

**Kelly Lush**

---

**From:** Regional Tourism Organization 7 <info@rto7.ca>  
**Sent:** February 2, 2026 11:46 AM  
**To:** info@huronkinloss.com  
**Subject:** More Than Funding: Co-Managed Support for Tourism Projects

---

[View this email in your browser](#)

---



February 2, 2026

---

## **Applications are open for the 2026/27 Regional Tourism Organization 7 Programs**

---

RTO7's 2026/27 programs are now open, offering co-managed support to help tourism stakeholders strengthen marketing, build capacity, and advance sustainable growth across BruceGreySimcoe. Continuing with an intake approach allows RTO7 to review applications collectively and invest in initiatives that strengthen tourism and encourage collaboration.

Whether you're refining how you show up in market or planning a larger regional initiative, these programs are designed to align effort, stretch resources, and advance sustainable growth across BruceGreySimcoe.

---

*RTO7's offer of Programs is contingent upon the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming's approval of RTO7's 2026/27 Business Plan.*

## **Key Details:**

- Application Intake Period: February 2 – February 27, 2026 at 5:00 pm EST.
- Program Period: April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027.
- Program Details & Guidelines: Now available on the program websites (links below).
  - [Partnership Program](#)
  - [Operations Implementation Program](#)
  - [General Program FAQs](#)
- Who Can Apply: Tourism business operators, DMOs, municipalities, counties, tourism related not-for-profits, and other tourism stakeholders in BruceGreySimcoe.

## **Partnership Program**

The 2026/27 RTO7 Partnership Program supports tourism stakeholders in BruceGreySimcoe by offering matched funding for projects that align with RTO7's strategic plan. This is not a grant but a co-managed initiative designed to maximize regional resources and impact.

Program Streams include:

- Video/Image Development: Create compelling visual content for marketing.
- Storytelling: Using engaging narratives to tell your unique story through qualified writers or influencers.
- Social Media & Digital Advertising: Agency supported digital and/or social media advertising campaigns on Google and/or Meta platforms (depending on ad spend).
- Tourism Wayfinding Signage: Plan and install signage to improve large-scale, i.e., County or municipality level navigation with RTO7 signage standards.

- 
- Experience Development: Funds large-scale tourism projects, including product/experience development, research, and workforce initiatives to enhance regional tourism offerings.
  - French Translation Services: Translate marketing materials of interest to French-speaking audiences.
  - Trade Show Support: Partial reimbursement of booth costs to showcase at relevant trade shows.
  - \*NEW\* Technology Review & Implementation (Tech Compass): A guided review of your current technology, with tailored software recommendations and a clear action plan.

The Program Guidelines and links to all applications can be found on [RTO7.ca](https://www.rto7.ca).

Please schedule a call with [Alex Hogan](#) before submitting an application to confirm eligibility and alignment. Doing so helps prevent unnecessary work on applications that may not be suited to your objectives.

### **Operations Implementation Program (OIP)**

The Operations Implementation Program (OIP) is designed to support tourism stakeholders in BruceGreySimcoe by matching their operational and/or capital expenses with a \$1,000, agency-supported social media advertising campaign. Eligible expenses such as property taxes, mortgage payments, capital renovations, and inventory costs, are leveraged to enhance marketing efforts through targeted social media ads designed to increase visibility and attract visitors. The program is fully funded by RTO7, ensuring that there are no out-of-pocket costs for participants, making it a valuable resource for local tourism operators looking to grow in a competitive market.

\*NEW\* To be eligible for OIP funding, tourism stakeholders must be seeking marketing support for a new or revitalized initiative, or for the enhancement of an existing product or experience. If you can not meet this criteria, please consider investing in a campaign through the [Partnership Program - Digital & Social Media Advertising](#).

---

The Program Guidelines and application link can be found on [RTO7.ca](https://RTO7.ca).

Before starting the application, please book at time with [Robyn Hewitt](#) or [Kim Clarke](#) (click on the link) to ensure eligibility and alignment.

## Additional Resources

### Virtual Info Session

To support stakeholders in understanding the programs, application process, and regional priorities, we hosted our first virtual info session on January 28. You can watch the [recording of the session here](#).

A second information session is scheduled to support stakeholders with program overviews and Q&A on **Wednesday, February 11 at 2:30 p.m.** [Register to join us](#) for this session.

### FAQ

Review the FAQ for answers and general program information [here](#).

Thank you for your interest in collaborating with RTO7. Together, we can continue building a welcoming, resilient, and sustainable tourism economy for our region!



---

## Follow & Engage With RTO7



---

## 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**
  - **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**



# Bruce Grey Simcoe

ALWAYS IN SEASON

Click here to check out  
Typsy's courses! 

1000+ lessons.  
100+ expert instructors.  
Infinite possibilities.



LEARN MORE

**Careers  
Tourism**

---

# T3 Accelerator Podcast



---

*Copyright © 2026 Regional Tourism Organization 7, All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this email either because you subscribed to our newsletter, you have an operator listing on [BruceGreySimcoe.com](http://BruceGreySimcoe.com) or you are involved in the tourism industry in the counties of Bruce, Grey and Simcoe.

**Our mailing address is:**

P.O. Box 973

Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

705-888-8728

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

**Not A Subscriber?**

If you aren't yet subscribed to our newsletter, click [HERE](#) to stay up-to-date on what's happening in our region.



**Kelly Lush**

---

**From:** Madeline Khuri <maddie-huronpines.org@shared1.ccsend.com>  
**Sent:** February 3, 2026 12:53 PM  
**To:** info@huronkinloss.com  
**Subject:** Lake Huron Forever Network Update



**"Of all the paths you take in life, make some lead to the lake."  
- unknown**

---

The Lake Huron Forever Newsletter is sent out quarterly as a way to celebrate network accomplishments, highlight upcoming opportunities, share information, and better connect network partners.

We encourage you to share your stories, achievements, and insights to help us build a stronger network and sustain a healthy Lake Huron Forever. Check out our [Network Directory](#). Send in project updates, resources, or upcoming opportunities to be featured in our next newsletter.

Send updates here!

---

**UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES**

## Basinwide

[Coast Watchers](#) engages community members to take an active part in observing and improving the quality of nearshore waters through individual actions. Volunteers are trained to observe the coast, record shoreline conditions, and take steps to initiate action toward resiliency and sustainability. Join the community in [Ontario](#) or [Michigan](#).

## Michigan

The CSCI partnership is thrilled to announce that the [Steps to Resilience training course](#) is now live and available online! Climate adaptation planning is a complex challenge that requires strong leadership and effective collaboration. The Steps to Resilience employs a systematic approach and language designed to help all adaptation and resilience project participants work collaboratively and effectively to advance climate adaptation and resilience outcomes.

River Network's [River Rally](#) ignites collective action and power for the work ahead. This year the will gather on the banks of the San Antonio River in Texas this May 11-14, 2026. [Scholarship applications](#) will be accepted through February 25, 2026.

