

# Grey County Economic Development

OPPORTUNITY LIVES HERE

## WARDENS BREAKFAST - YOU'RE INVITED!

**Warden Alan Barfoot invites you to a Wardens Breakfast on Thursday February 18, 2016.**

Learn more about the exciting projects Grey County Economic Development is working on and what's to come. This event is a great opportunity to network with elected officials, staff and fellow business owners.

**Thursday February 18, 2016**

**Best Western Inn on the Bay, Owen Sound 7:30AM – 9:30AM**

**RSVP to Meredith Bowers no later than Monday February 8, 2016**

519-376-3365 Ext 6120 or by emailing [meredith.bowers@grey.ca](mailto:meredith.bowers@grey.ca) (Seating is limited)



*Grey County Warden Alan Barfoot*

## Business Visitation Program

Grey County's Business Visitation Program, is an on-going monthly event and a key component of the "Made In Grey" County Economic Development Strategy.

The Business Visitation Program gives local business owners the opportunity to connect with County and municipal officials in a casual setting to share their experiences and discuss issues affecting their enterprise. In turn, County officials see first-hand knowledge how businesses operate and can better

understand the successes and challenges they face. This experience leads to growth, open communication and development opportunities for all parties involved.

If you're interested in highlighting your business at an upcoming Business Visitation, please contact: Meredith Bowers, Economic Development Officer  
Phone: (519) 376-3365 ext. 6120 [meredith.bowers@grey.ca](mailto:meredith.bowers@grey.ca)

# EmployerOne Survey NEEDS YOUR INPUT

Grey County employers are invited to participate in the second annual **EmployerOne Survey**. This confidential survey is open from January 1 to 31, 2016, and is to gather information on the local workforce.

The EmployerOne survey lets employers voice their current occupational, training and skills needs. The Four County Labour Market Planning Board uses this valuable information to gain a better understanding of the county's unique challenges and needs, and to answer local workforce challenges with local solutions.

"We want to continue using employer

feedback to form the foundation for many of our workplace initiatives," said Gemma Mendez-Smith, Executive Director of the Four County Labour Market Planning Board (Planning Board).

In addition to using the information to create individual Local Lens reports for the counties of Bruce, Grey, Huron and Perth, the information is also used to create Local Lens summaries for the agriculture, construction, manufacturing and retail trade sectors. Previous Local Lens and the survey observations can be found at [www.planningboard.ca](http://www.planningboard.ca).

Survey findings will be presented to



local stakeholders and will help the planning board to design well-crafted strategic plans so we have a workforce to meet or exceed the demands of an ever-changing labour market.

For further information on the survey, please call the Planning Board at 519-881-2725 or email [info@planningboard.ca](mailto:info@planningboard.ca).

**Click here for the survey.**  
<http://bit.ly/1JSX5hh>

## Business Information Update

### Stay Connected!

We are currently updating our Grey County and Area Major Employers List. Annual updates allow community partners to use current information to formulate vital business statistics, which aid in the development of local and regional initiatives to support and encourage economic growth.

Please use the link below to confirm your business information and tell us about successes or challenges experienced this year.

**Click here for survey.**  
<http://svy.mk/10GvcR3>

**Survey  
Submission  
deadline is  
January 31, 2016.**

## 2016: THE YEAR OF THE CONNECTED COUNTY

We've been laying the groundwork for becoming a smart and connected community since 2012. Under the banner of the Connected County project, Grey County has been a leader in regional initiatives such as the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus' Southwest Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) initiative and the Southwest Economic Alliance's Intelligent Region Initiative. In late 2014, we hosted a Master Class with Robert Bell, a co-founder of the Intelligent Community Forum (ICF). Throughout 2015, Grey County began to ramp up its own intelligent community initiative - and 2016 will mark the launch of Grey County's campaign to achieve recognition as a Smart 21 community by the ICF.

Visit [www.grey.ca/smart](http://www.grey.ca/smart) for more information about what makes an intelligent community, learn about key projects happening throughout our region, and stay up to date on the latest news and events through the blog. If you're interested in how we can work together to create connections and promote sustainable prosperity in Grey County, get in touch. We want to hear from you. To learn how to participate, contact Ashleigh Weeden at [ashleigh.weeden@grey.ca](mailto:ashleigh.weeden@grey.ca) or 519-372-0219 ext. 1255.

