 to February 2025

Additional Information

The Durham Street Bridge in Walkerton was constructed in 1937 and provides over 86 years of service to the community. Pullman (Structural Technologies) is the contractor for this construction project and Triton Engineering Services Limited is the Project Engineer. Partial funding for this project is provided by the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF).

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we complete this important infrastructure work in Bruce County. Stay tuned for ongoing updates throughout this construction project on the Bruce County website newsfeed and social media channels. www.brucecounty.on.ca/WalkertonBridge

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f

Tourism

Library

Museum

Talk to us

DEPARTMENTS

Office of the CAO

Corporate Services

Paramedic Services

Planning & Development

Human Services

Human Resources

<u>Library</u>

Long Term Care and Senior Services

Transportation and Environmental Services

<u>Museum</u>





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 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

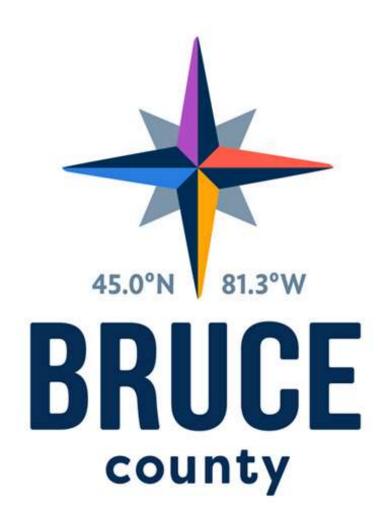
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How Bruce County Services are impacted by the Postal Strike

Beginning on Friday, November 15, 2024, the Canadian Union of Postal Workers went on strike, pausing most mail services and closing most post offices in our region until a deal is reached. Please take notice that the postal strike will impact some Bruce County services.



November 15, 2024

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Human Services:

During the postal strike, please avoid putting important information and rent payments in the mail.

Electronic payments and communications are possible. Please contact Bruce County Human Services at 1-800-265-3022 or HumanServicesIntegratedServicesAssistants@brucecounty.on.ca.

For in person assistance, to pay your rent by cash or cheque, or to submit paperwork please visit one of our Hubs located at:

529 Gary Street, Kincardine

1243 Mackenzie Road, Port Elgin 30 Park Street, Walkerton 268 Berford Street, Wiarton

Ontario Works clients can sign up for MyBenefits at http://ontario.ca/MyBenefits. This service is available 24/7 and allows clients to send and receive messages, submit required documents, check the status of their payments, receive letters, and to report changes through their desktop, tablet, or mobile phone.

Bruce County Public Library:

The Books by Mail program is paused for the duration of the postal strike.

Interlibrary loan requests will not be processed but requests can still be submitted.

Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre:

Physical mail incoming may be sent by courier or dropped off at the BCM&CC during our regular office hours or via the exterior mail drop box.

For all other services (collection donations, archival services, membership), please contact museum@brucecounty.on.ca to discuss options for courier or drop off at the BCM&CC during regular business hours.

Vendors working with Bruce County:

The only payments by cheque that will be issued for the week of Nov 18 to Nov 22 will be for urgent items or those that can be distributed by County Staff. These cheques will be delivered to other County facilities via the BCPL Courier.

Bruce County will reach out to individual vendors to set up Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT) where they aren't already set up.

For vendors that do not submit EFT information by the week of Nov 18 to Nov 22, they will have the option of picking their cheques up at the Walkerton Administration Centre the week of Nov 25 to Nov 29, if the strike is not yet resolved. The County will continue to monitor the situation and develop further plans as needed.

Vendors can e-mail ap@brucecounty.on.ca to get set up for EFT payment.

Planning & Development:

Physical mail incoming may be sent by courier or dropped off in person during regular office hours or be placed in after-hours drop boxes at the Peninsula Hub, Lakeshore Hub, and Inland Hub.

We encourage email to the Planning department as an alternative to mail:

For Planning Matters related to Municipality of Arran Elderslie, Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula, and Town of South Bruce Peninsula, please email bcplwi@brucecounty.on.ca.

For Planning Matters related to Municipality of Kincardine and Town of Saugeen Shores, please email bcplpe@brucecounty.on.ca.