## Welcome Hannah to the Steering Committee!



We're excited to welcome Hannah Mico to the Lake Huron Forever Initiative Steering Committee. As Resilient Communities Manager at River Network, Hannah brings deep experience in equitable program design, environmental education, and community-centered planning, supporting organizations across the Great Lakes and beyond. With a background in Natural Resource Management and years of hands-on work in environmental education and outreach, Hannah's perspective will be a valuable asset as we advance our Lake Huron Forever work.

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### Oscoda Charter Township Protects 42 Acres as AuSable River Scenic Preserve



Forty-two forested acres on Hull Island are set to become the AuSable River Scenic Preserve following its transfer Oct. 28 from Huron Pines to Michigan’s Oscoda Charter Township, a Lake Huron Forever Community.

Located a stone’s throw west of downtown Oscoda ([map](#)), this pocket of wilderness features an oak-dominant forest with resident squirrels and deer, vistas of the AuSable and 3,300 feet of river frontage, and a web of winding footpaths. Along with having high conservation value for wildlife habitat and water quality protection, the site holds great potential for recreation for residents and visitors.

“In 2023 Huron Pines and Oscoda Township partnered to move forward on a vision to permanently protect this special place and make it available for the public to recreate, to access the river and to enjoy events like the Au Sable River Canoe Marathon which finishes just downstream from here,” said Abby Ertel, Director of Community Engagement at Huron Pines. “Today I’m excited that we’ve achieved that goal and we’re really looking forward to seeing the community of Oscoda enjoy this protected place.”



Protecting this property supports the goals of Oscoda Charter Township as a Lake Huron Forever Community. In their Lake Huron Forever pledge, the township stated their intention to “advance plans for the AuSable River Scenic Preserve with design and installation of signage, continued trail improvements, addressing temporary parking needs and including ongoing maintenance in annual budgets.” Huron Pines will continue working with township officials on a management plan which would include recreational access, invasive species control and other habitat restoration efforts.

Read more [here](#).

---

## Lake Huron Forever Partners Celebrated in Alpena



Successful movements like the Lake Huron Forever initiative need energetic leaders and motivated, grassroots partners. We have both in the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan (CFNEM) and the City of Alpena, whom we honored with special awards presented during a celebration Nov. 5 in Alpena.

Receiving the first-ever Lake Huron Forever Champion Award was CFNEM, presented by Huron Pines' Abigail Ertel who praised the foundation for leading the movement since day one, hosting the first One Water Gathering in Alpena and building a model for annual partner meetings across the initiative, and for defraying expenses so more communities can join the initiative, among many other contributions.

"All of the work Lake Huron Forever does in the region and across the Lake Huron basin would not be as impactful without strong local relationships and grassroots support to sustain our collective vision," Ertel said. "CFNEM is community and they willingly bring their connections and culture to Lake Huron Forever. They are with the initiative every step of the way energizing, leading, organizing, making connections and hyping the work."

"Our mighty Lake Huron faces pressure from many, many directions," Heraghty said, "but together through care, collaboration and commitment, we can continue to protect its waters, its shorelines and its spirit."



The City of Alpena received the first Community Conservation Leadership Award, presented by Huron Pines' Samantha Nellis to Montiel Birmingham, City Planning, Development, and Zoning Director. The City joined the initiative in 2023 and quickly began implementing projects which protect water quality and engage their community in conservation, including most recently the installation of rain and pollinator gardens at Bay View Park.

"These actions don't happen by accident but local leaders, city staff and residents care deeply about their environment and are willing to put in the work to protect it," Nellis said. "The City of Alpena has shown that effective conservation is not just about restoring habitats or building

infrastructure, it's about building community—fostering partnerships, inspiring stewardship and creating a culture of care for the natural world.”

Read more [here](#).

---

## Climate Action Conference Inspires the Next Generation of Changemakers



On a sunny October day in Owen Sound, Ontario, 125 middle school students gathered with a shared purpose: to become climate action leaders in their communities. The 2025 Youth Climate Action Conference brought together young people from across Grey Bruce to learn, collaborate, and develop projects that will make a real difference for Lake Huron and the planet.

Students from 25 schools across the Bluewater District School Board and Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board participated in hands-on workshops, heard from local changemakers, and developed action projects to bring back to their communities. They weren't just learning about climate change—they were learning how to do something about it.

"The conference showed me that even small actions can make a big difference," shared one student participant in a CBC interview the day after the event. "Now I know what I want to do at my school."

Shoreline health was woven throughout the conference agenda, appearing in workshops, presentations, and even the view outside the venue windows overlooking Lake Huron. The tiny forest planting was intentionally designed with bioswales to slow water movement—a nature-based solution to climate impacts that protects water quality.

These connections matter. As students develop personal relationships with Lake Huron through experiences like Carlene Keeshig's Water Walker workshop, they become advocates for clean drinking water and healthy shorelines for the future.

When 125 students return to their schools energized and equipped with project ideas, when teachers feel confident integrating climate into their lessons, when community mentors connect with youth changemakers—that's when the real work begins.

The 2025 Youth Climate Action Conference planted more than 160 trees. It planted ideas, connections, and hope for a generation ready to protect the waters and landscapes they love.

Read more [here](#).



Watch the highlight reel.

---

**Madeline Khuri**

Community Educator

Huron Pines

[maddie@huronpines.org](mailto:maddie@huronpines.org)

[lakehuronforever.org](http://lakehuronforever.org)

The Lake Huron Forever initiative was developed in 2019 by shoreline community foundations and conservation partners from the United States and Canada to advance water quality protection and healthy sustainable communities on both sides of the lake. The Lake Huron Forever initiative aims to support community conversation and collaboration in the design and implementation of on-the-ground work to strengthen the health and well-being of residents, as well as natural resources. In the coming years we strive to engage communities and activate collaboration and partnerships to sustain a healthy Lake Huron through the Lake Huron Forever initiative.



Huron Pines | 4241 Old U.S. 27 South Suite 2 | Gaylord, MI 49735 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today

**Kelly Lush**

---

**From:** Grey County Communications <communications@grey.ca>  
**Sent:** February 5, 2026 3:32 PM  
**To:** info@huronkinloss.com  
**Subject:** Grey County Connection - February 2026

[View this email in your browser](#)



**February 2026**



## In this newsletter:

- Updates and Initiatives
- Events and Opportunities
- News and Notices
- Upcoming Meetings



## Updates and Initiatives

## Plowing for Grey County



Meet Dan Lyons – snowplow operator for Grey County. Join Dan as he shares his thoughts on winter driving and how to be safe and respectful on the road during our snowy, Canadian season!

[See up to date road conditions and reporting](#)

[Sign up for e-mail road condition alerts](#)

---

## Grey County recognized as Age-Friendly Community



# Age-Friendly Grey County

Grey County is proud to be recognized by the Ontario Government as an age-friendly community. Grey County was one of multiple communities presented with the designation at a special ceremony hosted by the Ontario Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility on January 18 in Toronto.

Grey County’s first Age-Friendly Communities Strategy and Action Plan was launched in 2021 and continues to implement initiatives focused on eight dimensions of an age-

friendly community to support residents of all ages. A progress report on the action plan will be presented to Grey County Council later this year.

