



## Residents encouraged to create an Emergency Preparedness Plan!

The start of a New Year is a time when lots of people re-evaluate, re-assess, and re-organize. It is also a really great time to refresh your family's Emergency Preparedness Plan! Don't have a plan? It is also a great time to create one!



February 03, 2025

The start of a New Year is a time when lots of people re-evaluate, re-assess, and re-organize. It is also a really great time to refresh your family's Emergency Preparedness Plan! Don't have a plan? It is also a great time to create one!

"Ensuring that you and your family are prepared for a possible emergency is a great way to start off a New Year. Please take the time to Know your Risks, Make a Plan, and Get an Emergency Kit. You may never have to use it, but if you do, it will be more than worth the time," said Ray Lux, Bruce County Emergency Management Coordinator.

Emergencies can happen at any time and there may be no warning. Having a Family Emergency Preparedness Plan ensures that your family knows what to do in the event they have to shelter in place at home, or what to do if they are not at home when an event happens. Give yourself some peace of mind for 2025 and sit down with your family to create or refresh your Emergency Preparedness Plan. It takes three basic steps.

### Step 1 - Know the Risks

What are the risks where you live? Is the area prone to tornados, severe winter storms, flooding? In recent years, risks such as Cyber incidents and Human Health Emergencies have become more prominent in people's assessment of risk.

### Step 2 - Make a Plan

Plan for how you would care for your family and keep them safe for a number of days. Emergency services may be overloaded and unable to assist immediately. Being able to sustain your family for a period of time ensures those services can focus their efforts on those who need them most.

But what if you aren't all at home when the emergency occurs? Make a plan for where you would meet or contact each other. Know what your children's school's emergency plan entails.

Talk to your neighbours about having a neighbourhood plan. Relying on others or assisting others often becomes a necessity in the event of an emergency. Plan for it ahead of time!

### Step 3 - Get an Emergency Kit

Emergencies can often be accompanied by power outages, and communications or water failures. Support your Emergency Plan by having the items required to sustain your family over a period of time. Kits can be created from items you have on hand, or they can be purchased from stores or online. Make sure they are stored in an easily accessible location and that they are portable in the event of an evacuation.

Discover more from [Government of Canada Emergency Management](#).

Discover more about Emergency Preparedness at [www.brucecounty.on.ca/getprepared](http://www.brucecounty.on.ca/getprepared).

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## Unsung heroes of the Underground Railroad celebrated in upcoming Black History Month screening at Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre

In recognition of Black History Month, the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre presents a special screening of the documentary *Secret Agents of the Underground Railroad*. Showing on February 8 at 1:00 PM in the Museum's Bruce Power Theatre, this captivating film sheds light on the courageous efforts of staff at a luxury hotel in Niagara Falls, NY, who played a pivotal role in helping enslaved people find freedom in Canada.



February 03, 2025

In recognition of Black History Month, the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre presents a special screening of the documentary *Secret Agents of the Underground Railroad*. Showing on February 8 at 1:00 PM in the Museum's Bruce Power Theatre, this captivating film sheds light on the courageous efforts of staff at a luxury hotel in Niagara Falls, NY, who played a pivotal role in helping enslaved people find freedom in Canada.

In the documentary, produced by Attraction for CBC's *The Nature of Things* co-host Anthony Morgan delves into the hidden remains of the hotel and the artefacts uncovered during an archaeological excavation. Through this exploration, audiences will uncover the inspiring stories of the Underground Railroad's unsung heroes, brought to life by a team of

archaeologists and community leaders.

The event will include light refreshments, offering attendees the chance to connect and discuss the documentary's powerful narrative in a welcoming atmosphere.

This event is free for Museum members and general admission for public attendance. For full details and registration, visit [brucemuseum.ca](http://brucemuseum.ca).

### **About the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre**

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre is situated within the traditional territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON). We offer adult and children's programming, exhibitions, special events and are home to the Bruce County Archives & Research Room. Our mandate is to preserve and make available the documentary heritage of Bruce County.

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## Donations from Cargill Community Groups Support Paramedic Services

Bruce County Paramedic Services would like to thank the Cargill Homecoming Committee for their generous donation of \$3,000 and the Cargill & District Community Fund for their generous donation of \$500. These funds will purchase stuffed animals for children that are treated and transported by Bruce County Paramedic Services.



