
New committee member Joy Rutherford represents environmental sector

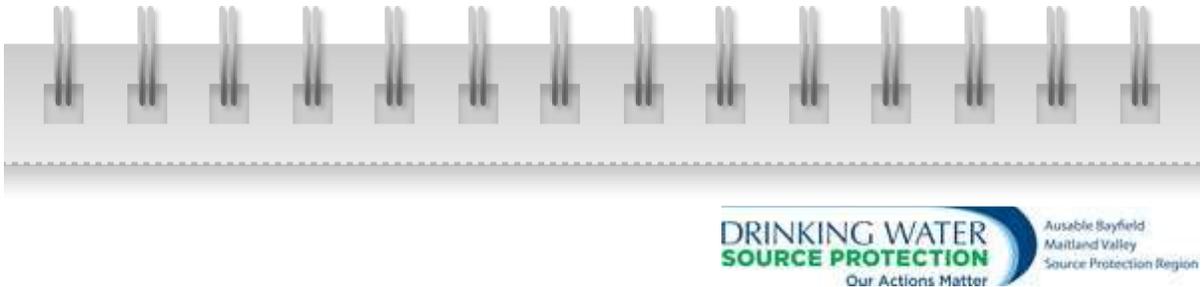
From Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Drinking Water Source Protection Region <info@sourcewaterinfo.on.ca>

Date Wed 2025-03-05 9:05 AM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>

This email is to offer you updates about drinking water source protection in Maitland Valley and Ausable Bayfield areas. Thanks for having subscribed to this email newsletter. You are welcome to unsubscribe at any time.

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New committee member Joy Rutherford represents environmental sector

Retired hydrogeologist from Wingham is new environment representative on drinking water source protection committee

A retired hydrogeology geoscientist from Wingham is the newest member of the committee working to protect drinking water sources in the Maitland Valley and Ausable Bayfield areas.

Joy Rutherford has been named the new Environment Sector representative on the Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Drinking Water Source Protection Committee (SPC). She was appointed in February 2025 and is to take part in her first committee meeting on March 26, 2025.

Matt Pearson is SPC Chair. He said Joy will bring a range of valuable skills to the committee table.

“Joy’s combination of strong interpersonal skills and technical expertise will benefit the committee’s work greatly,” he said. “Her links to the environmental community will enhance the connection of the committee’s work to this sector.”

Joy has lived and worked in Huron County for many years. She has experience in projects related to municipal and private wells and groundwater monitoring and research. As a volunteer, she has been a contributor to Water Wise events educating local private well owners about testing their water, protecting their source of water, and maintaining their wells. She is also a member of the Huron County Clean Water Project Review Committee.



The Wingham resident has Professional Geoscientist Certification (P.Geo) and a Bachelor of Environmental Studies (BES) in Physical Geography from the University of Waterloo. Before she retired, she worked as a Senior Hydrogeologist and Project Manager at R. J. Burnside and Associates Ltd. in Wingham between 2006 and 2021. Before that, she was a Hydrogeologist and Partner with Duncan and Rutherford Environmental in Wingham.

In addition to her extensive hydrogeological experience, she also has experience in dairy farm management with the family-owned Fairlaine Farms. Apart from her work and volunteer experience, she is an avid piper and instructor with Teeswater Highlanders Pipe and Drum Band.

The new source protection committee member said she appreciates the opportunity to work with the other committee members, as she feels it is important to give back to the community.

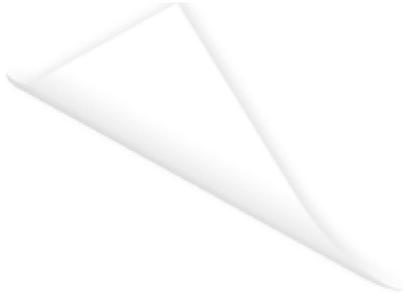
“I also remember the weekend the Walkerton water supply was so tragically impacted,” she said. “I know the importance of a safe, reliable groundwater supply, whether a municipal well or a private well. It is a resource that cannot be easily replaced.”

The vacancy on the committee was advertised in November 2024. The

committee seat became vacant upon the retirement, from the committee, of environment sector representative John Graham. He provided dedicated service to the committee for almost 10 years, from 2015 until his term ended at the end of 2024. SPC Chair Matt Pearson thanked John for his years of service.

“John has been a wonderful asset to the committee,” Pearson said. “He has shared his knowledge of drinking water treatment and protection and made the committee stronger. I would like to thank him for his decade of dedication to the committee and to safe, clean drinking water in our region.”

To learn more about source protection and the SPC visit the [Source Protection Committee web page](#).



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You have received this e-mail because of your interest in the work of the Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Drinking Water Source Protection Committee to protect drinking water sources in the Maitland Valley and Ausable Bayfield areas. If you have received this e-mail in error, or no longer wish to receive this update e-mail, you are welcome to unsubscribe. Thank you for everything you do to protect water.

Our mailing address is:

Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Drinking Water Source Protection Region c/o ABCA
71108 Morrison Line
RR 3
Exeter, Ontario N0M 1S5
Canada

Add us to your address book

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March Tourism Industry Updates from RTO7

From Regional Tourism Organization 7 <info@rto7.ca>

Date Wed 2025-03-05 10:15 AM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>

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March 5, 2025

Welcome to the March Edition of RTO7's Industry E-Newsletter!

In This Newsletter:

- What's Going On...at RTO7
 - 2025/26 Program Application Status
 - Tech Compass
- Funding & Business Support
 - Spruce the Bruce
- Job Fairs
 - Kincardine
 - Wiarton
 - Saugeen Shores
 - Innisfil
 - Sauble Beach
- Featured Webinars, Workshops & Events

- In Case You Missed It
 - Tariff Resources for Simcoe County Businesses
 - Made In Grey Business Resources
 - Tariff Impact Assessments (Bruce & Simcoe County)
 - News From Around the Region
 - #ITSTARTS Simcoe County
 - Typsy Picks
 - In Every Newsletter
 - Not A Subscriber?
-

What's Going on at RTO7?

RTO7 Program Applications

Thank you to tourism stakeholders and operators who showed interest and/or submitted applications for the 2025/26 funding programs. Applications are now closed and we aim to notify successful applicants via email by March 31, 2025.