Congratulations also to the Town of Hanover, who received the same recognition at the ceremony!

**Learn more about the Age-Friendly Communities Strategy and Action Plan**



## **Events and Opportunities**

# **Help shape the 2026-2031 Community Safety and Well Being Plan**

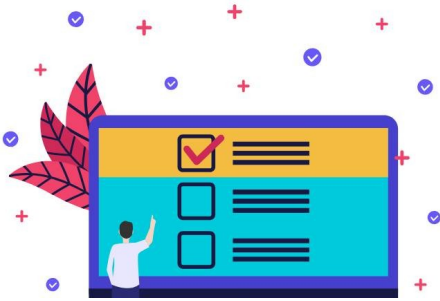


Grey Bruce CSWBP  
**Community Safety & Well-Being Planning**

[Grey Bruce Community Safety and Well-Being Planning](#) is inviting all residents to participate in a region-wide survey launching today and available until April 19, 2026. The survey is a key step in developing the 2026-2031 Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, which will guide collaborative action to improve



# ONLINE SURVEY



safety, health, and quality of life across Grey and Bruce Counties.

This survey allows community members to share their experiences, priorities, and concerns on issues such as housing, mental health, community belonging, crime and access to services. Feedback gathered will directly influence the next five-year CSWBP and will help partners better understand local strengths, challenges, and emerging needs.

[Complete the Survey](#)



## News and Notices

- February 4 - [Notice of application for approval to expropriate land](#)
- February 2 – [New SOS van brings new meaning to mobile clinic](#)
- February 2 - [Opioid poisonings decline in Grey County in 2025](#)
- January 28 - [Grey County awards construction tender for new EarlyON facility in Hanover](#)
- January 27 - [Grey Roots Announces Living Histories: Grey County](#)

- January 27 - [Grey County highlights local response to growing homelessness challenge](#)
- January 26 - [Grey County sees progress from delegations at 2026 ROMA conference](#)
- January 19 - [Grey Bruce CSWBP Safety and Well-Being Survey Now Open: Residents Encouraged to Shape the 2026-2031 CSWB Plan](#)
- January 19 - [Farmers invited to apply for Experimental Acres funding program](#)
- January 15 - [Busy ROMA Conference ahead for Grey County](#)

Read More Grey County News Stories



## Upcoming Meetings

Grey County Council meets on the second and fourth Thursday of the month immediately followed by a Committee of the Whole meeting. View highlights from the [January 22 meetings](#) and [January 8 meetings](#) of Grey County Council. Find videos of all council and public meetings on our [YouTube channel](#).

### Upcoming meetings:

- **February 5** - Urban Road and Road Exchange Task Force
- **February 5** - Community Services Committee
- **February 12** - Council and Committee of the Whole
- **February 19** - Planning and Economic Development Advisory Committee
- **February 26** - Council and Committee of the Whole

[View More Upcoming Meetings](#)



## Connect With Us

Do you have a question about a Grey County program or service? Send us a message through the link below.

[Contact Us](#)

*You have received this newsletter because you previously signed up to receive emails from Grey County. You can update your subscription preferences and sign up for specific updates and notices by using the link below. Please be sure to select the Grey County Connection to continue receiving this newsletter.*

*The link below will only work for direct recipients of this email. If you have been forwarded this newsletter and would like to sign up for updates or notices, please visit [grey.ca/newsletter](http://grey.ca/newsletter).*

[Update Preferences](#)



Copyright (C) 2026 Grey County. All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in at one of our web sites: [www.grey.ca](http://www.grey.ca), [www.visitgrey.ca](http://www.visitgrey.ca) or  
[www.greyroots.com](http://www.greyroots.com).

Our mailing address is:

Grey County  
595 9th Ave East  
Owen Sound, On N4K 3E3 Canada

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)



**Kelly Lush**

---

**From:** Community Living Kincardine & District <aswan@clkd.ca>  
**Sent:** February 5, 2026 10:01 AM  
**To:** Kelly Lush  
**Subject:** CLKD's February 2026 E-Newsletter is Here!



February 2026 Newsletter

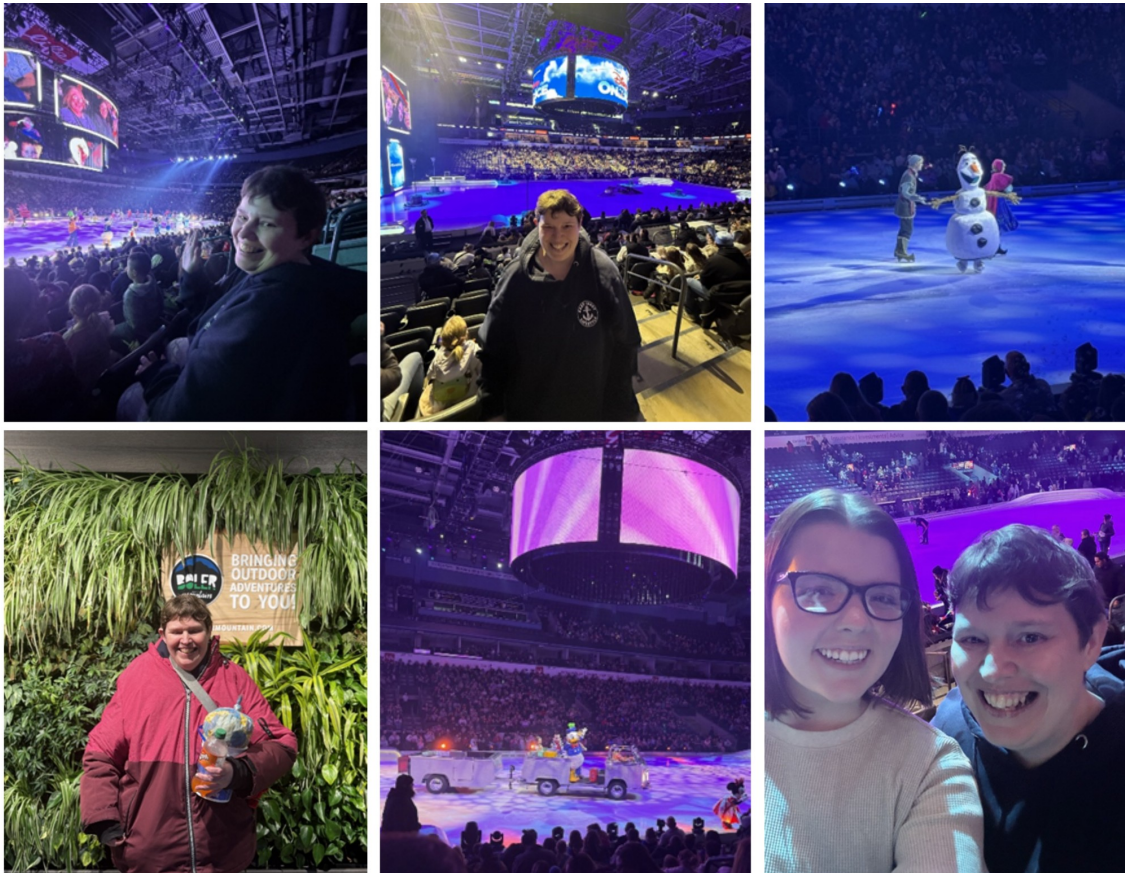
[View this email in your browser](#)



An inclusive caring community.