February 03, 2025

Bruce County Paramedic Services would like to thank the Cargill Homecoming Committee for their generous donation of \$3,000 and the Cargill & District Community Fund for their generous donation of \$500. These funds will purchase stuffed animals for children that are treated and transported by Bruce County Paramedic Services. The stuffed animals will be Hereford cows that represent our famous Bruce County "Big Bruce" that has resided in Arran-Elderslie since 1980 and was named Ontario's greatest roadside attraction in 2021.

"It has been identified through our training that items like a stuffed animal can help relax children," says Paramedic Services Chief Steve Schaus. "Bruce County Paramedic Services is very honoured that the Cargill Homecoming Committee and Cargill & District Community Fund thought of us and our youngest patients when seeking community initiatives to support."



Warden Luke Charbonneau adds, “I’m so proud of the thoughtfulness and amazing generosity of the people of Bruce County. Thank you so much to the community groups of Cargill for these generous donations that will help provide added comfort and calm for children receiving care from our Bruce County Paramedics.”

Bruce County Paramedic Services employs a staff of about 100 Full-time and Part-time paramedics that provide pre-hospital care to citizens and visitors of Bruce County. We respond to medical and trauma emergencies with a fleet of 13 ambulances and 3 supervisor units that serve, and can be deployed to, communities across the County.

Discover more about [Bruce County Paramedic Services](#).

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## Bruce County recognized as one of Southwestern Ontario's Top Employers

Bruce County has recently been recognized as one of Southwestern Ontario's Top Employers in the 2025 regional 'Canada's Top 100 Employers' competition.



February 05, 2025

Bruce County has recently been recognized as one of Southwestern Ontario's Top Employers in the 2025 regional 'Canada's Top 100 Employers' competition. The announcement made on February 5, 2025 highlights some of the reasons why Bruce County was selected as one of Southwestern Ontario's Top Employers (2025):

Bruce County encourages professional growth by reimbursing employees for the cost of tuition fees and textbooks for courses related to their position, as well as the costs associated with attending conferences and learning events - each department also coordinates development days on professional growth, skills enhancement and team building

Bruce County helps employees save for the future with contributions to a defined benefit pension plan and provides retirement planning seminars to share information on transitioning from the workforce

Bruce County surveys employees bi-annually to assess psychological health and safety in the workplace and offers coverage for mental health care as part of its benefits plan, to \$1,000 per year

The 'Canada's Top 100 Employers' new Southwestern Ontario regional competition covers the large region between Lake Huron/Georgian Bay and Lake Erie, excluding the Greater Toronto Area and Niagara - the same area that roughly comprises the '519' area code. Their selection process for this competition assessed Bruce County based on eight key criteria: workplace environment, work atmosphere and social culture, health and financial benefits, vacation policies, employee communications, performance management, training and development, and community involvement.

“Bruce County is honoured to be recognized as one of Southwestern Ontario’s Top Employers. The award reflects upon our ongoing commitment to creating a supportive and dynamic workplace. Our employees are our greatest asset, and we strive to provide an environment where everyone can feel value and succeed,” said Jenn Robinson, Director, Human Resources. “Opportunities are limitless here and a career with Bruce County is worth exploring.”

To find out more about why Bruce County was selected as one of Southwestern Ontario’s Top Employers (2025), please visit <https://reviews.canadastop100.com/top-employer-corporation-of-the-county-of-bruce>

Interested in a career at Bruce County? To learn more about employment opportunities and why Bruce County is a great place to work, visit [www.brucecounty.on.ca/jobs](http://www.brucecounty.on.ca/jobs).

Discover additional information about [Living and Working in Bruce County](#).

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## Accelerate Action Through Networking with Local Businesses and Community Changemakers for International Women's Day on March 6

Join Bruce County's Business to Bruce and Women's House Serving Bruce and Grey for the annual International Women's Day event - Accelerate Action: Breaking Barriers and Building Businesses on Thursday, March 6, 2025, from 4:30 PM to 9:00 PM at the Ainsdale Golf Course, south of Kincardine.



**Women's House**  
Serving Bruce and Grey



**BRUCE**  
county

February 06, 2025

Join Bruce County's Business to Bruce and Women's House Serving Bruce and Grey for the annual [International Women's Day](#) event - Accelerate Action: Breaking Barriers and Building Businesses on Thursday, March 6, 2025, from 4:30 PM to 9:00 PM at the [Ainsdale Golf Course](#), south of Kincardine.

The 7th annual [International Women's Day](#) event will be an inspiring evening with storytelling and networking, paired with refreshments and appetizers. Award-Winning Social Impact Entrepreneur, Resilience Advocate, Author & International Speaker, [Brandi Leifso](#), will share stories from her own journey rising through adversity at 21 to launch a beauty brand while living in a women's shelter.