CONNECTED  
COUNTY



# HANOVER'S 2015 TOP 10

On December 2, 2015, Hanover's 4th Annual Mayor's Top 10 was announced.

The Top 10 celebrates Hanover's greatest accomplishments over the past year; 2015 was no exception.

- #10 Partnerships: Saints & Sinners, Keg & Cork, HydroDam Initiative, Bluewater District School Board, Regional Career Fair, Age Friendly Launch
- #9 Chris Knoll, Chief of Police (appointed September 21/15)
- #8 Community Development – Rotary Dog Park & Canada 150 Grant
- #7 Commercial Review Update
- #6 Fire Department: FireFit Team and Fundraising Calendar
- #5 LED Street Light Conversion
- #4 East End Development: OMB & 18th Ave
- #3 Corporate Strategic Plan Update: 2015 – 2020
- #2 Main St Project: Blog, Book & Gala
- #1 LaunchPad Youth Activity & Technology Centre

Staff and Council from the Town of Hanover can't wait to see what 2016 will bring! Discover more at [hanover.ca](http://hanover.ca) and join them on Facebook and Twitter.



## TUNE IN TO WORKFORCE FOCUS ON BLUEWATER RADIO

Listen LIVE to Gemma Mendez Smith every 2nd Tuesday from 6:00-7:00pm on 91.3 FM Bluewater Radio [www.bluewaterradio.ca](http://www.bluewaterradio.ca).





## BLUEWATER WOOD ALLIANCE RECOGNIZES HON. MINISTER BILL MAURO, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND FORESTRY

Based on the Upper Austria Clusterland Model, the BWA continues to evolve toward sustainability over time with the increase in membership and development of other revenue streams. Since the inception of the BWA in 2011, the accomplishments and reach of the BWA continue to accrue with earnest.

If not for the initial support of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) Wood Promotions Branch, the BWA would not have been able to facilitate any of the collaborative projects that have benefited wood product manufacturing companies in Southwestern Ontario.

### BWA PROJECTS AND SUCCESSES INCLUDE:

- Export development projects introducing members to new markets, such as the Index show in Dubai, UAE, and the High Point Market in High Point, North Carolina
- The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Rural Economic Development Fund (RED) helped companies adopt new technologies and initiate process improvement projects. \$500,000 in funding leveraged over \$3 million in member project investment over the past 2 years.
- Monthly plant tour focus groups - members learn from each other's challenges, solutions, best practices, and adoption of lean principles
- Learning events where members have access to subject matter experts through a shared cost model, making expertise affordable and accessible
- Sponsorship of 20 high schools in Southwestern Ontario to adopt the Woodlinks Curriculum
- Facilitate a bottom-up driven organization where industry dictates the agenda
- Membership is dominated by manufacturers, with an 80/20 ratio manufacturers to suppliers

The BWA wanted to recognize and thank the Hon Minister Bill Mauro and the MNRF for supporting its operations. The successes of the BWA are also successes of the MNRF. BWA Executive Director, Michael Baker, presented a solid maple plaque to the Hon Minister in Queens Park on Dec 3, 2015.

If you want more information on the BWA and its activities, contact BWA Executive Director, Mike Baker [manager@bluewaterwoodalliance.com](mailto:manager@bluewaterwoodalliance.com).

## CONNECTED COUNTY

### DID YOU ATTEND THE MASTER CLASS IN NOVEMBER 2014?

**Help us keep the  
conversation going!**

Last fall, we hosted a Master Class discussion with over 80 local business and community leaders to start working towards a smart and connected Grey County. Five key themes emerged from that discussion:

- Broadband Extension & Adoption
- Communications & Marketing
- Advocacy & Community Engagement
- Digital Inclusion & Digital Equality
- Economic Development

We need your help to keep moving the discussion forward. If you're interested in working together with small, action-oriented teams on any of the theme areas, let us know. We'll facilitate meetings for each of the action items beginning in early 2016. We're also looking for people interested in working on items related to sustainability. To learn more and sign up for an action team, contact Ashleigh Weeden at [ashleigh.weeden@grey.ca](mailto:ashleigh.weeden@grey.ca) or 519-372-0219 ext. 1255.