---

**A Magical Afternoon at Disney on Ice!**



Pictured above is a collage of pictures of Catherine at Disney on Ice.

After years of hoping and waiting, Catherine’s dream of seeing Disney on Ice finally came true! In past years, unpredictable weather had always gotten in the way of her plans, but this time, everything aligned perfectly. On a beautiful Saturday afternoon, Catherine made the two-hour journey to London, filled with excitement and anticipation, ready to experience the magic live on the ice.

**“This trip was truly a dream come true for me,”** Catherine shared. **“I was so excited when I found out it was finally going to happen!”**

From the moment the show began, the performance completely captured her attention. The music was energetic, the performers were lively and talented, and every moment on the ice was filled with color, movement, and magic. It was the kind of show you couldn’t take your eyes off of, with something new and exciting happening at every turn. Catherine adds, **“My favourite performance was Elsa’s! She was very impressive with her skating. She did many twists and turns on the ice!”**.

**“I loved the entire show,”** Catherine said. **“I had such a big smile on my face the whole time because it was just that amazing.”**

**“I loved seeing Mickey and Minnie! They are my favourite Disney characters. I also loved seeing the Giraffe’s and all the other animals,”** Catherine said with a smile. **“I**

was amazed at Mickey's car that was driving on the - ice I didn't know that was possible!

Catherine left the performance feeling joyful, inspired, and already nostalgic for the experience. "I purchased an Ariel doll as a souvenir. They had so many options, I couldn't decide what to buy!" Catherine adds.

The magic of Disney on Ice had made a lasting impression, and she's already looking forward to her next opportunity to attend.

---

## Lots of Socks 2026 Registration is OPEN!



On **March 21, 2026**, our community will once again turn up the colour for **World Down Syndrome Day**—and you're invited to be part of it! The day is all about celebrating inclusion, raising awareness, and sparking conversation about Down Syndrome by wearing your **loudest, brightest, patterned, and even mismatched socks** you can find.

Now in its **11th year**, **Community Living Kincardine & District (CLKD)** is proud to bring back a beloved local tradition: the **Lots of Socks Window Display Competition**.

Businesses, schools, and organizations are invited to decorate their windows with vibrant socks for a chance to **win the coveted Golden Sock Award**—and to show their commitment to an inclusive community.

## **A Community Tradition**

What began in 2015 with just a handful of storefronts has grown into a community-wide celebration, with **over 100 local businesses, schools, and organizations** participating each year. Colourful window displays line our streets, community members vote for their favourites, and everyone joins in by rocking bold socks on March 21.

## **Why Socks?**

The global Lots of Socks movement was created by **Down Syndrome International**. Socks were chosen because, when placed heel-to-heel, they resemble chromosomes. Down Syndrome occurs when a person is born with an extra **21st chromosome**, making socks a playful yet powerful symbol for awareness. Wearing them boldly—even over your pants—is encouraged if it gets people asking, *"What's this all about?"*

## **Why We Celebrate — and Why Portraits Matter**

Everyone deserves to feel seen and to belong. This year's window displays will again feature stunning portraits of community members living with Down Syndrome—celebrating each person for who they are and helping normalize disability in everyday life.

These beautiful portraits were captured by **Jamie Edwards of JME Photography Studio**, who generously volunteers his talent year after year. We are also incredibly grateful to **Bruce Power**, our valued partner, who prints all posters and portraits for this event. Their support helps bring these powerful stories into our community spaces.

## **Want to Participate? Register Now!**

**Registration is now open.**

Businesses, schools, and organizations can join by emailing **cmc@clkd.ca** by **February 13** with your business name and address. A poster and portrait will be delivered for your window display.

[Learn More](#)

## Spreading Sweetness, One Cookie at a Time



Pictured above is a photo collage of Saratoga residents baking and delivering cookies in their neighborhood.

This past December, the residents of 299 were busy whipping up something special, and it smelled *delicious!* After such a positive experience last year, everyone decided to bring back a favourite tradition: baking homemade cookies and sharing them with the wonderful neighbours who have shown us so much kindness.

The kitchen quickly filled with holiday cheer as everyone pitched in to bake batches of chocolate chip and shortbread cookies. Of course, quality control was very important! There was plenty of tasting involved to make sure each cookie was just right! Once baked, the cookies were carefully packed into festive holiday bags, ready to spread some Christmas joy.

Braving a cool but sunny winter day, Bethany, Samm, and Randy bundled up and headed out to knock on neighbours' doors, cookies in hand and smiles at the ready. Merry Christmas wishes were shared all around, along with lots of friendly greetings.

Randy shared, **"It was a cool and sunny day, but it was a great day to hand out cookies to the neighbours! I loved saying hi to everyone and wishing them a Merry Christmas. I can't wait to do it again next year!"**

Beth added, **"I loved baking cookies, and tasting them too! We had to make sure they were good before we handed them out. We know many of the neighbours, so it was nice to wish them a Merry Christmas."** (translated)

Samm summed it up perfectly: **"It was nice to say hi to everyone and hand out the cookies! I love Christmas!"**

Back in the kitchen, the joy continued. Jeffrey happily shared, **"I love making cookies. The chocolate chip ones are my favourite! It feels good to give cookies to others—it makes me happy!"**

Catherine agreed, saying, **"I enjoyed making cookies from scratch for our neighbours. They often bring us treats, so it was nice to return the favour! I would love to do this every year!"**

With full hearts (and empty cookie trays), the residents of 299 proved once again that a small act of kindness and a homemade cookie can make the season even brighter.

---

## **Christmas Party Fun!**



Pictured above is a photo collage of the Prance Christmas party (top) and the Her Strength Studio Christmas party (bottom).

Prance hosted a festive Christmas party in December that Jen, Samm, and Susan were excited to attend. The celebration was extra special with a visit from Santa himself, bringing big smiles and holiday cheer to everyone. Guests enjoyed tasty snacks, meaningful connections, and the chance to express gratitude to the incredible Prance instructors and, of course, the wonderful horses.

Jen shared her excitement, saying, **“I was so excited to see Santa! I gave him a big hug! It was nice seeing my instructor again to say goodbye before the next session.”**

Susan also loved the experience, adding, **“I loved seeing Santa! I enjoyed getting a ride on the horse-drawn carriage!”** (translated). Samm agreed, noting, **“My favourite part of the party was saying hi to everyone and getting a ride on the horse-drawn carriage. It was so much fun!”**

The Prance team is already looking forward to welcoming everyone back for the summer sessions.

The festive fun continued at Her Strength Studio, where Catherine was happy to attend their Christmas party. Catherine has been attending the gym twice a week while working toward her fitness goals.