Tech Compass Success Story: Boho Beaver

Cinzia Acuri, owner of Boho Beaver, knows that running a small business comes with its fair share of challenges—especially when it comes to technology. That's why she turned to Tech Compass for guidance.

"We joined the Tech Compass program and found it to be very informative. They took the time to listen to the demands of our small business and understand the challenges we are currently experiencing with the use of technology. They were able to make effective recommendations on various programs and platforms which has helped our business with overall operational efficiency. I can easily recommend the program to any business who is looking to gain further insight on optimizing the use of technology." – Cinzia Acuri

If you're looking to improve efficiency and make technology work for you and your business, checkout Tech Compass at techcompass.ca.

Funding & Business Support

Spruce the Bruce

Bruce County Economic Development still has funding available through the **Spruce the Bruce** grant program, supporting local businesses and communities in enhancing streetscapes, public spaces, and tourism experiences. The program provides funding to help strengthen downtowns and improve visitor appeal across

the county. Grants are available on a first come basis, so don't miss out!

Job Fairs

Kincardine Job Fair & Career Expo

March 5, from 3 to 7 pm at the Davidson Centre. **Reserve your free booth** and present your company to the community and potential employees.

Warton Job Fair

March 5, from 4 to 7 pm at the Warton and District Arena Community Centre. Please contact the Chamber for more information at wartondistrictchamber@gmail.com or by phone to (519) 534-4545.

Saugeen Shores Job Fair

March 11, from 4 to 7 pm at the Port Elgin Legion. **Register to take part** in the Career and Job Fair. \$40/6ft table (Chamber member rate), \$50/6ft (non-member rate). Limited tables are available, dinner is included.

Innisfil Job & Career Fair

March 19, from 2 to 6 pm at the Innisfil ideaLAB & Library's Lakeshore Branch. Space is limited and interested businesses are encouraged to contact Mary-Ellen O'Neill-Madeley for additional information at meomadeley@agilec.ca.

Sauble Beach Job Fair

April 19, from 1 to 3 pm at the Sauble Beach Community Centre. Reserve a table for your business through **email**. Free for Sauble Beach Chamber Members, \$20 for non-SBCC members.

Featured Webinars, Workshops & Events

For a full list of upcoming events and opportunities for learning and development, please visit RTO7.ca/Events.

- **March 6, Virtual - Four County Labour Market Report Live Release, 1 pm, Grey and Bruce Counties**
Attend to hear the live labour market updates from the Four County Labour Market Planning Board (Serving Bruce Grey Huron Perth). **Register here** to receive the Zoom link.
- **March 18, Maximizing Hospitality & Restaurant Profits – Opportunities in Space and Strategies, 1:30 to 3:30 pm, Owen Sound**

This in-person and interactive presentation is designed for hospitality and restaurant operators looking to boost revenue, lower costs, and improve efficiency with proven strategies. **Register for free today!** Taking place at Stone Tree Golf and Fitness.

- **March 18, Cultivating Diversity & Addressing Bias Training, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, Simcoe County**

The local Immigration Partnership (LIP) is hosting a free training event facilitated by the Harmony Movement, at the County of Simcoe SCS Orillia Campus. The workshop will equip participants with the language, tools, and strategies to create welcoming environments for all employees. **Learn more and register today.**

- **April 1, Mastering Canva: Advanced Design Techniques, 4:30 to 6 pm, Orillia Area**

Take your business branding to the next level in this advanced Canva workshop led by expert and T3 coach, Emily Baillie! Learn how to use AI-powered tools, advanced features, and design strategies to stand out. Tickets are just \$20. **Register to attend** this hands-on training taking place at the Rama Community Hall.

- **May 5 to 6, IMPACT Sustainability Travel & Tourism, Ontario Regional Event**

Join us at the annual TIAO conference for an opportunity to connect with professionals and change-makers in the tourism industry. Stay tuned for ticket sales, launching this week.

In Case You Missed It

Tariff Resources for Simcoe County Businesses

The EDO has created a dedicated **webpage with comprehensive Tariff Resources** to help businesses navigate potential changes.

Made In Grey Business Resources

Grey County is working together with its member municipalities to actively monitor the current situation and are committed to collectively supporting the business community. Visit **Grey.ca/Business-Services** to learn more.

Tariff Impact Assessments

The Western Ontario Wardens Caucus (WOWC) launched a survey with a goal to understand how potential U.S. tariffs may affect local businesses, and how they may best support organizations in navigating any potential impacts.

Please take a moment to complete one of the following surveys:

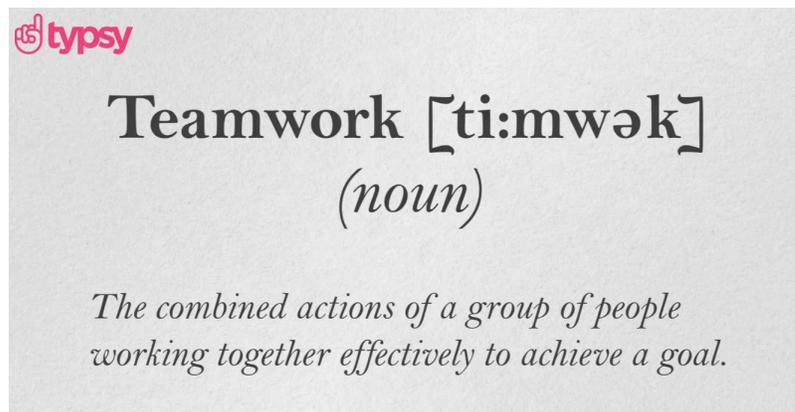
News from Around the Region

#ITSTARTS Simcoe County

Join the #ITSTARTS campaign and take a stand against racism and discrimination in Simcoe County. To learn more about this public awareness initiative and how you can get involved, visit: [#ITSTARTS With – Simcoe County](#).

Typsy Picks

Each month, the RTO7 team will spotlight a recommended course from Typsy, the online training platform that's free for anyone working in tourism across BruceGreySimcoe. This valuable resource offers training for all levels—from business owners and managers to full-time, part-time, and seasonal employees. Stay tuned for our top picks to enhance your skills and grow your expertise!