“Bruce County is proud to continue our partnership with Women’s House Serving Bruce & Grey to host this event for the 7th year,” says Bruce County Warden, Luke Charbonneau. “This event provides an opportunity to spotlight local entrepreneurs and changemakers who are driving change in our communities while supporting an organization dedicated to protecting our most vulnerable, fostering positive outcomes for all involved.”

We are also excited to have guest speaker, Tracy Primeau, who is a mentor and role model for individuals in the energy sector and offers insights on diversity, women in STEM and Indigenous relationship building through her company, Agile Bear.

“Women’s House Serving Bruce & Grey has always been greatly supported by the International Women’s Day event” says Danielle Bois, Community Relations and Funds Developer with Women’s House Serving Grey Bruce. “This year’s theme of “Accelerate Action” really speaks to us, as we see change and growth in our community. We look forward to sharing our stories, experiences and connecting at this year’s event. We hope to see some new faces and invite everyone to come and support this great cause.”

[Tickets](#) are \$40 per seat or \$300 for a table and can be purchased until March 3 at 12:00 PM or until tickets are sold out. Tables of eight can be reserved by emailing [lmclean@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:lmclean@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.

The recipients of the annual Women’s House Woman of Distinction Award will be presented and an online auction with funds going directly to Women’s House Serving Bruce and Grey will be available live for bidding during the event.

Purchase tickets: <https://businessstobruce.com/training-and-events/2025-international-womens-day-event/>

#IWD2025 #AccelerateAction #BusinessToBruce #WomensHouseBG

**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 8 lower-tier municipalities and 77,221 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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## Explore the Wonders of Nature this Family Day at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre

This Family Day (Monday, February 17), the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre invites visitors of all ages to experience a day of nature-themed fun, with a variety of interactive activities and special presentations from Storm Chaser and Photographer David T. Chapman.



February 10, 2025

This Family Day (Monday, February 17), the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre invites visitors of all ages to experience a day of nature-themed fun, with a variety of interactive activities and special presentations from Storm Chaser and Photographer David T. Chapman.

Chapman will take audiences on an extraordinary journey through Ontario's natural wonders with three captivating Earth Explorers presentations held in the Museum's Bruce Power theatre. These shows will explore the fascinating world of winter birdwatching, the unpredictable and awe-inspiring weather patterns of Ontario, and the breathtaking beauty of the night sky. Seating is limited for these presentations, and registration is required. All show tickets include access to the day's general on-floor programming.

On-floor programming will include Indigenous Elder teachings, story readings by author Dorothy Ladd, eco-friendly bird feeder crafts, and heritage demonstrations. Visitors can also enjoy a delicious BBQ lunch provided by the Saugeen Shores Rotary Club, available for purchase with cash, debit, or credit.

Admission is free for Museum members, while general admission rates apply. No registration is required for general on-floor programming, and walk-ins are welcome. This event is proudly presented by Ontario Power Generation.

For full event details and to register, visit [brucemuseum.ca](http://brucemuseum.ca).

#### **About David T. Chapman**

David T. Chapman has been pursuing his photography career professionally since the age of eighteen. He enjoys taking photographs and videos of weather phenomena, especially lightning, as well as scenery and nature. David likes to seek out unusual examples of nature such as inferior mirages, albino/leucistic birds, ice caves and various types of naturally created vortexes, ranging in size from dust devils to tornadoes. David is also a professional speaker and enjoys entertaining and educating a great crowd. His main areas of expertise are Weather/Aurora Borealis, Local Interests and Scenery of Ontario, Birds and Wildlife.

#### **About the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre**

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre is situated within the traditional territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON). We offer adult and children's programming, exhibitions, special events and are home to the Bruce County Archives & Research Room. Our mandate is to preserve and make available the documentary heritage of Bruce County.

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## Legacy of influential Canadian artist Alan Weinstein celebrated in new digital publication by Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre (BCM&CC) is thrilled to announce the launch of a new online publication dedicated to the extraordinary work, career, and legacy of artist Alan Weinstein.



February 12, 2025

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre (BCM&CC) is thrilled to announce the launch of a new online publication dedicated to the extraordinary work, career, and legacy of artist Alan Weinstein.

In 2021, the BCM&CC received a remarkable gift of 525 pieces from Alan Weinstein's extensive art collection. This donation offers an invaluable window into Weinstein's career and serves as a testament to his significant contributions to Canadian art. Weinstein's work reflects the influence of Modernism, a movement pioneered by William Ronald and the Painters Eleven in 1954. His pieces have been widely exhibited and hold an esteemed place within the fine arts community.