# Starter Company

## Celebrates Grant Recipients!



The Business Enterprise Centre had a great time celebrating some new Starter Company grant recipients and congratulating others who are finishing up.



From left to right, Bob Nadon (mentor), Tyler Beckett (mentor), Mayor Ian Boddy, Paul Kirk (mentor), grant recipients – Justine Rydall (Beyond Limits Personal Training), Kelly Farrow (Farrow Orthotics), Mitch Schultz (Schultz Contracting), Brittany Tackaberry (Britt's Bits and Bites), Alistair McCall (AM Wood Skateboard Company), Jane Phillips – Manager and Business Consultant, The Business Enterprise Centre. Sitting from left to right, Deb McKague (mentor), and Allison Tackaberry – Business Coach, The Business Enterprise Centre

## Starter Company

Are you a young person aged 18 - 29 with a great idea to start your own business? Maybe you've already started and are ready to take the next step?

Contact us today to find out if you're eligible to receive hands on help writing a business plan, one on one support, access to training and a mentor and potentially a grant of \$5000!

- Must be 18 - 29
- Not in school full time
- Commit 35 hours per week to the business
- Proposing a new business or growing an existing business

Call or email us today to see if you are eligible! 519-371-3232, [businesshelp@owensound.ca](mailto:businesshelp@owensound.ca)



### SHARE YOUR SUCCESSSES WITH US!

We are looking for local business stories to feature in our upcoming Success Story series. Send your story to [meredith.bowers@grey.ca](mailto:meredith.bowers@grey.ca).

# Saints & Sinners



The Saints & Sinners map launched in June 2015 and lists 17 wine, beer and cider producers across Grey, Bruce and Simcoe Counties, plus related events, agri-culinary, and cultural experiences. The project is a public-private partnership and includes support from eight municipal partners including Grey and Simcoe Counties and six of their member municipalities.

A total of 70,000 maps were distributed around the region at retail locations and at consumer food and drink shows around Southern Ontario. A recent survey suggests participants adored the map creating an increase in brand awareness, traffic and sales.

Saints & Sinners will expand agri-culinary experience development in 2016 to include:

- A signature event at Grey Roots Museum & Archives on June 12
- Creation of a branded tent that will allow for pop-up tastings to be held around the region
- A "growler passport" program that encourages visitors to fill a growler jug at as many participating locations as possible for a chance to win a grand prize

Visit Saints & Sinners on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

## Agricultural Outreach Round-Table

On December 2nd, Grey County staff met with representatives from various agriculture and food sectors around Grey at the Grey Ag Services offices in Markdale. The informative meeting showed attendees what services, programs and resources the County offers. It also gave farmers a chance to express their needs and concerns with county staff in a casual setting.

Topics discussed included:

- policies and rules for on-farm businesses
- information about species at risk and nuisance animals
- road use and signage
- supports for local food producers
- the Green in Grey Natural Environment Study

Organizers and attendees agree the meeting was productive and communication between the county and agricultural community needs to continue.

For more information contact:

Philly Markowitz, Economic Development Officer  
519-376-3365 ext. 6125 or [Philly.Markowitz@grey.ca](mailto:Philly.Markowitz@grey.ca)



## GREY BRUCE HEALTH SERVICES BUSINESS TOUR

On November 6, the Grey County Economic Development Business Tour was at Grey Bruce Health Services in Owen Sound.

Did you know?

- Healthcare is one of the top industries of employment in Grey and Bruce
- GBHS has six hospitals in the area, plus the regional withdrawal & addictions centre
- GBHS is one of the region's largest employers with over 1,600 staff, including 250 physicians

GBHS has some of the best ER patient satisfaction results in Ontario. On average, there are more than 100,000 visits per year.

## Local Food Strategic Plan in the Works for 2016

The 'Made in Grey' County Economic Development Strategy identified the need for a Local Food Strategy. This strategy will identify priorities and define actions for the next three to five years. The project will begin in 2016 and include an in-depth consultation process with community stakeholders.