This month's pick: What makes a great team

Reviewed by: Amanda Pausner, Experience & Administration Coordinator

Total Course Length: 5 minutes

This lesson is bite sized, taking only five minutes to digest. The instructor, Ritchie Gibson, describes what it takes to develop a 'great team'. Let's Get This Done and Do it Together! – was the mantra he quotes. Collaboration is key and the focus. Whether you're a business owner, manager, or front-line staff, this lesson offers practical insights on teamwork and how each individual contributes to the bigger

picture. Stronger teams mean stronger businesses, and in tourism, collaboration is everything. I highly recommend it.

Get Started

To access the course, follow the steps below:

1. If you already have a free Typsy account with us, **log in here**
2. If you haven't set up a free Typsy account, register your interest on **RTO7.ca** **and fill out the form** (at the bottom of the web page).
3. Navigate to “Search” under the “Discover” tab
4. Type in the video name and click on the video in the results

If you need assistance, please reach out to our Learning & Development Coordinator, Fatima, at sfatima@rto7.ca.



IN EVERY NEWSLETTER:

RTO7 Programs and Resources

Our programs and resources aim to support business growth, foster collaboration, promote sustainability, provide market insights, attract more visitors, and improve tourism experiences in BruceGreySimcoe. Click on the links below for more info:

- **Programs**
 - **Partnership Programs**
 - **Operations Implementation Program**
 - **GoEV Funding Program**
 - **BruceGreySimcoe Free Training**
 - **T3 Accelerator**
 - **Tech Compass**
 - T3 Accelerator Podcast
 - **Tourism Biz Bites from the 7**

- **Resources**
 - **Careers in Tourism**
 - **Resource Guide**
 - **RTO7 Connection Blog**
- **Are You Listed?**
 - **FREE Tourism Operator Listings on BruceGreySimcoe.com**
- **Need Help Pushing Out a Promotion?**
 - **FREE Promotions Listings on BruceGreySimcoe.com** (complete and up-to-date operator profile required)
- **Add Your Festival or Event!**
 - **FREE Festivals and Events Listings on BruceGreySimcoe.com**



T3 Accelerator Podcast



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CLKD's March 2025 newsletter is here!

From Community Living Kincardine & District <aswan@clkd.ca>

Date Thu 2025-03-06 10:05 AM

To Kelly Lush <klush@huronkinloss.com>



March 2025 Newsletter

[View this email in your browser](#)



An inclusive caring community.

Celebrate World Down Syndrome Day with Lots of Socks!





Portraits are in and we can't wait to see our community rock their socks to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day, on March 21!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our amazing volunteer photographer, **Jamie Edwards of JME Photography Studio** and our partner **Bruce Power** for printing all of the posters and portraits for this event.

Want to get involved? Here's how **YOU** can participate!

March 15th - Businesses, please have your Windows Decorated and start sending in your photos/video for judging. Files can be emailed to cmc@ckd.ca.

March 18th - Deadline for photos. **Businesses** - you **MUST** submit a photo to compete for the Golden Sock Award. Please email photos or a short video to cmc@ckd.ca.

March 21st, World Down Syndrome Day

- Voting is OPEN until noon on our website and available to everyone.
- Business window and Golden Sock Award winner will be announced!
- Everyone is encouraged to wear their loudest, most brightly coloured, patterned, and even mismatched socks, to create awareness and start a conversation. On this day, we encourage you to wear your socks *overtop* of your pants to really get people asking what this day is all about!
- Take your "Sock Selfies" and post them to social media and/or email them to cmc@ckd.ca so we can include them on our social channels.
- Use **#WorldDownSyndromeDay**
#LotsofSocks #WSD2025 #RockyourSocks and join the global conversation!

Questions? email cmc@ckd.ca or call our office 519-396-9434

Catherine at Her Strength Studio



Pictured above is a collage of Catherine working out at Her Strength Studio.

On Tuesday's and Thursday's I go to classes at Her Strength Studio in Point Clark. The studio is laid back and I go at my own pace. If the stretches and the workouts are tricky, I just keep moving and it feels good.

Her Strength Studio is great because it is small and quiet. Sometimes it's not always easy to get up and go in the mornings, but the people in my workout classes make my morning workout fun. I am always an eager beaver to get going on gym days!

The most exciting part of working out is that the people are friendly and the instructors are nice.

- Catherine

Sam and Bethany Bake Muffins!



Pictured above is a collage of photos featuring Sam and Bethany showcasing their plate of homemade muffins.

Today, Beth and I made muffins!

At lunch we found ripe bananas. I cracked eggs and Beth helped smash the banana. We used a homemade recipe. I'm learning to bake with the oven. **We like to bake with our friends and for friends.** Next month we're going to try apple muffins or sauce.

Banana Muffin Recipe (makes a dozen muffins)

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees
2. Mix together in a large bowl:

- 3 bananas
- 1/3 cup melted butter
- 1 tsp Baking Soda
- 3/4 cup Sugar
- 1 egg beaten
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 1/2 cup all purpose flour

3. Add to greased muffin pan, filling each cup 2/3 full
4. Bake for 25-30 minutes
5. Cool 5 minutes in tin before transferring to wire rack

Hope you like our recipe. Let us know if you know if you try it. Good luck!

- Sam

Inclusive Education Month Contest



Pictured above is a picture collage of inclusive classroom practices from Kirsten Ryan's Grade 5 class at Huron Heights.

February was Inclusive Education Month. To celebrate and recognize inclusive learning environments, we invited educators and their classes to share how they create inclusive learning environments for their chance to win a pizza party!

We are thrilled to announce the **winning class** for this year's Inclusive Education Month Contest is **Huron Height's Grade 5 Class taught by Kirsten Ryan!**

This classroom showed many efforts to create an inclusive, welcoming environment including (but not limited to):

- Completing an ASL course to improve communication for all students
- Creating a collaborative art project focused on helping those with anxiety feel included by providing strategies on how to cope
- Creating a quiet lunch club that offers a soft-lit, peaceful alternative to the loud lunch room
- An inclusion based show and tell that fostered kindness and empathy from all students
- A classroom board that includes daily updates for students who may not hear or recall announcements
- The creation of a suggestion box where students can submit ideas to improve school inclusivity

We were so impressed with the dedication to inclusion that this class has not only in February, but all year round, that these inclusion champions will be receiving a pizza party!

