



BUSINESS **to** **BRUCE**

Media Release

February 3, 2026

For Immediate Release

Grow Your Business with Summer Company Program

Bruce County, Ontario: Bruce County is bringing back the Summer Company Program to support student entrepreneurship. [Summer Company](#) provides aspiring young entrepreneurs aged 15 to 29 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 Heather Hyde, Manager of Economic Development at Bruce County. “We are pleased to again offer young entrepreneurs 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 42 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 www.businesstobruce.com/summer-company-program-and-grant and learn more about the impact of the Summer Company program from a former grant recipient, Daxton Brunet, in: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uL6wDTLXpd0>

To learn more about other Business to Bruce programs, workshops or to sign up for newsletter updates, visit www.businesstobruce.com.

About Bruce County: Bruce County is an upper-tier municipality in Southwestern Ontario, Canada made up of eight lower-tier municipalities and 77,221 residents. Bruce County is located within the traditional territory of the Saugeen Anishnaabek and holds a government-to-government relationship with the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation and Saugeen First Nation, together as Saugeen Ojibway Nation. 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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Media Release

February 3, 2026

For Immediate Release

Time to Refresh Your Family's Emergency Preparedness Plan

Bruce County, Ontario: Bruce County is reminding residents that now is the perfect time to refresh – or create – a Family Emergency Preparedness Plan.

From sudden summer tornadoes to multi-day winter storms, rising floodwaters, and even cyber incidents that can disrupt daily life, emergencies can unfold quickly and without warning. Taking time now to plan can make all the difference when seconds count.

“Ensuring that you and your family are prepared for a possible emergency is one of the most important steps you can take,” says Ray Lux, Bruce County’s emergency management coordinator. “Take the time to know your risks and make a plan. You may never have to use it, but if you do, you’ll be glad you made the effort.”

Give yourself peace of mind by reviewing or creating your Emergency Preparedness Plan:

Step 1 – Know the Risks

Every community faces different hazards. Locally, risks that residents may encounter include:

- **Severe winter weather**, bringing blizzard conditions and prolonged power outages.
- **Flooding**, particularly during spring melt or after heavy rain.
- **Tornadoes**, which can develop with little warning.
- **Cyber incidents**, which can affect communications, utilities and essential services.

Learn more about local risks on our website at www.brucecounty.on.ca/getprepared, and discuss with your family how each might affect your home, workplace and daily routines.

Step 2 – Make a Home Emergency Preparedness Plan

Your Emergency Preparedness Plan should outline how your family will stay safe and support one another during an emergency.

- Plan for how you will care for your family for several days if there’s a delay or excessive demand for emergency services.
- Decide on meeting places to reunite with family or roommates.
- Review your children’s school emergency procedures.
- Include places for your pet to stay.
- Decide on contact people close-by and out-of-town.

You can use a [fill-in-the-blank template](#) from Canadian Red Cross or use the Government of Canada's website to [make an Emergency Preparedness Plan](#) to print out. Keep your complete Emergency Preparedness Plan with your Emergency Kit, so you know exactly where to find it.

More information, tools and resources:

- Government of Canada Emergency Management: www.getprepared.gc.ca
- Ontario Emergency Management: www.ontario.ca/page/be-prepared-emergency
- Bruce County Emergency Management: www.brucecounty.on.ca/getprepared

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Media Release

February 5, 2026

For Immediate Release

Bruce County Strategic Community Initiative Fund Now Accepting Applications

Bruce County, Ontario: Bruce County is now accepting applications for the Strategic Community Initiative Fund (SCIF). This program supports community-based projects that enhance and complement the core services of the Human Services Department. Through this fund, Bruce County Human Services continues its commitment to assisting low-income households and fostering meaningful, long-term benefits for residents across the county.

“We are proud to support local organizations through the Strategic Community Initiative Fund,” said Tina Metcalfe, Director of Human Services, Bruce County. “This funding helps turn strong community ideas into action and ensures projects making a real difference for residents have the support they need to succeed.”

Initiatives receiving funding will:

- Complement the [core services](#) of the Human Services Department
- Address gaps in services and/or unmet needs of low-income residents
- Be based on best practices and/or research
- Not duplicate existing resources

The opportunity to apply is open until Friday, February 20, 2026, at 4:30 p.m., with notifications sent to successful applicants by March 6, 2026.

Learn more about eligibility and how to apply at www.brucecounty.on.ca/SCIF.

For more information, please contact Bruce County Human Services at 1-800-265-3022 or email HuSinfo@brucecounty.on.ca.

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Women's House
Serving Bruce and Grey



Media Release

February 12, 2026

For Immediate Release

Learn How to Turn Burnout into a Bold Comeback at International Women's Day Event in Mildmay

Bruce County, Ontario: Join Women's House Serving Bruce and Grey, and Bruce County's Business to Bruce, for a cannot-miss International Women's Day event, *Resilient by Design: Boundaries, Burnout and the Entrepreneur's Bold Comeback*. This event is taking place on Thursday, March 5, 2026, from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Mildmay-Carrick Recreation Complex.