The evening featured grazing-style appetizers, great music, and plenty of opportunities to socialize. Catherine shared, **“It was nice to enjoy an evening with my fitness instructors and the friends I’ve made through the gym. The food was so good, and it was so fun to connect with everyone! I loved being able to dress up and enjoy a night out on the town! I have loved my experience at Her Strength Studio. Everyone is so nice and supportive there!”**

Catherine is looking forward to continuing her fitness journey at Her Strength Studio in the new year, and continuing to work on her goal of becoming a healthier person!

---

## **Learning Together & Celebrating Inclusion in our Classrooms**

# INCLUSIVE EDUCATION MONTH CONTEST

WIN A  
**PIZZA  
PARTY!**



COMMUNITY LIVING  
Kincardine and District  
*Inspiring Possibilities*

Show us how your class practices, or learns about inclusion at school!

Throughout the month of February, send us **videos, photos, stories or copies of finished assignments** showing **classroom inclusivity**. Submissions will be posted online and will be entered into a draw at the end of the month.

\*Contest open to Schools/Daycares in the municipality of Kincardine or Township of Huron-Kinloss. Winner will be contacted early March to arrange the pizza party.

Submit your entry by email to:  
[jsharp@clkd.ca](mailto:jsharp@clkd.ca)

**Include:**

- School or Organization
- Educator's name, grade & contact information
- Permission to post photos online

**ENTER BEFORE  
FEB. 27th!**

Visit  
[clkd.ca/inclusiveeducation](http://clkd.ca/inclusiveeducation)  
for details, resources and  
submissions!

**ENTRY DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 27TH, 2026**

**February is National Inclusive Education Month**, a time to celebrate diverse learning environments and reaffirm our commitment to ensuring all students—regardless of ability or background—can learn, grow, and thrive together. Inclusive education is about belonging, equity, and creating welcoming spaces where every learner is supported.

For the past three years, CLKD has proudly hosted an **Inclusive Education and Accessibility Contest** for schools across **Kincardine and Huron-Kinloss**. This annual

contest highlights ways students and educators bring inclusion to life through creativity, empathy, and action.

### **Celebrating Our Winners**

Each year, teachers and students across our community show leadership and creativity in building more inclusive and accessible learning environments.

- **2025 – Huron Heights PS, Grade 5 (Kirsten Ryan):** ASL learning, a quiet lunch club, inclusion-based show and tell, collaborative art supporting anxiety, and student-led initiatives to improve accessibility.
- **2024 – Huron Heights PS, Grade 6 (Miranda Graham):** Powerful work challenging stereotypes and promoting empathy.
- **2023 – Huron Heights PS, Grade 3 (Alanna Hageraats-Boucher):** Exploring how we are more alike than different and redesigning school spaces to be more accessible.

### **Join the Inclusive Education Contest**

We invite classrooms and early learning environments to showcase how they practice and promote inclusion.

Prize: A Pizza Party for the winning class!

#### **How to enter:**

- Submit a **video, photo, story, or class assignment** showing inclusive learning in action
- Email entries to [jsharp@clkd.ca](mailto:jsharp@clkd.ca) by **February 27, 2026**
- Include your **school/organization name, educator's name, grade, and contact information**

Need ideas? Check out **CLKD's Inclusive Education Kits**, available free online with ready-to-use lessons and activities.

### **Let's Keep Building Inclusive Communities**

The growing participation in this contest shows that students and educators are ready to lead meaningful change. Let's continue working together to ensure every learner feels valued and included.

**Share your story. Celebrate inclusion. Let's make February a month to remember—together.**

[Learn More](#)

---

## **Charlene's New Cat - Meet Biscuit!**



Pictured above is a photo collage of Charlene with her new cat, Biscuit.

After having to say goodbye to her beloved kitty Belle, Charlene noticed her apartment felt a little too quiet and lonely. And then along came Biscuit; the snuggly, loving companion she needed.

**“I didn’t think I would be ready to adopt a new cat so soon, but when my friend reached out and let me know about a stray that had been abandoned on their farm, I had to help—it’s too cold outside for a kitty.”** She explained.

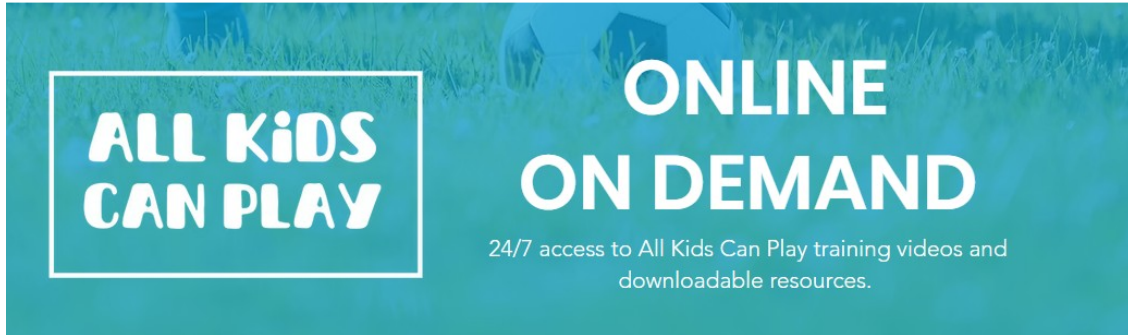
The two have an undeniable bond already, **“He nestled right into my neck, snuggles with me all the time, and even gives me kisses on the cheek. My heart is so full.”**

Charlene shared that she loves when her friends get to meet Biscuit. Just the other day her neighbor Kelly came over to say hello! According to Kelly, the rumors are true—he is the sweetest kitty out there.

Congratulations, Charlene and Biscuit!

## **\*NEW RESOURCE ALERT\***

# **All Kids Can Play Resources Now Available Online and On Demand!**



Thanks to the generous support of the Community Foundation Grey Bruce, the popular **All Kids Can Play** training is now available for free, online and on-demand!

The 6-part video series and downloadable resources are designed for recreation leaders - staff, volunteers, coaches and parents – who are working to make their programs more welcoming, inclusive and accessible to children of all abilities!

[Click Here for Instant Access](#)

---

## Upcoming Events & Activities

---



### **Pink Shirt Day**

**February 25**

Wear a pink shirt on February 25 to take a stand against bullying and show your support for raising awareness about its impact in schools, workplaces, homes, and online. Let's unite for kindness, respect, and inclusion!

---



## CLKD's Charity Golf Classic

### Save the Date - Friday July 17, 2026

CLKD's annual Charity Golf Classic is returning to Ainsdale Golf Course!

Mark your calendars and secure your foursome - Friday July 17, 2026. 1pm shotgun start.

Details and registration information to come.

## Family Support Group

*for families of loved ones with different abilities*  
 9:00-10:30am - Davidson Centre, Bruce Telecom Room  
 Free - Coffee and muffins provided!