Congratulations to all of the amazing inclusive classrooms and thank you to all those who entered the contest!

[Click Here to View Entries!](#)

Fun at Tiverton Winterfest!



Pictured above is a collage of photos from Winterfest in Tiverton. The top picture is of Catherine, Susan and Beth sitting on a snow couch smiling. The bottom two pictures are of Beth (left) and Catherine (right) watching the dogsledding.

I really enjoyed watching the dog sledding. I couldn't walk away. I thought I was afraid of dogs but these ones made me smile. I liked when they started running and that the lady on the sled would tell them which way to go. My favourite dog was a black one wearing a purple harness, I thought that was really neat. I also really liked it when the dogs talked to each other. They would howl and sometimes you could tell they were telling each other which way to go. It was really funny. Now, I want to know more dogs.

- Catherine

I liked seeing all the people in line waiting for the dog sledding. I got to wave and cheer every time the sled team came back. Someone gave me a flag to wave and I really enjoyed cheering everyone on, even if I had to walk through the snow.

- Susan (translated)

I really liked when the dogs would start running. I thought it was funny when they talked to each other. I also thought it was fun when they forgot to stop!

- Beth (translated)

Upcoming Events & Activities



Save the Date!

Friday July 18, 2025

CLKD's annual Charity Golf Classic is returning to Ainsdale Golf Course - mark your calendars!

Details and registration information to come.



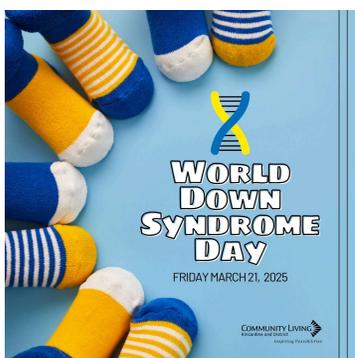
Active Living 55+ Speaker Series

Join us for our upcoming speaker series events. Wednesday's from 1-2:30 at the Davidson Centre. Open to all adults over 55. Free. No registration required.

March 12 - **More than Medications**

March 19 - **VON "Cool Aid" Program**

March 26 - **Heart Health**



World Down Syndrome Day

March 21

Celebrate World Down Syndrome Day with us on Friday March 21 by wearing your favourite socks! Take your #sockselfie and share them with us on Facebook or Instagram!



Autism Awareness Month

April

World Autism Awareness Day is April 2. On this day, we aim to raise awareness and understanding of Autism.



Baby & Me Groups

Running Every Thursday from 10-11am!

Baby & Me programs will rotate each week through Baby & Me Music, Baby & Me Messy Art, Baby & Me Sensory Play, Baby & Me Early Literacy and Baby & Me Gross Motor and Movement.

Please visit our [website](#) and/or follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) to stay up-to-date!

To learn more about CLKD's services and events, visit our website!



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286 Lambton St.
Kincardine, On N2Z 2Z3
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Fw: Ontario Applies 25 Per Cent Surcharge on Electricity Exports to United States

From Kelly Lush <klush@huronkinloss.com>

Date Tue 2025-03-11 9:03 AM

To Kelly Lush <klush@huronkinloss.com>

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>

Sent: March 10, 2025 11:26 AM

To: Jennifer White <jwhite@huronkinloss.com>

Subject: Ontario Applies 25 Per Cent Surcharge on Electricity Exports to United States



NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Applies 25 Per Cent Surcharge on Electricity Exports to United States

Surcharge part of initial retaliatory measures that will remain in place until U.S. tariffs are removed for good

March 10, 2025

[Premier's Office](#)

TORONTO — Effective today, the Ontario government has applied a 25 per cent surcharge on all electricity exports to the United States as part of the province's initial suite of retaliatory measures to U.S. tariffs on Canada. This surcharge will affect 1.5 million homes and businesses in Michigan, Minnesota and New York, costing up to \$400,000 every day the surcharge remains in place.

"President Trump's tariffs are a disaster for the U.S. economy. They're making life more expensive for American families and businesses," said Premier Doug Ford. "Until the threat of tariffs is gone for good, Ontario won't back down. We'll stand strong, use every tool in our toolkit and do whatever it takes to protect Ontario."

Starting today, [new market rules are in effect](#) that require any generator selling electricity to the U.S. to add a 25 per cent surcharge valued at \$10 per megawatt-hour (Mwh) to the cost of power. At this level, the surcharge will generate revenue of \$300,000 to \$400,000 per day, which will be used to support Ontario workers, families and businesses.

The government will use every tool at its disposal to protect Ontario workers and families from President Trump's tariffs, including increasing this surcharge at any time or, if the U.S. escalates, cutting off electricity exports to the U.S. completely.

"For decades, Ontario has powered American homes, factories, offices and jobs, and we will not stand by as our vital electricity exports are taken for granted," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Electrification. "In a time where prices are going up for families in America, Canada and the United States should be working together to strengthen our trade and investment relationships to ensure a prosperous future for both sides of the border."

The new surcharge is in addition to the Government of Canada imposing an initial round of \$30 billion in retaliatory tariffs. In Ontario, LCBO, the largest buyer of alcohol in the world, has removed all United States products from its shelves, costing American producers \$1 billion in lost revenue. Ontario has also banned U.S. companies from participating in an estimated \$30 billion worth of annual government procurement.

Quick Facts

- Ontario currently exports electricity generated across the province directly to Michigan, New York and Minnesota.
- Between 2021 and 2023, Ontario exported 14.6, 14.2 and 12.0 terawatt hours of electricity to the United States.
- Ontario has 26 transmission connections with neighbouring jurisdictions: 11 with Quebec, three with Manitoba, one with Minnesota, four with Michigan and seven with New York.

Additional Resources

- [Applying a 25 Per Cent Electricity Surcharge on Exports to United States](#)

Media Contacts

Grace Lee

Premier's Office

Grace.Lee5@ontario.ca

Isha Chaudhuri

Minister Lecce's Office

Isha.Chaudhuri@ontario.ca

Robert Quartarone

Communications Branch

Ministry of Energy
Robert.Quartarone@ontario.ca

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RTO7's Eco-Edition: Sustainability Highlights Vol. 5

From Regional Tourism Organization 7 <info@rto7.ca>

Date Wed 2025-03-12 8:46 AM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>

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March 12, 2025

The UN World Tourism Organization defines sustainable tourism as "tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities."