For more information contact:

Philly Markowitz,  
Economic Development Officer  
519-376-3365 ext. 6125  
[Philly.Markowitz@grey.ca](mailto:Philly.Markowitz@grey.ca)



# Chinese delegation tours **Georgian's Centre for Marine Training and Research** in Owen Sound



A delegation from Nantong Shipping College in Jiangsu, China visited two Georgian College campuses for the first time early December.

In Owen Sound, the group of 20 teachers was introduced to the Centre for Marine Training and Research (CMTR). Nantong Shipping College is part of the Singapore International Maritime Institute. The teachers toured the navigation and engine simulators, the engine lab and the new fire training facility. Jason Davenport, CMTR Manager, explained the wide range of education, training and research opportunities that have been developed as a result of the Centre's growth over the past decade.

Jiangsu province and Ontario have a joint educational exchange program administered through SuOn College in Toronto. One of the

goals of the partnership is to educate Chinese teachers about the Ontario college system.

"Our partnership with SuOn College has spanned more than a decade. We have a variety of professional training and international education programs for all levels of teaching staff from China and we were particularly pleased to show our guests from Nantong Shipping College the recent additions and enhancements made to our Centre for Marine Training and Research," said Leslie Palson, Dean, International Education and Development.

Georgian will continue to develop its partnership with Nantong Shipping College given its shared specialty in marine-related education and training.

## University of Waterloo Planning Students Complete an 'On-Farm Business Policy Study'

Grey County has a lot more insight into on-farm business policies thanks to a dedicated group of graduate students from the University of Waterloo.

The four-member team, under the leadership of Professor Bob Lehman, was tasked with reviewing municipal on-farm business policy across the province and recommending "best practice". The

group spent hundreds of hours reviewing policies from 29 rural municipalities to create a comprehensive overview. They presented their findings and recommendations to staff and elected officials on December 10. The research is timely as Grey County looks to align its Official Plan with new provincial policies and the 'Made in Grey County' Economic Development Strategy.

Understanding provincial on-farm business policies was a priority of the Strategy. Working with the University helped accomplish this goal well ahead of schedule – and at no cost. Grey County extends our deepest gratitude and appreciation for the hard work of students Alex Clarke, Stephanie Lacey-Avon, Catherine McLean and Betty Zhao.

[Click here to view Final Report](#)

# GEORGIAN STUDENTS GET HANDS-ON LEARNING IN LABS AND IN THE COMMUNITY



Health, Wellness and Sciences students at the Owen Sound Campus of Georgian College have been busy promoting healthy living both on campus and throughout the region. Most recently, a group of Practical Nursing students assisted in administering the flu vaccine in Grey County.

In addition to offering the Practical Nursing diploma, the Owen Sound Campus also offers a Bachelor of Science in Nursing [BScN] degree, a Personal Support Worker certificate and a Pre-health Sciences certificate. Pre-health Services has intakes in both the fall and winter semesters and there are still some openings available in the January-start program. To learn more, call 519.376.0840, ext. 2019.

ACCELERATE your future at [www.GeorgianCollege.ca/owensound](http://www.GeorgianCollege.ca/owensound)



*Georgian College Practical Nursing students Ryan Hare, Charlee Johnston and Sandra Mirolovic recently took part in a flu vaccine clinic, administering doses to community members.*

## STAFF PICKS FROM GREY COUNTY

### Amanda's Picks:

**Morag Budgeon Jewellery** - Available at the Owen Sound Artists' Co-op  
**Beaver Valley Cider** - Available by the bottle (in both 750 and 500 ml sizes) at the Cidery's Grey Road 13 location [www.bvcider.ca](http://www.bvcider.ca)

### Meredith's Picks:

**Georgian Hills Frozen to the Core** - Dessert ice wines: Georgian Hills Baked Apple Frozen to the Core, Ida Red Frozen to the Core and Bartlett Frozen to the Core. Available at Georgian Hills Vineyard and select LCBO stores.  
[www.georgianhillsvineyards.ca/sweet-wines](http://www.georgianhillsvineyards.ca/sweet-wines)  
**Handmade wooden cheese platters** from The Cheese Gallery in Thornbury [www.thecheesegallery.ca](http://www.thecheesegallery.ca)

### Mary Jane's Picks:

**Cinnamon Buns from MarJenny's Cakes** Available in downtown Owen Sound [www.marjennyscakes.com](http://www.marjennyscakes.com)  
**Line wire art earrings from by Ann Wiley-Toal** - Order online at [www.annwylietoal.ca](http://www.annwylietoal.ca) or at the Owen Sound Artist's Co-op.