For Planning Matters related to Municipality of Brockton, Township of Huron-Kinloss, and Municipality of South Bruce, please email bcplwa@brucecounty.on.ca.

For Planning Matters related to New Official Plan Project, please email planthebruce@brucecounty.on.ca.

Staff are examining options for providing notices where required by the Planning Act.

Economic Development:

Physical mail incoming for Economic Development may be sent by courier or dropped off at the Peninsula Hub, Lakeshore Hub, and Inland Hub during our regular office hours or via the exterior mail drop box.

Transportation & Environmental Services:

Invoices can be emailed to transportationaccountspayable@brucecounty.on.ca.

Moving permit cheques can be physically delivered to the Walkerton Administration Centre.

For general customer service, please:

Visit www.brucecounty.on.ca

Call 519-881-1291 or 1-800-265-3005

Email info@brucecounty.on.ca

CONTACT US

Administration Centre

30 Park St., P.O. Box 70 Walkerton, Ontario NoG 2Vo

Tel: 519-881-1291

Toll free: 1-800-265-3005 info@brucecounty.on.ca

Economic Development

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Tourism

f 💆

Library

f y

Museum

f y

Talk to us

DEPARTMENTS

Office of the CAO

Corporate Services

Paramedic Services

Planning & Development

Human Services

Human Resources

<u>Library</u>

Long Term Care and Senior Services

Transportation and Environmental Services

<u>Museum</u>





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 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

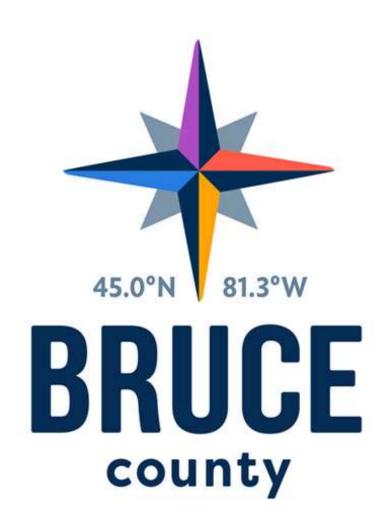
Public Washrooms Map

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Monitoring Winter Road Conditions in Bruce County

As the Winter season arrives in Bruce County and weather conditions begin to impact roadways, the Bruce County Transportation and Environmental Services Department reminds the traveling public to monitor road and weather conditions on the Bruce County Winter Road Conditions webpage.



November 18, 2024

As the Winter season arrives in Bruce County and weather conditions begin to impact roadways, the Bruce County Transportation and Environmental Services Department reminds the traveling public to monitor road and weather conditions on the Bruce County Winter Road Conditions webpage. This one-stop-shop map tool is updated periodically each day through the winter months and as weather warrants.

Bruce County's <u>Road Conditions webpage</u> features closure and conditions mapping, weather radar mapping, and detailed tables of closures and conditions on County-maintained roads. This information is provided as a public service and therefore drivers are encouraged to use care and caution in winter weather as these conditions can change at a moment's notice. All roadway users must travel safely, share the road, and respect others.

"Bruce County's Transportation Department strives to provide the best winter maintenance efforts given the fluctuating weather conditions we experience across the region. We remind the public to drive with caution during the winter months,

while respecting winter maintenance operations," said Adam Stanley, Director of Transportation and Environmental Services.

Visit the <u>Bruce County Winter Road Conditions Page</u>. For Provincial Roads, please monitor <u>Ontario 511</u>.

CONTACT US

Administration Centre

30 Park St., P.O. Box 70 Walkerton, Ontario NoG 2Vo Tel: 519-881-1291

Toll free: 1-800-265-3005 info@brucecounty.on.ca

Economic Development

f

Tourism

f y

Library

f 💆

Museum

f y

Talk to us

DEPARTMENTS

Office of the CAO

Corporate Services

Paramedic Services

Planning & Development

Human Services

Human Resources

<u>Library</u>

Long Term Care and Senior Services

<u>Transportation and Environmental Services</u>

<u>Museum</u>

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 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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