In this Newsletter:

- RTO7 Program Applications 2025/26 - Sustainability Gains Momentum
- Rachel Dodds' Sustainable Tourism Webinar Recap
- OSRA Cohort's Road to GreenStep Certification

- Showcasing Sustainability Through The New Fly Fisher
 - Introducing Members of the RTO7 Sustainable Tourism Working Group: Steven Hilborn, Martin Rydlo, and Ryan Sawatzky
 - Upcoming Webinars and Events
-

RTO7 Program Applications - Sustainability Gains Momentum

The response to our February application intake was outstanding!

This year, we introduced a sustainability section in the application—not just to gather insights, but to encourage businesses to think critically about sustainability and take meaningful steps forward. We asked about your willingness to share 'Visit Responsibly' messaging, long-term project impact, collaboration opportunities, and past engagement with RTO7.

The results were impressive:

- ✓ **50%** of applicants are ready to sign the **GreenStep Pledge**
- ✓ **75%** are willing to report on **turnover rates**
- ✓ **95%** are committed to completing our first **Tourism Stakeholder Business Performance & Sustainability Survey**
- ✓ **85%** are already sharing or willing to share **Visit Responsibly** messaging

These numbers show that sustainability is becoming a core priority across our region. We see this as a major step forward for the future of tourism and are excited to continue supporting stakeholders as they integrate economic, environmental, and social sustainability into their operations.

We're currently reviewing applications and will announce successful applicants by the end of the month. **Stay tuned!**

Rachel Dodds - Sustainable Tourism Webinar Recap

On March 3rd, RTO7 hosted a 90-minute interactive webinar with Dr. Rachel Dodds, a leading expert in sustainable tourism and professor at the Ted Rogers School of Hospitality & Tourism Management, Toronto Metropolitan University. Dr. Dodds emphasized that sustainability is about behaviour change and shared three key principles:

- 1. Make it easy**
- 2. Make it convenient**
- 3. Make progress visible**

Tailored specifically for tourism businesses, the session showcased practical strategies like integrating sustainability into design, making green choices effortless for guests, and benchmarking progress. The biggest takeaway? “**Just Start!**”—begin with something you’re passionate about and build from there.

Participants also received valuable resources to take actionable steps, and we’re gathering feedback to plan future workshops with Dr. Dodds.

Missed the session? Let us know if you’d like to be added to a wait list for future opportunities!

OSRA Cohort's Road to GreenStep Certification

As part of RTO7’s commitment to supporting stakeholders on their sustainability journeys, we partnered with the **Ontario Snow Resorts Association (OSRA)** to assist 10 snow resort operators in advancing their sustainability efforts. The group met several times in the fall of 2024 to learn about the GreenStep certification process. Their commitment was solidified by each signing the **GreenStep 2030 Pledge** and completing their individual self-assessments—key first steps toward achieving certification.

We are thrilled with the dedication of these resorts and look forward to our continued partnership as they complete this important process!



GreenStep Certification process testimonials from Ontario Ski Resorts Association (OSRA) and Mount St. Louis Moonstone

Are you interested in certification support? Contact **Kim Clarke**, or if you're a **T3 client**, reach out to your coordinator to set up a coaching call with a sustainability coach.

Showcasing Sustainability Through The New Fly Fisher

Telling the story of sustainability across the region isn't always easy, but creative partnerships can make a big impact. In November 2024, RTO7 teamed up with **Tourism Simcoe County** and the **Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA)** to host **The New Fly Fisher**—a popular documentary series that educates anglers on fly fishing destinations and techniques.

Filming took place along different sections of the Nottawasaga River, capturing the beauty of fall fishing while highlighting some of the "no kill" sections of the river, the conservation work that NVCA has completed to improve the river, and some of the RTO7's Visit Responsibly key principles.

This show has a huge following in the angling community, making it a great way to share sustainability efforts with a wider audience. **Catch the new season, coming soon, on YouTube!**

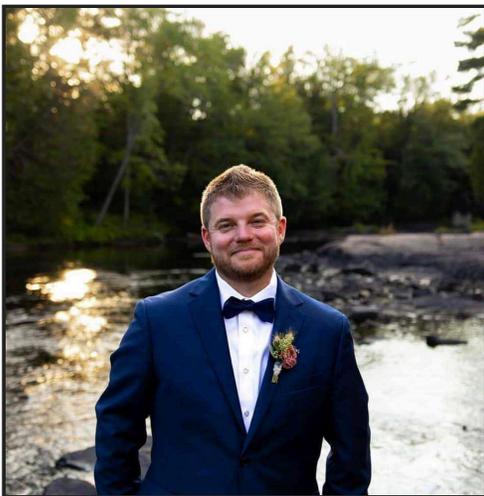
Introducing Members of the RTO7 Sustainable Tourism Working Group

In previous sustainability newsletters, we have featured several members of the RTO7 Sustainable Tourism Working Group. The goal of the Working Group is:

- To foster collaboration and advance the destination's sustainable tourism initiatives
- Assist with goal setting, ensuring progress towards goals
- Identifying gaps and future opportunities
- Provide input and a broader, regional perspective on best practices

As ambassadors with real-world tourism experience, they aim to simplify achieving a balance of economic, environmental, and social sustainability among the region's tourism businesses.

Meet three of our Working Group members:



Steven Hilborn

A Professor and Program Coordinator at Georgian College, specializing in Hospitality - Hotel & Resort Management, Food and Nutrition Management, and Tourism Marketing and Product Development. He holds a Master's of Education from Central Michigan University, a Bachelor's in Tourism Management from Thompson Rivers University, and an Advanced Diploma in Tourism Management from Georgian College. Steven has developed a Sustainable

Hotel Resort Operations course, leading over 400 students in conducting sustainability audits on 8 resorts. He initiated a maple syrup project on campus, donating the first harvest to local Indigenous leaders. As part of the Sustainability Committee, Steven has introduced gardens, pollinator areas, beehives, composting, and regional cuisine initiatives. Beyond academia, Steven enjoys time with his wife, dogs, family and has a passion for maple syrup, his "first true love."