The new online publication provides an in-depth exploration of Weinstein's artistic journey. Organized into sections that highlight distinct periods of his career, the publication features 141 curated works from the donated collection, as well as

additional pieces from Weinstein's broader body of work. Each image is accompanied by a narrative that provides context and insight, offering viewers a richer understanding of the artist's vision and creative evolution.

Reflecting on his donation, Weinstein shared, "My donation of paintings to the BCM&CC gives me the peace of mind that this body of work will not be scattered or lost. I believe the collection will offer opportunities to experience an artist's journey in the flesh—the living reality of the painted surface—and to explore creativity over a lifetime. The splendid online publication accompanying the collection is a stunning digital achievement by [retired Museum Exhibit & Graphic Designer] Chris Irvine."

193 items from the collection are now also accessible in the Museum's online collection with plans to add an additional 70 items, totaling half of the Weinstein collection, by the end of March 2025.

The BCM&CC will launch a complementary digital education program, Mining for Gold in September 2025. Designed for secondary students, this asynchronous program invites participants to engage with Weinstein's evocative art, reflect on their own artistic journeys, and create drypoint prints using recycled materials. Highlighting the foundational intaglio printmaking technique, the program inspires students to explore their creativity and develop their unique artistic voices.

The Alan Weinstein online publication can be viewed at [brucemuseum.ca](http://brucemuseum.ca) under Digital Exhibitions.

### **About Alan Weinstein**

Since his one man show in 1961 at the Pollock Gallery, Toronto, Weinstein has been given solo exhibitions in museums and galleries in Canada, the United States and Australia. He has participated in juried invitational and group shows nationally and internationally. Born in Toronto in 1939, Weinstein was educated at Princeton, BA, University of Iowa, MFA, and the École du Louvre. He had taught at the Universities of Saskatchewan, Guelph and Texas at San Antonio.

Weinstein's work is represented in public collections across North America and abroad including museums in Vancouver, Regina, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, Halifax, Binghamton, NY, Eugene, OR, Austin, TX, Bradford, England and Melbourne, Australia. His paintings and prints have received awards and honors in the United States and Canada over the last fifty years. He maintains studios in Iowa City, Iowa and Teeswater, Ontario. He is married to author Nina Barragan. They have four children.

### **About the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre**

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## County Administration Buildings Closed for Family Day (Monday, February 17, 2025)

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 15 to Monday, February 17 (Family Day Long Weekend). Virtual customer service and in-person service will be available again on Tuesday, February 18 at 8:30 AM.



February 14, 2025

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 15 to Monday, February 17 (Family Day Long Weekend). Virtual customer service and in-person service will be available again on Tuesday, February 18 at 8:30 AM.

Bruce County Public Library Branches will be closed on Monday, February 17. Library Branches will be open for regular hours on Saturday, February 15 and Sunday, February 16. Online resources are available 24/7. [www.library.brucecounty.on.ca](http://www.library.brucecounty.on.ca)

Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre will be open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday, February 15 and 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Monday, February 17. The Museum will be closed on Sunday, February 16. The Museum Archives will be open on Saturday, February 15 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM, and will be closed on Sunday, February 16 and Monday, February 17. [www.brucemuseum.ca](http://www.brucemuseum.ca)

EarlyON Child and Family Centre programming will be closed on Monday, February 17. 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](http://opp.ca/reporting).

## CONTACT US

### Administration Centre

30 Park St., P.O. Box 70  
Walkerton, Ontario N0G 2V0  
Tel: 519-881-1291  
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## Spruce the Bruce Launching February 1 with Over \$125,000 in Funds Available to Businesses and Community Partners

Bruce County is excited to collaborate with their local municipalities to bring back their Community Development program, Spruce the Bruce, for the 16th year. Launching on February 1, 2025, the program provides grant funding to revitalize and grow local downtown businesses and communities.



# SPRUCE the BRUCE

January 30, 2025

Bruce County is excited to collaborate with their local municipalities to bring back their Community Development program, [Spruce the Bruce](#), for the 16th year. Launching on February 1, 2025, the program provides grant funding to revitalize and grow local downtown businesses and communities.

“The Spruce the Bruce Program continues to empower businesses, property owners and local partners throughout Bruce County,” says Bruce County Warden, Luke Charbonneau. “This program fosters growth, innovation and a shared sense of pride in our unique communities.”