### Philly's Picks:

**Eternal Bee body lotion** - Eternal Bee is located in Holland Centre.  
[www.eternalbee.ca](http://www.eternalbee.ca)  
**Orange Bourbon BBQ Sauce** from Big Mama's Kitchen Creations is now available at local retail stores, farmer's markets and seasonal craft shows.  
[www.bmkccanada.wix.com/bmkc](http://www.bmkccanada.wix.com/bmkc)

### Heather's Picks:

**Trenza Cable Knit Toque** from Kickin Back Alpaca Ranch. You can visit the farm near Markdale for your purchase or order online at [www.kickinbackalpacaranch.com](http://www.kickinbackalpacaranch.com)  
**Meredith's Ginger Syrup** - You can buy Meredith's at select local retailers. Find the closest location online at [www.meredithsingersyrup.com](http://www.meredithsingersyrup.com).

### Bryan's Picks:

**MacLean's Pale Ale** - is made just down the road in Hanover, Ontario. Pick some up at your local LCBO. [www.macleansales.ca](http://www.macleansales.ca)  
**Welbeck Sawmill Gift Certificate** - The sawmill is a Grey County tradition! [www.welbecksawmill.com](http://www.welbecksawmill.com)



# ► FOOD ENTREPRENEURS

Building Ontario  
innovation one  
product at a time



Thursday, March 3 and Friday, March 4, 2016

Georgian College Barrie Campus, One Georgian Dr., Barrie

- Connection café
- Pitch sessions
- Panel discussions with successful entrepreneurs and industry experts
- Learn about innovation, human resource management, food safety culture, product idea viability, and more
- Plenary sessions on innovation and the future of food
- Breakout sessions tailored to established and new food entrepreneurship businesses
- And much more!

#### CONTACT INFO

Barb Shopland, 705.728.1968, ext. 1414 or [barb.shopland@georgiancollege.ca](mailto:barb.shopland@georgiancollege.ca)

[GeorgianCollege.ca/foodentrepreneurship](http://GeorgianCollege.ca/foodentrepreneurship)

**REGISTRATION  
NOW OPEN**

Visit [GeorgianCollege.ca/FEON](http://GeorgianCollege.ca/FEON)  
or call  
705.728.1968, ext. 1774

Packages starting  
at \$50



Imagine  
*Yourself Here*



### Tour the Backroads by Bicycle

Plan a cycling tour around the scenic backroads during Grey County's most colourful season.  
*Check out our recommended cycling routes*

### Grey County Waterfall Tour



Enjoy the scenery throughout Grey County while you explore 10 waterfalls on this self-guided tour.  
*Find your adventure on the Grey County Waterfall Tour*



Grey County Tourism launched a brand new website in Spring of 2015, **check it out at VisitGrey.ca**



# HANDCRAFTED WITH PRIDE

*"I like brewing and woodworking because they are both creative but there's a big difference between them. Beer lasts for a finite period of time but a well-built piece of furniture can last a lifetime."*



## **CHARLES MACLEAN**

*Brewmaster. MacLean's Ales. Hanover, Ontario*

Charles MacLean has come full circle. Born and raised in Toronto, MacLean embarked on an epic journey to England where his brewing career began. Having returned to Ontario and while brewing in Guelph, he spent many hours touring the back roads of Grey County, looking for the perfect property to build his small brewery and woodshop. His grandfather was a Sydenham resident and MacLean could hear the county calling him. He put down roots near Durham, facing a farmer's woodlot, on a quiet concession—much like his grandfather before him. This was the original home of MacLean's Ales. But word of his quality ales spread and the demand allowed him to expand to the brewery's new Hanover location. His woodworking shop has now taken over the brewery's original home. You'll find MacLean there in his elusive spare time.







Our young people matter. Their experience in our region here and now matters. Their attitude and perception about life, opportunity and their role in our future matters. They will decide what communities succeed and thrive in the coming years. Doing everything we can to support them is a given!

**Explore your Curiosity. Discover your Niche. Enhance your Skill Set.**