Martin Rydlo

Martin has more than 25 years of marketing and business development experience specializing in health & wellness and community economic development. Most recently, he led marketing & economic development for the Town of Collingwood, overseeing the repositioning of the Town as a hotspot for entrepreneurs who love living in Ontario's four-season outdoor recreation capital. He is currently President,



Duntroon Highlands Resort Ltd. and a key promoter of golf and other outdoor recreational activities in the South Georgian Bay. Outside of his community involvement he can be found enjoying the outdoors around South Georgian Bay skiing, paddling, swimming, biking and hiking.



Ryan Sawatzky
With 25 years of exp

erience in tourism destination design/build and nearly a decade dedicated to developing education and economic projects with community organizations in Haiti, Ryan Sawatzky has cultivated a unique perspective and skillset in community-led tourism design and business consulting. He is passionate about assisting communities in achieving economic prosperity while safeguarding their social and cultural values. Ryan's deep understanding of collaborative social goals aligns perfectly with where his heart lies. Currently, Ryan serves as a Business Advisor with Indigenous Tourism Ontario, where he works with entrepreneurs and communities to foster economic prosperity through Indigenous Tourism.

To view all members of the Working Group, visit [RTO7.ca](https://www.rto7.ca).

Upcoming Webinars & Events

- **March 26, Destination Bike Webinar - Welcoming Cyclists in Simcoe County, 3 to 4 pm**
Tourism Simcoe County / Cycle Simcoe and **Ontario By Bike** are pleased to invite you to join a free webinar to learn about exciting cycling and cycle tourism developments in the region and how to tap into the growing cycle

tourism market by getting certified as bicycle friendly with Ontario By Bike. [Pre-register today.](#)

- **April 8, Destination Bike Webinar - Welcoming Cyclists in Saugeen Shores & Bruce SW, 10 to 11 am**

[Saugeen Shores](#), Bruce County southwest partners and [Ontario By Bike](#) are pleased to invite you to join a free webinar to learn about exciting cycling and cycle tourism developments in the region and how to tap into the growing cycle tourism market by getting certified as bicycle friendly with Ontario By Bike.

[Pre-register here.](#)

- **April 25, The Blue Mountains & Area Sustainability Summit - Save the Date!**

The Sustainability Summit is an important event for businesses, organizations, and local governments as they converge from across Grey County, Southern Georgian Bay and neighbouring areas. Registration will open soon for this free event. Stay tuned!

- **May 2 to 4, Sources of Knowledge 15th Annual Forum - Save the Date!**

Join us in Tobermory for the annual Sources of Knowledge forum. More [details and registration information](#) coming soon.

- **May 4 to 6, IMPACT Sustainability Travel & Tourism - Ontario Regional Event**

TIAO is hosting their annual conference this year at the University of Waterloo. Throughout the event, you'll engage with sustainability champions, tourism experts, and community leaders in Ontario & beyond, all committed to a more sustainable industry. Experience highlights like international best practices, invaluable resources, and new research in sustainable tourism. Registration is open to TIAO members and non-members [here](#).

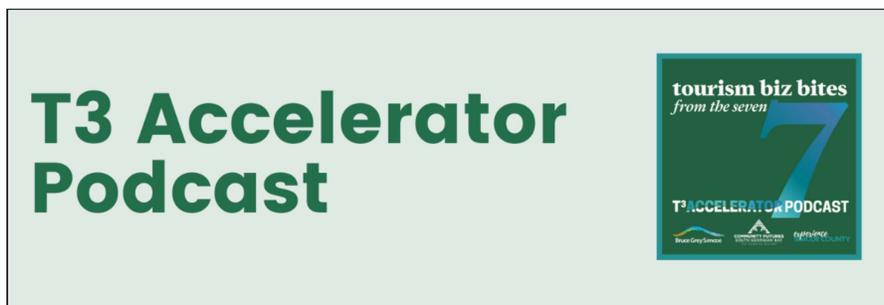
IN EVERY NEWSLETTER:

RTO7 Programs and Resources

RTO7 has other programs and resources to help your business recover from the effects of COVID-19, create video and image libraries and more! Click on the links below for more info:

- **Programs**
 - [Partnership Programs](#)
 - [Operations Implementation Program \(OIP\)](#)
 - [BruceGreySimcoe Free Training](#) (click on the image below to learn more about Typsy)

- **T3 Accelerator**
- **Tech Compass**
- T3 Accelerator Podcast
 - **Tourism Biz Bites from the 7**
- **GoEV Program**
- **Resources**
 - **Careers in Tourism**
 - **RTO7 Industry Events Calendar**
- Are You Listed?
 - **FREE Tourism Operator Listings on BruceGreySimcoe.com**
- Add Your Festival or Event!
 - **FREE Festivals and Events Listings on BruceGreySimcoe.com**
- Need Help Pushing Out a Promotion?
 - **FREE Promotions Listings on BruceGreySimcoe.com** (complete and up-to-date operator profile required)



MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR THE TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

**VISIT THE RESOURCE PAGE
ON RTO7.CA**

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Shine On

For Immediate Release
March 14, 2025

Tom Rice and Sonya Mount to Receive the King Charles III Coronation Medal for Their Exceptional Contributions to the Community

Owen Sound, ON – Join us in celebrating the remarkable achievements of Tom Rice and Sonya Mount as they are awarded the prestigious King Charles III Coronation Medal in recognition of their invaluable contributions to the community. This award highlights their dedicated leadership as co-chairs of the YMCA's Julie McArthur Regional Recreation Centre Capital Campaign.

The King Charles III Coronation Medal was introduced in early 2024 to commemorate the historic Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, which took place on May 6, 2023. The medal honors individuals who have made outstanding contributions to their communities, and we are thrilled to recognize Tom and Sonya as well-deserving recipients.

Tom Rice – A key figure in Owen Sound Grey Bruce, Tom co-chaired the \$6.3 million YMCA Capital Campaign for the Julie McArthur Regional Recreation Centre. With over 15 years of advocacy, including leadership roles as Past President of the YMCA and the Owen Sound Arts Council (OSAC), Tom has significantly impacted the community. His tireless volunteer work with Special Olympics and REACH has been crucial in promoting inclusivity for all.