Questions? Contact cevans@clkd.ca

2026 Dates	
January	8
February	12
March	12
April	9
May	14
June	11
September	10
October	8
November	12
December	10

## Parent Led Support Group

Calling all parents and caregivers of children with different abilities. Join us for a welcoming space to connect, share, and learn from others who truly understand your journey.

**Meetings are held the second Thursday of every month.**

Next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 12 | 9:00 – 10:30 AM at the Davidson Centre, Bruce Telecom Room.

Free and open to all—drop-ins welcome! For more info, visit [clkd.ca](http://clkd.ca) or email [cevans@clkd.ca](mailto:cevans@clkd.ca)



## Baby & Me



Hosted by  
**COMMUNITY LIVING**  
 Inclusion and Support  
 Inspiring Possibilities

## Baby & Me Groups

Every Thursday of the Month 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!



[Like CLKD on Facebook](#)



[Watch CLKD on YouTube](#)



[Send us an email](#)

If this email has been forwarded to you, please consider subscribing to the Community Living Kincardine and District monthly e-newsletter by [signing up here](#).

**Our mailing address is:**

Community Living Kincardine &  
District  
286 Lambton St.  
Kincardine, On N2Z 2Z3  
Canada

[Add us to your address book](#)

*Copyright © 2026 Community Living Kincardine & District,  
All rights reserved.*

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)





# Media Release

Feb. 5, 2026

## **Grey-Bruce residents invited to take survey exploring link between childhood experiences and health**

Grey-Bruce residents can help strengthen public health programs and services in Ontario communities by participating in a pilot project aimed at exploring how childhood experiences affect health and well-being later in life.

Grey Bruce Public Health is collaborating with Public Health Ontario (PHO) on a Community Well-Being Survey.

Survey results will assist PHO and public health units to better understand the link between early life experiences and adult health, so they can design more effective, evidence-informed programs and services that support healthier communities over the long term.

“We are happy to support this Public Health Ontario-led project in Grey-Bruce,” says GBPH Physician Consultant Dr. Brittany Graham.

“Grey-Bruce is made up of a diverse population with varied childhood experiences. These are the types of stories public health is hoping to learn from as part of this project. When we get a better understanding of the challenges people face early in life, we can break down barriers to health and build systems that support every person, every family, every community.”

Beginning this month, many homes throughout Grey-Bruce will receive a postcard in the mail with a unique passcode and instructions to complete the Community Well-Being Survey online. Households have been randomly selected to receive a postcard, using a Canada Post mailing list, to ensure a fair and representative sample.

The survey is designed to be quick and confidential, taking about 20 minutes to complete.

A healthier future for all.

101 17<sup>th</sup> Street East, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 0A5 [www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca](http://www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca)

519-376-9420

1-800-263-3456

Fax 519-376-0605

All responses will be confidential and used solely for research and public health planning. The survey will remain open until Feb. 27, 2026.

Grey-Bruce residents who do not receive a postcard in the mail can still complete the survey by visiting [publichealthontario.ca/childhoodsurvey](https://publichealthontario.ca/childhoodsurvey).

Everyone who completes a survey will be entered into a draw for a chance to win 1 of 10 \$100 gift cards.

“At Public Health Ontario, our work is grounded in evidence that reflects the realities of people’s lives. By participating in this survey, Grey-Bruce residents are helping to build a clearer picture of how childhood experiences influence adult health. This knowledge will inform more effective, equitable public health programs that support individuals and families now and for years to come,” says Michael Sherar, President and CEO, Public Health Ontario.

For more information, visit [www.publichealthontario.ca/childhoodsurvey](https://www.publichealthontario.ca/childhoodsurvey).

**For More Information:**

To connect with the Medical Officer of Health or the program manager, please contact:  
Denis Langlois, Communications Co-ordinator,  
Grey Bruce Public Health,  
519-376-9420 or 1-800-263-3456 ext. 1315,  
[Communications@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca](mailto:Communications@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca)

## Kelly Lush

---

**From:** Kelly Lush  
**Sent:** February 17, 2026 8:41 AM  
**To:** Kelly Lush  
**Subject:** FW: GCFA/BCFA Politicians Meeting

---

**From:** Jackie Pennings <[grey1@wightman.ca](mailto:grey1@wightman.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 9, 2026 7:50 AM  
**To:** [bruce@ofa.on.ca](mailto:bruce@ofa.on.ca) <[bruce@ofa.on.ca](mailto:bruce@ofa.on.ca)>  
**Subject:** GCFA/BCFA Politicians Meeting

Good Morning,

Attached please find an invitation to our annual Politicians Meeting. If you could extend it to Mayors, Deputy Mayors, Councillors and all Senior Staff we would be appreciative.

The Bruce County and Grey County Federations of Agriculture feel it is important to take time to provide our elected Municipal, Provincial and Federal government representatives with constructive input from grassroots organizations. We would like to enhance communication between the agricultural industry and all levels of government so we might create a better understanding of issues creating barriers to successful rural communities and profitable farming families.

**We would like to cordially invite you to our  
18<sup>th</sup> Annual Politicians Meeting on Saturday March 21st from 10am to 3pm  
(Location Elmwood Community Centre)  
Lunch will be provided.**

***We hope you will consider this a priority in your busy schedule.***

Several commodity groups will be invited to participate by providing a brief and then speaking to a portion of their brief during the day. All briefs will be compiled into a portfolio and we will endeavor to provide a copy to you at least one week in advance of the meeting for your review.

The comments over the past few years have truly been encouraging as the meeting is educational for everyone with open, non-confrontational dialogue. We would be very pleased if you could attend and request a **response by March 6th.**

Sincerely,

*Lindsey Coles*, President  
Grey County Federation of Agriculture

*Chris Cossitt*, President  
Bruce County Federation of Agriculture

If there are any topics you feel important that you would like to see us include please let me know.

Thank you

Jackie Pennings  
Office Administrator  
Grey and Bruce Federations of Agriculture  
446 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Hanover , ON N4N 1P9  
519-364-3050 Ext. 1

[grey@ofa.on.ca](mailto:grey@ofa.on.ca)  
[bruce@ofa.on.ca](mailto:bruce@ofa.on.ca)

**Kelly Lush**

---

**From:** Regional Tourism Organization 7 <info@rto7.ca>  
**Sent:** February 11, 2026 9:13 AM  
**To:** info@huronkinloss.com  
**Subject:** BruceGreySimcoe February Tourism Industry Insights

---

[View this email in your browser](#)

# REGIONAL TOUR ORGANIZATION

February 11, 2026



Developed through the RTO7 Partnership Program - Video/Image Development. Photo by [Andrea Hamlin Photography](#)

---

## In This Newsletter:

...at RTO7  
Funding Programs: Mid-Intake Check-In  
Annual Info Session TODAY!  
Preparation  
Business Support  
Red Rainbow Registered Accreditation  
Program  
Simcoe County Partnership Fund  
Bruce  
Courses, Workshops & Events  
Bike Free Webinar  
Knowledge Forum  
Simcoe County Film Industry Workshops  
Used It  
Transit Employer Survey (Bruce/Grey)  
and the Region  
Named second-best fishing city in Canada for 2026  
Recognized in China  
Water  
?