This year, eligible businesses and property owners from all eight Bruce County municipalities are able to access all thirteen of the Spruce the Bruce grants. Municipalities have worked to update their Community Improvement Plans which has opened

these funding opportunities. Eligible applicants can receive funding covering up to 50% of eligible costs (excluding taxes), up to a set maximum per grant.

“We are proud to be able to support the growth and revitalization of local businesses and communities through the Spruce the Bruce program” says Bruce County Economic Development Manager, Jeff Loney. “Spruce the Bruce allows us to build stronger, more welcoming communities for residents and visitors alike.”

For 2025, properties that have previously received [Spruce the Bruce](#) funding may also be eligible for additional support for new projects. Funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis, so early applications are encouraged.

Learn more about the grant criteria below and online at [sprucethebruce.com](http://sprucethebruce.com).

**Grants available for eligible businesses and property owners:**

[Façade Building Improvement](#)

[Fascia Signage](#)

[Perpendicular Signage](#)

[Awning](#)

[Patio Installation](#)

[Community Marketing](#)

[Agri-Food Innovation](#)

[Business Accessibility Adaptability](#)

[Product & Experience Development](#)

[Residential Improvement](#)

**Note:** Properties must be located within a [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 & Active Transportation](#)

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

[Apply to Spruce the Bruce today.](#)

**For program information connect with:**

Lindsey McLean

Business Development Coordinator, Planning and Development

Bruce County

226-909-2860 or [info@sprucethebruce.com](mailto:info@sprucethebruce.com)

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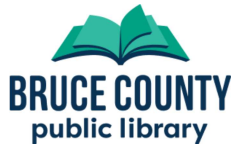
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> [Bruce County Public Library Starts Booking Communit](#)

# Bruce County Public Library Starts Booking Community Tax Program Appointments

February 11, 2025

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The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) is returning to the Bruce County Public Library Branches for the 2025 tax season. This free, volunteer-led income tax clinic is expanding to five locations this year: Port Elgin, Walkerton, Chesley, Kincardine, and Lucknow Branches. Volunteers will be available to assist patrons starting in March and continuing through the end of April.

Appointment bookings will open to the public on Wednesday, February 19, at 10 am. To book an appointment and receive full details on required documentation, interested participants are encouraged to contact the Branch they wish to attend. Clinics are available to individuals and families with low-to-moderate incomes and simple tax returns.

BCPL has been offering CVITP tax clinics since 2019, and last year alone, volunteers helped process 480 returns, resulting in \$1.2 million in refunded funds. With the addition of the Lucknow location, this service will be even more accessible to residents of Bruce County.

'We are proud to offer this service to our community, by expanding our clinics and thanks to the volunteers, we are ensuring that even more people can access the financial support they deserve. This program is a testament to our commitment to being a trusted community connector,' said Library Director, Brooke McLean.

You can contact each Branch to book your appointment by phone or email.

Chesley: 519-363-2239 or [chlib@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:chlib@brucecounty.on.ca)

Kincardine: 519-396-3289 or [kilib@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:kilib@brucecounty.on.ca)

Lucknow: 519-528-3011 or [lulib@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:lulib@brucecounty.on.ca)

Port Elgin: 519-832-2201 or [pebib@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:pebib@brucecounty.on.ca)

Walkerton: 519-881-3240 or [walib@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:walib@brucecounty.on.ca)

You can also visit the [Bruce County Public Library website](#) for all Branch contact information and hours of operation.

Other CVITP clinics can be found by calling 211 or visiting <https://brucegreycityinfo.cioc.ca/record/GREO364>.

Bruce County Public Library is committed to its role as a trusted community connector, digital community facilitator and community sharing place. Consisting of 17 Branches and a Bookmobile BCPL provides access to information, resources, and programs throughout Bruce County.

## **Bruce County Public Library**

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## Bruce County Opens Applications for the 2025 Summer Company Program to Support Youth Entrepreneurship

Bruce County is proud to bring back the Summer Company Program for to support student entrepreneurship. Summer Company provides aspiring young entrepreneurs aged 15 to 19 with the tools and support to start their own summer business.

# BUSINESS BRUCE

February 19, 2025

Bruce County is proud to bring back the [Summer Company Program](#) for to support student entrepreneurship. Summer Company provides aspiring young entrepreneurs aged 15 to 19 with the tools and support to start their own summer business.

Funded by the [Province of Ontario](#) and delivered by [Business to Bruce](#), the Summer Company Program empowers youth to pursue their entrepreneurial goals by providing the training, mentorship and funding they need to succeed. Each Summer Company entrepreneur benefits from:

A \$3,000 grant to start their business.