Sonya Mount – Sonya has been an instrumental co-chair of the YMCA Capital Campaign, contributing to the successful raising of \$6.3 million for the Julie McArthur Regional Recreation Centre. Over the past 12 years, her unwavering commitment to volunteer recruitment and donor relations has made a profound difference in the community and strengthened the YMCA's inclusive approach.

Both Tom and Sonya's exceptional leadership has left a lasting legacy that will continue to benefit the YMCA and the wider community for years to come. Their dedication has ensured that the YMCA can serve and support individuals of all backgrounds.

"It is an absolute honor to present Tom and Sonya with the King Charles III Coronation Medal," says Sarah Cowley, Chief Executive Officer of the YMCA of Owen Sound Grey Bruce. "Their unwavering dedication and leadership have shaped our community for the better. We are incredibly grateful for their dedication to the capital campaign, which allowed our YMCA to expand its capacity and offer even more people the opportunity to ignite their potential in a welcoming, supportive environment."

The formal medal presentation ceremony will take place on Monday, March 31, at 12:00 PM, at the YMCA Health, Fitness & Aquatics facility located at 700 10th Street East, Owen Sound. We invite the community to join us in honoring Tom and Sonya for their outstanding service and impact.

For more information and to RSVP, please visit ymcaowensound.on.ca. We look forward to celebrating these extraordinary leaders with our community!

For Media Inquiries:

Sarah Cowley, Chief Executive Officer
YMCA of Owen Sound Grey Bruce
P: 519-376-0484 x 9-204 | E: sarah.cowley@osgb.ymca.ca

About YMCA of Owen Sound Grey Bruce

The YMCA of Owen Sound Grey Bruce is a charity that ignites the potential in people by creating opportunities for everyone to achieve personal growth in spirit, mind and body. We offer opportunities for personal development in many program areas: Health, Fitness, Aquatics and Recreation, Child Care, Community and Justice Programs, Settlement Services, Housing Support and Employment Services. Learn more on our website: www.ymcaowensound.on.ca

Register for TIAO's Tourism Forum - April 7

From Regional Tourism Organization 7 <info@rto7.ca>

Date Thu 2025-03-20 11:31 AM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>

[View this email in your browser](#)

REGIONAL TOURISM ORGANIZATION 7

March 20, 2025



Join TIAO on April 7, 2025 for the Tourism Opportunities Forum; a one-day, high-impact event designed for tourism businesses, municipalities, provincial policy leaders, and destination partners to collaboratively seize current tourism growth opportunities.

Date: Monday, April 7 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Location: Enercare Centre, Toronto

Get expert-led guidance on:

- The Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT): Implementation, best practices, and strategies for growth

- Market trends, tariff impacts, and visitor insights to help shape your plans for 2025/26
- Ontario's new Tourism Strategy
- Real-world solutions to common industry challenges through peer-led workshops and roundtables.

This one-day event will equip you with the knowledge and connections you need to tackle crucial challenges and leverage opportunities.

Open to TIAO members and non-members. More information is available at www.tiaoontario.ca.

Register Today



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Share



Forward



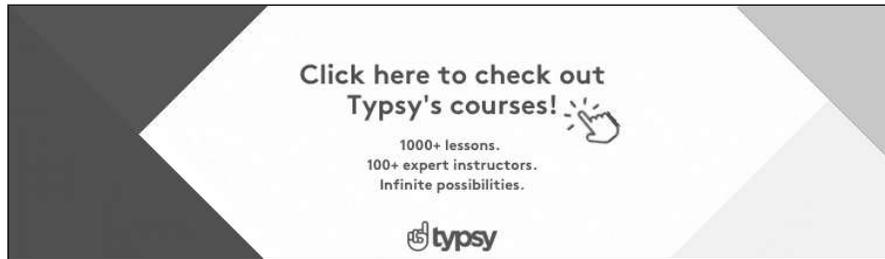
IN EVERY NEWSLETTER:

RT07 Programs and Resources

Our programs and resources aim to support business growth, foster collaboration, promote sustainability, provide market insights, attract more visitors, and improve tourism experiences in BruceGreySimcoe. Click on the links below for more info:

- **Programs**
 - **Partnership Programs**
 - **Operations Implementation Program**
 - **GoEV Funding Program**
 - **BruceGreySimcoe Free Training**
 - **T3 Accelerator**
 - **Tech Compass**
 - **T3 Accelerator Podcast**
 - **Tourism Biz Bites from the 7**
- **Resources**
 - **Careers in Tourism**

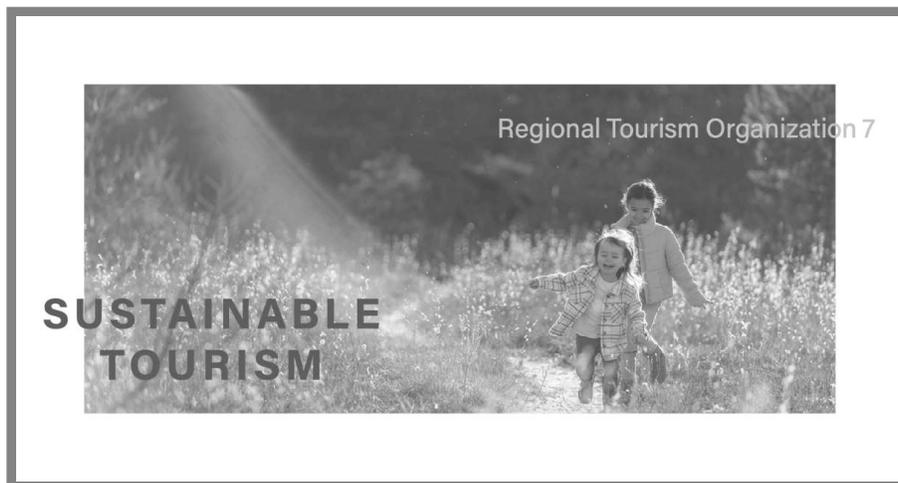
- **Resource Guide**
- **RTO7 Connection Blog**
- **Are You Listed?**
 - **FREE Tourism Operator Listings on BruceGreySimcoe.com**
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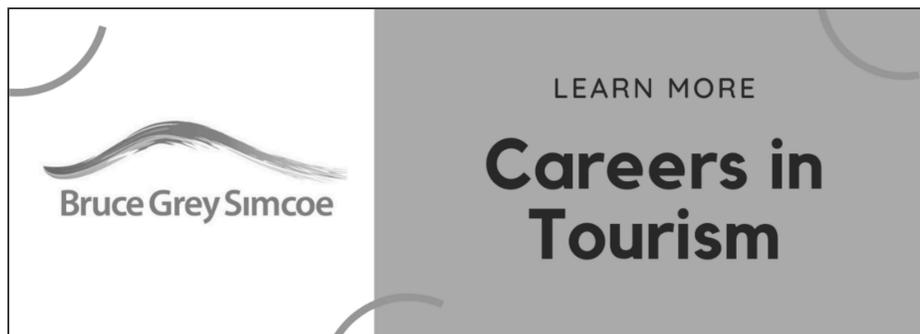
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Regional Tourism Organization 7