---

## What's Going On...at RTO7

### **Programs: Mid-Intake Check-In**

The intake period for the RTO7 2026/27 Funding Programs, supporting tourism operators, DMOs, municipalities, counties and more.

*Subject to approval of RTO7's 2026/27 Business Plan by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming.*

nd:

on February 27, 2026, at 5:00 pm EST

y Period: April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027

ations must be submitted during the intake window, even if your project takes place later in the fiscal year.

### ision Today

ur final virtual information session is **today at 2:30 pm**. This session will walk through the Partnership Program and the Op  
n (OIP) and provide guidance on program fit and RTO7 alignment. [Register to attend here](#).

on

lication, connecting with an RTO7 team member is **required**. Please set up a meeting with [Kim Clarke](#), [Alex Hogan](#), o  
e short conversations help confirm the right program or stream, align your goals and budget with RTO7 priorities, and sav  
s applies to both the Partnership Program and the Operations Implementation Program (OIP).

FAQs, and application links are available on [RTO7.ca](#). We encourage you to review the details and book time with the t

---

## Funding & Business Support

### ow Registered Applications (Limited Time Offer)

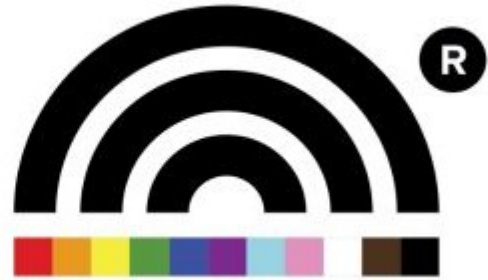
lity, and attractions businesses can access **fully funded Rainbow Registered applications until March 31, 2026**. Appli  
are 100% covered, providing an opportunity to achieve national accreditation for 2SLGBTQI+ inclusion at no cost.

regional code: FedDev100

Discovery Harbour, Upwards Arts Studio, The Town of Saugeen Shores, The June Motel, and other tourism partners alr  
r-ready experiences.

**today!**

**DLY ACCREDITED**  
**ÉDITÉ.E.S AVEC FIERTÉ**



**Rain**  
**Reg**  
**Arc-**  
**Offi**

### **Development Program**

The Rural Ontario Development (ROD) Program will close on February 26, 2026, 5 p.m. ET. The ROD Program provides capital economic development, including initiatives that address workforce challenges, enhance business growth, attract and create jobs, foster community partnerships, and transform community assets. To learn more about the program and the funding streams, please visit [www.ruralontario.ca](#) directly.

### **Simcoe County Partnership Fund – Deadline Coming Up**

Remember that the 2026 Experience Simcoe County Partnership Fund is currently open for applications. Applications must be submitted by February 26, 2026, 5 p.m. ET to be considered for funding. The fund aims to support and enhance tourism across Simcoe County. To learn more about the fund, please visit the [Experience Simcoe County Partnership Fund](#) Overview document, please visit the [Experience Simcoe County Partnership Fund](#) webpage.

### **Application Update**

Applications are accepted every year, so if you're thinking about applying, don't wait. Funding is often allocated quickly and only complete, eligible projects are funded. Spruce the Bruce supports projects that improve downtown storefronts, add residential units to mixed-use buildings, remove accessibility barriers, and support agriculture or tourism properties. Learn more and apply at [www.sprucethebruce.com](http://www.sprucethebruce.com)

Simcoe County Partnership Fund and Spruce the Bruce funding can be leveraged with RTO7 funding. Contact [RTO7](#) or [www.rto7.ca](#)

## **Featured Webinars, Workshops & Events**

## in BruceGreySimcoe

s, well-connected paved and gravel routes, extensive rail trails, and growing mountain bike networks, Bruce, Grey, and Simcoe  
cycling visitors each year.

ike are pleased to invite you to join a free webinar on **Thursday, February 26 from 12:00 to 1:00 pm** to learn about exc  
n the region, and how to tap into the growing cycle tourism market by getting certified as bicycle friendly with Ontario By E

itation below for details and [register](#). Everyone is welcome!



Webinar

ation Bike:

ng Cyclists in  
rey & Simcoe



, 2026 12:00 - 1:00 PM

[ontariobikebrucegreysimcoe.eventbrite.ca](https://www.ontariobikebrucegreysimcoe.eventbrite.ca)

welcome cyclists & get certified as bicycle  
y | Local cycling updates | Tap into  
o's growing cycle tourism market

Forum

The Forum hosted by Nottawasaga Futures is taking place on Friday, February 27, 2026. Join industry leaders and experts and discuss issues affecting the agricultural sector today. Following the Forum will be a public Vendors Market.



**Ag Knowledge Forum: Launching Your Local Food Business**  
**February 27, 2026**  
**Community Centre, 63 Tupper St W, Alliston**  
**9 am–12 pm • Vendors Market: 12 pm–3 pm**

**Featuring**

**GRANTS**

Halton Region Fed of AG

**FARMERS JOURNEY**

The Mushroomery at  
White Pine Meadows

**CULTIVATING LOCAL**

Ontario Federation of AG

**FOOD SAFETY**

Simcoe Muskoka District  
Health Unit

**Thank You, Sponsors**



Person at the door or e-transfer in advance to [accountingedc@nottawasaga.com](mailto:accountingedc@nottawasaga.com)

Call: (705) 502-0311

Email: [Robin@nottawasaga.com](mailto:Robin@nottawasaga.com)

Breakfast will be served. Registration not required for the vendors market portion of the event.

**County Film Industry Toolkit Workshops**

The Strnad of the South Georgian Bay Media Association, Tourism Simcoe County is thrilled to present two sessions designed to help filmmakers and service providers unlock opportunities in the growing film industry. For more information and/or to register, please use the link below.

---

***s and Location Services***

19, 2026 | 10:00am-12:00pm

Tiffin Centre for Conservation

***s, Vendors, Services and Workforce***

24, 2026 | 10:00am-12:00pm

m, Horseshoe Valley Resort

---

## **In Case You Missed It**

### **Employer Survey**

ur counties are invited to share their workforce and customer transportation needs through a short online survey. The sur  
mes to transit service and your thoughts on existing transportation options.

egional Transit Study at [grey.ca/regional-transit](https://grey.ca/regional-transit) or click the image below to complete the survey.



## News from the Region

[Best fishing city in Canada for 2026](#)

[China](#)

ijing, Destination Ontario was named a **Top 5 Sustainable Family Travel Destination** at the 21st National Tourism Quality Award. This recognition reflects how sustainability is increasingly influencing global travel decisions. Click the title link to read the news.