Get your tickets for an inspiring night of motivating stories, delicious appetizers and dinner, and connection with others celebrating incredible women in our region.

Hear from award-winning mental health speaker and bestselling author, Calissa Ngozi, who will share how boundaries and bold choices can help women thrive in business and life, without burning out. Calissa blends stories, strategies and straight talk to help entrepreneurs stay focused and fired up, not fried.

"Bruce County is proud to once again partner with Women's House Serving Bruce and Grey. Now in its eighth year, this event celebrates local entrepreneurs who are strengthening our communities while supporting an organization that protects and empowers our most vulnerable residents," says Bruce County Warden, Luke Charbonneau. "Through partnerships like this, we are building connections that will impact our residents and strengthen our communities."

[Tickets](#) are \$50 each and are available until the time of the event. Tables of 8 are available for purchase at a discount. All proceeds go directly to Women's House Serving Bruce and Grey helping women and children in crisis. If you're interested in donating but unable to attend, you can [donate directly](#).

"We are grateful for the continuing generosity of our sponsors and community. Your support not only brings our International Women's Day event to life, but it also drives meaningful initiatives that strengthen local businesses and empower women throughout the region," says Danielle Bois, community relations and fund developer at Women's House Serving Bruce and Grey.

The evening includes the presentation of the annual Women's House Woman of Distinction Awards, as well as an online auction with funds going directly to Women's House Serving Bruce and Grey.

Learn more and buy tickets at www.businessstobruce.com/training-and-events/2025-international-womens-day-event.

For more information, email info@businessstobruce.com.

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.

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For more information, contact:

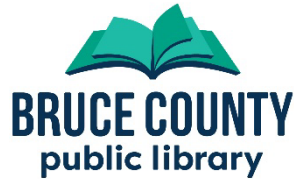
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Media Release

February 12, 2026

For Immediate Release

Celebrating Black History Month at Bruce County Public Library

Bruce County, Ontario: In honour of Black History Month, the Bruce County Public Library (BCPL) invites the community to celebrate the history and enduring legacy of African American spirituals at the Kincardine Branch on Sunday, February 22, 2026 at 2pm. African American spirituals are a musical tradition rooted in the resilience and faith of Black people during some of the darkest chapters in history.

Join community presenter Jenny Hunter, along with special guests Jason Hunter, Yuki Okumoto Stocovaz, and Sarah Dunstan, for an engaging blend of music and poetry that explores how these beautiful and powerful songs of faith and perseverance came to be and how they continue to have an impact today.

Coral's Caribbean Cuisine are also offering tasting portions of their Caribbean-inspired dishes at the event, including daal and chicken curry with rice and peas. These samples bring another element of cultural richness to the afternoon, complementing the stories and sounds that honour Black heritage.

“At BCPL, we are proud to create spaces where every member of our community can learn and celebrate diverse cultural histories. This event brings together music, storytelling and cuisine that reflect the vibrancy of Black communities past and present,” said Library Director, Brooke McLean.

This free event does require registration and is open to all ages. Community members may reserve their spot by visiting the BCPL website at library.brucecounty.on.ca. Let's come together to learn, listen, and celebrate Black History Month.

About Bruce County Public Library:

[Bruce County Public Library](http://library.brucecounty.on.ca) 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.

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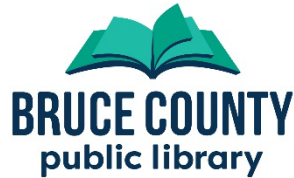
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Media Release

February 18, 2026

For Immediate Release

Bruce County Public Library Opens Bookings for Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

Bruce County, Ontario: The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) is returning to the Bruce County Public Library (BCPL) for the 2026 tax season. This program offers free, volunteer-led income tax filing support for eligible residents.

This program makes a meaningful impact across the community. In 2025, BCPL volunteers assisted in filing 433 income tax returns, resulting in over \$1.3 million in refunds and benefits returning to Bruce County residents.

“As a trusted community connector, BCPL is proud to offer this valuable service once again. Thanks to the dedication of our volunteers, even more residents can access the financial support available to them this tax season,” said Library Director Brooke McLean.

Appointments for the 2026 CVITP begin on Tuesday, February 18, 2026, at 10am, at five participating Branches. Chesley, Kincardine, Port Elgin, Walkerton and Lucknow will each run the program. Residents with modest incomes and simple tax returns may contact the Branch they wish to attend by phone or email to book their appointment and learn what documents to bring.

For more information on booking, visit the Bruce County Public Library website at library.brucecounty.on.ca.

Other CVITP clinics can be found by calling 2-1-1 or visiting <https://brucegreycommunityinfo.cioc.ca/>

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