Comprehensive business training on topics like sales, marketing, bookkeeping, and more.

Mentorship from experienced local business leaders.

“Starting a new business can feel daunting, but with the right support, the entrepreneurial journey becomes an exciting and achievable adventure,” says Jeffery Loney, Manager of Economic Development at Bruce County. “We are pleased to offer young entrepreneurs with guidance and support to help them launch their own businesses through the Summer Company program.”

Since its inception in 2017, the Summer Company has supported 35 young entrepreneurs, helping them pursue their passions, connect with their local communities in new ways and learn hands-on skills. The program has played an important role in supporting youth entrepreneurship across Bruce County.

Interested students are encouraged to submit an application at [Business to Bruce](#).

To stay up to date on the training and program opportunities offered by [Business to Bruce](#), sign up for emails at <http://www.businessstobruce.com>

**About Bruce County:** *Bruce County is an upper-tier municipality in Southwestern Ontario, Canada, made up of 8 lower-tier municipalities and 77,221 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.*

## CONTACT US

### Administration Centre

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## Bruce County's Child Activity Assistance Program Creates Opportunities to Participate

Bruce County encourages eligible families to explore the Child Activity Assistance Program (CAAP), which helps provide children the opportunity to participate in activities and programming when fees are a barrier.



February 19, 2025

Bruce County encourages eligible families to explore the Child Activity Assistance Program (CAAP), which helps provide children the opportunity to participate in activities and programming when fees are a barrier.

This opportunity is available for families with a gross income of less than \$49,466 and can assist with the cost of activities like school trips, school nutrition programs, extra-curricular activities, arts and cultural programs, Scouts/Embers, etc. Bruce County families can access this program for their dependent children under the age of 18, and receive up to \$500.00 per child, per year.

“Bruce County is committed to helping children and families enhance their level of participation and quality of life in our

communities,” said Tina Metcalfe, Director of Human Services. “The Child Activity Assistance Program helps ensure children have access to extracurricular activities that support their growth and development, and Bruce County’s Human Services department is here to help guide families through the subsidy application process.”

**CAAP Eligibility:**

You must be a Canadian Citizen and a resident of Bruce County with a gross family income less than \$49,466.00. Application forms can be found on the [Bruce County website](#) and documents can be emailed to [CAAP@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:CAAP@brucecounty.on.ca). You can also mail your documents to Bruce County Human Services at PO BOX 399, 30 Park Street, Walkerton, ON, N0G 2V0, or fax your documents to 519-881-4324.

Discover more about the [Child Activity Assistance Program](#).

## CONTACT US

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## Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre Celebrates Volunteer Muriel Shular as Recipient of the King Charles III Coronation Medal

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre is proud to recognize and congratulate Muriel Shular on being awarded the prestigious King Charles III Coronation Medal. This distinguished honour acknowledges Muriel's exceptional dedication and outstanding service to the Museum and the broader community through volunteerism.



February 19, 2025

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre is proud to recognize and congratulate Muriel Shular on being awarded the prestigious King Charles III Coronation Medal. This distinguished honour acknowledges Muriel's exceptional dedication and outstanding service to the Museum and the broader community through volunteerism.

Created to commemorate the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III on May 6, 2023, the King Charles III Coronation Medal is awarded to 30,000 individuals across Canada who have made meaningful contributions to their communities. The Medal highlights themes of service, sustainability, and diversity—values that Muriel exemplifies through her steadfast commitment to the Museum.

For the past seven years, Muriel Shular has been an integral part of the Museum’s volunteer team, contributing over 700 hours of service. Her involvement spans a wide range of roles, from assisting with children’s programs and special events to providing invaluable support for administrative and outreach initiatives. Her warmth, enthusiasm, and dedication have created enriching experiences for visitors and helped strengthen the Museum’s connection with the community.

“Muriel’s unwavering commitment to volunteering, her ability to engage and inspire others, and her passion for supporting our mission make her truly deserving of this honour,” says Museum Director Cathy McGirr. “We are thrilled to see her receive this well-earned recognition.”

Beyond her hands-on support, Muriel has been a passionate advocate for the Museum’s volunteer program, actively encouraging others to get involved and promoting the Museum’s initiatives throughout the community.

Muriel’s dedication to service embodies the spirit of the King Charles III Coronation Medal, and her contributions continue to have a lasting impact on the Museum and the many lives she touches.