**SUSTAINABLE
TOURISM**






Bruce Grey Simcoe

LEARN MORE

**Careers in
Tourism**

Join our Goderich beach clean-up to celebrate Earth Day! Registration is now open for our youth education program

From Lake Huron Coastal Centre <coastalcentre-lakehuron.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>

Date Thu 2025-03-20 7:31 PM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>

Goderich Beach Clean-up

Date: Saturday, April 26th, 2025

Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm

Location: St. Christopher's Beach, Goderich

Join us for a fun, family-friendly beach clean-up to help keep Lake Huron free of pollution in celebration of Earth Day! Volunteers will enjoy a free beach BBQ after, courtesy of Zehrs.

Last year, 175 volunteers removed 480 pounds of litter from the Goderich shoreline. Help make this year another success!

RSVP

Support Lake Huron Coastal Centre, Support Lake Huron

Our charitable conservation programs provide communities with free and unique opportunities to connect with nature for the betterment of Lake Huron. These programs include beach clean-ups that **directly improves the health of beaches and wildlife**. Our Coastal Conservation Youth Corps **empowers youth to learn about the coastal environment** while building leadership and communication skills. And our Coast Watchers community science program that encourages volunteers to collect data about the shoreline.

To support our work, click the button below.

Become a Sponsor

Thank you to our incredible Goderich partners!

Join CCYC This Summer In Kincardine and Goderich

The shovels and work gloves are ready and waiting for the return of the Coastal Conservation Youth Corps (CCYC) program. We are offering coastal conservation knowledge and hands-on environmental skills for high school aged youth. We are now welcoming volunteers to register for the opportunity to participate in a week-long session in either Goderich or Kincardine. There is no cost, and youth will have the opportunity to earn 30 volunteer hours through this immersive educational experience. Claim your spot now!

Sign up now for the following dates:

Kincardine - July 7-11

Goderich - July 21-25

[Sign-up & learn more](#)

The Tiny but Mighty Threat Nurdles and Their Impact on Lake Huron

When you think of plastic pollution, you might imagine bottles, bags, or straws floating in the water or on the beach. But have you heard of nurdles? These tiny plastic pellets are a hidden but are a significant environmental problem. They are small, lentil-sized plastic pellets that serve as the building blocks for most plastic products. Before plastic can be molded into anything, from your favourite water bottle to a plastic toy, it starts as a nurdle. These little beads of pre-production plastic are essential in the manufacturing process, but they come with a big downside.

Unfortunately, nurdles find their way into our rivers, lakes and oceans from spilling during the transportation or production processes. Once they are in the water and on the shoreline, they can be easily

mistaken for food by wildlife. Fish, birds and other animals may mistake nurdles for eggs, leading to health problems, malnutrition or even death.

But you can be part of the solution! By spreading awareness about nurdles and their impacts, we can all work together to reduce microplastic. Participating in beach clean-ups, collecting nurdles on beaches, supporting policies that reduce microplastic, and being mindful of the plastic you use are just a few ways to make a difference.

[Learn more about nurdles](#)

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

[Donate](#)



www.lakehuron.ca

Lake Huron Coastal Centre | PO Box 477 | Goderich, ON N7A 4C7 CA

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T3 Accelerator Podcast



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**Have your say: NWMO annual report and implementation plan // Faites entendre votre voix :
rapport annuel et plan de mise en oeuvre de la SGDN**

From NWMO News <contactus@nwmo.ca>

Date Mon 2025-03-24 10:40 AM

To Kelly Lush <klush@huronkinloss.com>

nwmo

NUCLEAR WASTE
MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION
DES DÉCHETS
NUCLÉAIRES

Have your say: NWMO annual report and
implementation plan



CREATING THE FUTURE TOGETHER

On March 24, 2025, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) submitted our 2024 annual report to the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Canada's Minister of Energy and Natural Resources.

The report, *Creating the future together — Annual report 2024*, is available on our website, along with our latest five-year strategic plan, *Implementation plan 2025-29*. These documents reflect a year of significant progress and collaboration and lay out a pathway for implementing plans for the safe, long-term management of Canada's intermediate- and high-level radioactive waste.

Your feedback is essential. Our implementation plan is a living document, shaped by public input. Please share your thoughts through our survey. Your voice matters!

2024 marked a pivotal moment in our journey: the selection of Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation and the Township of Ignace in northwestern Ontario as the hosts for the future site for the used nuclear fuel repository. Our 2024 annual report and 2025-29 implementation plan detail this achievement and our path forward, demonstrating our commitment to transparency and public engagement.

As we move forward, we are also developing a process to select a safe site with informed and willing hosts for a second deep geological repository project. This second repository will safely manage intermediate-level and non-fuel high-level waste, and potentially used nuclear fuel from new nuclear energy projects.

There will continue to be many opportunities for public engagement and knowledge sharing as we advance the regulatory decision-making processes for the used nuclear fuel repository and develop the site selection process for the second repository project.

We are dedicated to continued engagement with Canadians and Indigenous Peoples as we progress on our shared purpose: protecting people and the environment for generations to come.

We invite you to share your thoughts on the NWMO's implementation plan by June 6, 2025, through the online survey.

[Click here to fill out the survey](#)