 Share  Share  Forward

## Follow & Engage With RTO7



**BETTER:**

### Resources

Resources aim to support business growth, foster collaboration, promote sustainability, provide market insights, attract more visitors to BruceGreySimcoe. Click on the links below for more info:

[Partnership Programs](#)

[Business Implementation Program](#)

[BruceGreySimcoe Free Training](#)

[Operator](#)

[Operator Podcast](#)

[Tourism Biz Bites from the 7](#)

[In Tourism](#)

[Compass Digital Toolkit](#)

[e Guide](#)

[Connection Blog](#)

[Tourism Operator Listings on BruceGreySimcoe.com](#)

[Getting Out a Promotion?](#)

[Promotions Listings on BruceGreySimcoe.com](#) (complete and up-to-date operator profile required)

[Special or Event!](#)




# Bruce Grey Simcoe

ALWAYS IN SEASON

Click here to check out  
Typsy's courses! 

1000+ lessons.  
100+ expert instructors.  
Infinite possibilities.



Regional Tourism O

## SUSTAINABLE TOURISM



LEARN MORE

# Careers Tourism

# T3 Accelerator Podcast



onal Tourism Organization 7, All rights reserved.

mail either because you subscribed to our newsletter, you have an operator listing on BruceGreySimcoe.com or you are i  
of Bruce, Grey and Simcoe.

:

0

u receive these emails?

references or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

ed to our newsletter, click [HERE](#) to stay up-to-date on what's happening in our region.



# Human Trafficking Awareness

## Community Town Hall

---



**Wednesday, March 11, 2026**

**6:30 PM - 9:00 PM**

Doors open at 6:00 PM



**Walkerton Community  
Centre**

290 Durham St W  
Walkerton, ON  
N0G 2V0

- **Speakers**
- **Trade Expo**
- **Refreshments**
- **Prizes**

Join us for an evening of learning how Human Trafficking affects our community, families & youth. Hear from police and lived experience stories from guest speakers



## Kelly Lush

---

**From:** Lake Huron Coastal Centre <coastalcentre-lakehuron.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>  
**Sent:** February 20, 2026 9:32 AM  
**To:** Kelly Lush  
**Subject:** Announcing the return of our beach restoration program - Green Ribbon Champion



## 2026 Marks the Return of the Green Ribbon Champion Program

We are pleased to announce the return of the **Green Ribbon Champion** program to the Lake Huron shoreline!

The program offers beach assessments for shoreline land holders, followed by recommendations from LHCC staff on how to improve shoreline resiliency. Our guidance covers a range of coastal stewardship focus areas, including proper storage of equipment, beach access pathways, dune profile and invasive species management.



### Through this program, we aim to:

- Build awareness of the importance of naturalized shorelines and functioning dune systems.
- Strengthen partnerships with community groups, municipalities, and residents.
- Engage the public through hands-on workshops and restoration activities.
- Enhance shoreline resilience to erosion and climate change.

Registration in 2026 will **only be open to past participants** seeking follow-up site assessments for work previously completed on their property through GRC. Registration for new participants will open in 2027.

The program will operate along the Lake Huron shoreline from **Point Clark to Southampton**.

[Learn more about GRC](#)

We would like to thank Canada Water Agency, Birds Canada, and the municipalities of Huron Kinloss, Kincardine and Saugeen Shores for their continued partnership and support of this program!

---

## The Dunes that Shape Our Shore

We're proud to share a new video highlighting the beauty, resiliency, and ecological importance of dunes. Wasaga Beach is a beloved tourism destination with a thriving ecosystem. It's also part of a globally rare freshwater dune ecosystem that supports incredible biodiversity, including the endangered piping plover.

Natural shores and coastal dunes do far more than shape the shoreline. They act as natural barriers against high water and storms, help prevent erosion, filter and store groundwater, and create habitat for specialized plants and wildlife found nowhere else.



Healthy beach ecosystems help ensure that Wasaga Beach remains beautiful, resilient, and full of life for generations to come. Without healthy dunes, there is no thriving beach.

Thank you to Ontario Nature for inviting us to be part of this initiative, Birds Canada for their collaboration and expertise, and Powerline Films for bringing this story to life. Together, this partnership reflects the shared commitment needed to protect Ontario's natural shorelines now and into the future.

[Learn More](#)

---

## Welcoming Three New Voices to the LHCC Board

We are thrilled to welcome three exceptional new Directors to the Lake Huron Coastal Centre Board: Jennifer Adams, Andrea Goold, and Erik Downing. Their collective expertise in freshwater science, environmental leadership, and

watershed management will help strengthen LHCC's mission to protect and restore the Lake Huron shoreline.

### **Jennifer Adams, M.Sc., Ph.D.**



Jennifer is a freshwater scientist with more than 15 years of experience studying and protecting lakes, rivers, and wetlands. Her work has focused on how climate change, water flow changes, and pollution, including microplastics, affect freshwater ecosystems across Canada and internationally. She currently works as the Scientific Advisor at the Bruce Peninsula Biosphere Association. In the past, she has held research roles at the University of Waterloo and the University of Toronto, leading teams, working with community partners and government agencies, and sharing findings through scientific publications and reports. She brings strong scientific expertise, collaborative leadership, and a deep commitment to freshwater stewardship to the Board.

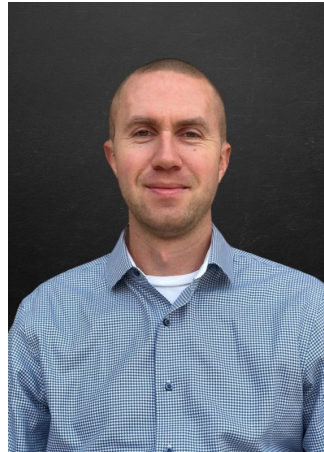
### **Andrea Goold, HBESc., M.Sc.**



Andrea is a senior environmental professional with nearly 20 years of experience in sustainability, regulatory compliance, and community engagement. At Ontario Power Generation, she leads Indigenous engagement, while also supporting environmental permitting and strategic planning across multiple energy sectors. Andrea holds a Master of Science in Biology and a Bachelor of Environmental Science from Lakehead University, and her work has been recognized through several leadership and achievement award nominations. She has also demonstrated strong community leadership through long-term volunteer and board service, including a decade as President of the

Lakehead Conservation Foundation. Andrea brings deep governance experience and a commitment to environmental stewardship to the Board.

**Erik Downing, B.ES.**



Erik is the General Manager and Secretary-Treasurer of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority, where he oversees day-to-day operations, finances, and field programs supporting watershed health and natural resource protection. He brings more than 20 years of experience in environmental planning and conservation, with a career spanning land use planning, natural hazard management, shoreline protection, and regulatory oversight. In his leadership roles, he has worked closely with municipalities, agencies, and community partners on complex environmental and development issues. Erik holds a Bachelor of Environmental Studies from York University and has contributed sector-wide leadership

through his work with provincial conservation authority initiatives, including co-chairing a Great Lakes coastal working group. He brings practical governance experience, regulatory insight, and a strong commitment to environmental stewardship to the Board.

---

Donations directly support Lake Huron Coastal Centre’s conservation programs. These programs help provide shoreline communities with unique ways to connect with nature while working to protect the health of Lake Huron.

To support our work, click the button below.





[www.lakehuron.ca](http://www.lakehuron.ca)

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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



For email marketing for free, visit [www.constarcontact.com](#)