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre extends its heartfelt congratulations to Muriel on this remarkable achievement and expresses its deepest gratitude for her continued service and dedication. The award will be formally presented on Thursday, March 20th at Bruce County Council.

### **About the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre**

The [Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#) is situated within the traditional territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON). We offer adult and children’s programming, exhibitions, special events and are home to the Bruce County Archives & Research Room. Our mandate is to preserve and make available the documentary heritage of Bruce County.

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> **Bruce County Public Library Launches New Website**

# Bruce County Public Library Launches New Website

January 22, 2025

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Bruce County Public Library has launched its new website, designed to enhance patrons' online experience. A one-stop digital branch featuring a sleek and modern design, the new website offers user-friendly navigation and functionality, ensuring patrons can easily access the resources they need. Upgrading its website supports the Library's strategic goal of being a digital community connector and providing an engaging experience for all.

Among the exciting new features is an interactive online calendar, complete with filters by branch and audience, making it easier than ever to search and discover programs. The site also includes brand-new online registration for programs, which allows users to sign up with their email addresses and receive reminders and easy cancellation if they are unable to attend. They have also integrated the online catalogue into the site, with staff lists created by the Readers Advisory Committee. Reserve from recommendations right from the home page.

The new website is fully mobile-friendly, ensuring that patrons can access resources on the go. Visitors can explore the new Digital Library to discover the many tools and resources available for free with their Library card, from streaming movies with Kanopy and accessing online newspapers from around the globe with PressReader. The new, clean design and streamlined navigation are designed to meet the needs of today's digital world.

“Our new website marks the beginning of an exciting 2025 for BCPL. We are pleased to kick off the new year with a fresh look and digital tools that enhance our connection to patrons. This marks our commitment to making Library services more accessible, engaging, and convenient for everyone,” said Library Director Brooke McLean.

Visit the new website at [library.brucecounty.on.ca](http://library.brucecounty.on.ca) to explore its new features and discover what your Library has to offer.

Bruce County Public Library is committed to its role as a trusted community connector, digital community facilitator and community sharing place. Consisting of 17 Branches and a Bookmobile BCPL provides access to information, resources, and programs throughout Bruce County.



# We're LIVE!

[www.library.brucecounty.on.ca](http://www.library.brucecounty.on.ca)

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## County Reminds Residents to clear snow from Residential 911 Signs

With the massive amount of snow that Bruce County has received in recent weeks, many rural residences have had their 911 Signs buried. Bruce County Emergency Management reminds residents to have 911 Signs clear and visible so that emergency responders can ensure a quick response if needed.



February 21, 2025

Many communities require rural properties to have 911 Signs (Fire Numbers) visible at the end of their driveway, so they can be easily seen by emergency responders. With the massive amount of snow that Bruce County has received in recent weeks, many rural residences have had their 911 Signs buried. Bruce County Emergency Management reminds residents to have 911 Signs clear and visible so that emergency responders can ensure a quick response if needed.

“Every second counts in an emergency, and precious time can be wasted if emergency responders, like paramedics, police, and fire departments, can’t locate the correct property!” said Ray Lux, Bruce County Emergency Management Coordinator.

Discover more about Emergency Preparedness at [www.brucecounty.on.ca/getprepared](http://www.brucecounty.on.ca/getprepared).

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## Warden Luke Charbonneau Shares Message of Recognition for Winter Storm Response Efforts

At the Thursday, February 20, 2025 Bruce County Council Meeting, Warden Luke Charbonneau shared a message in recognition of the community's efforts and strength in response to recent winter storms.



February 20, 2025

At the Thursday, February 20, 2025 Bruce County Council Meeting, Warden Luke Charbonneau shared the following message in recognition of the community's efforts and strength in response to recent winter storms:

"I want to take a moment to sincerely thank everyone who played a role in responding to the recent winter storm.

Our Transportation & Environmental Services road crews worked tirelessly in tough conditions to keep our roads as safe and accessible as possible. Their dedication, resilience, and expertise in managing snow and ice are truly commendable - we are all grateful for their efforts.

I also want to recognize the strong collaboration between Bruce County and our local partners. Storms like this highlight the importance of working together - whether coordinating road closures, emergency responses, or keeping the public informed.

The commitment of our municipal partners, emergency responders, and County staff to the safety of our residents and communities does not go unnoticed.

To our residents, thank you for your patience, understanding, and cooperation. Your support for road crews, and efforts to stay safe at home during severe weather, make a real difference.

Winter in Bruce County is unpredictable, but one thing remains constant - the dedication of those who step up when it matters most.

Thank you all for your hard work and commitment to keeping our communities safe.”

For winter road conditions and road closure information, please visit [www.brucecounty.on.ca/road-conditions](http://www.brucecounty.on.ca/road-conditions).

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## Council Meeting Highlights - Thursday, February 20, 2025

Bruce County Council met on Thursday, February 20, 2025 beginning at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers and virtually through Teams. Video recordings of the meetings can be reviewed at [www.brucecounty.on.ca/government/agendas-and-minutes](http://www.brucecounty.on.ca/government/agendas-and-minutes)



February 20, 2025

### **Bruce County Council Meeting**

Warden Charbonneau thanked Roads Crews and Emergency Responders for their efforts through recent winter storms. The Warden highlighted the importance of partnerships and communities working together, and thanked residents for their patience and understanding.

Council received from Human Services the Q4 2024 Income and Support Services Update. [Report](#)

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

Council received from Transportation & Environmental Services the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan. [Report](#)

Council approved that the internal loan of \$376,405 for the Kincardine Paramedic Station purchase be paid in full utilizing the Paramedic Services department's 2024 operating surplus. Council approved that the internal loan repayment of

\$48,504 budgeted for 2025 be directed to the Paramedic Services Capital Reserve for the purpose of funding future Capital Facilities Repairs. [Report](#)

Council approved that the Service Manager consent to discharge the mortgage for 621 Mary St., South Bruce Peninsula be granted to Bruce County Housing Corporation. [Report](#)

Council defeated the proposed Health Care Funding Policy. [Report](#)

Council referred communication from the Town of Saugeen Shores on Blue Box Transition Planning and Source Separated Organics to staff. [Communication](#)

Council referred communication from the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula on a Request for Increase to Beaver Compensation Rate to staff. [Communication](#)

Council received communication from AMO on Action on Tariffs and Trade. [Communication](#)

Council received communication from the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus on Tariffs & Trade Resolution. [Communication](#)

Council received communication from the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus with their Press Release on Tariffs and Trade. [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](http://www.brucecounty.on.ca/government/agendas-and-minutes)*

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## March Break Family Fun at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre

Get ready for a March Break filled with excitement, discovery, and family-friendly entertainment at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre! From March 8 to March 15, the Museum is transforming into a hub of fun with an incredible lineup of movies, magic, science, crafts, and even a giant balloon-making machine.



February 24, 2025

Get ready for a March Break filled with excitement, discovery, and family-friendly entertainment at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre! From March 8 to March 15, the Museum is transforming into a hub of fun with an incredible lineup of movies, magic, science, crafts, and even a giant balloon-making machine.

The festivities kick off on March 8 with a special movie day in the Bruce Power Theatre, where families can enjoy free popcorn and two fantastic flicks! At 10:30 AM, *The Wild Robot* (2024, G) tells the heartwarming story of a stranded robot who befriends island animals, followed by the brand-new adaptation of *Wicked* (2024, PG) at 1:00 PM. Seats are limited, so preregistration is recommended.

On March 10 at 11:00 AM, don't miss *The Balloon Making Machine Show!* This interactive performance is packed with

illusions, comedy, and, of course, plenty of balloons.

Creativity takes flight on March 11 with a hands-on craft activity inspired by the Museum's *For the Birds* exhibit. Families are invited to design and decorate their own birdhouses, inspired by the whimsical works of folk artist Graeme Chalmers. Craft sessions run hourly from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, and spots are limited, so be sure to register in advance.

Bird lovers will also enjoy *Wild Ontario: North American Birds* on March 12 at 11:00 AM. This fascinating presentation will include live birds and explore the unique behaviors, habitats, and conservation of birds found right here in Ontario.

For young space enthusiasts, the *Comets, Space Rocks & Well-Dressed Astronauts: Science Show* on March 14 at 11:00 AM promises an out-of-this-world experience. This interactive science demonstration explores meteorites, simulated comets, and the protective gear astronauts wear when studying space rocks.

March Break wraps up with a touch of magic on March 15 at 11:00 AM. *The Steve Baker Magic Show* brings The Great Steverino back to the Museum for a mesmerizing performance. Kids will also have the opportunity to learn simple yet impressive magic tricks they can perform at home!

This year's March Break Family Fun Days are proudly presented by Judy Rich, Law Office. Admission is free for Museum members, while general admission fees apply to non-members. Preregistration is required for shows and includes entry to the Museum.

For the full event schedule and registration, visit [brucemuseum.ca](http://brucemuseum.ca).

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