

Grey County Economic Development

OPPORTUNITY LIVES HERE

LiveGreyBruce.ca

This is a web site that will connect . . .

Skilled professionals who already dream of living the Grey-Bruce lifestyle with **Employers** interested in learning about when someone with certain skills is interested in moving to the area. livegreybruce.ca

Grey Bruce Annual Fall Tourism Conference - October 24, 2013

**Turning the Box Inside Out
Product Development,
Innovation and Experiential
Tourism** Thursday, October 24,
2013 Blue Mountain Conference
Centre, Blue Mountain Resort (Weider
Room)

Need More Information? Call
Amanda Pausner at 519-376-3365
Ext. 6102 or by emailing
industry@visitgrey.ca

First Impression Community Exchange



A First Impression Community Exchange is a simple, low-cost and highly effective process that reveals the first impressions a community conveys to visitors, including tourists, potential investors or people looking for a new place to live. It helps communities identify the things that visitors find

appealing and would bring them back, as well as the things that give a negative impression of the community.

The Grey County Economic Development Working Group participated in an UNOFFICIAL First Impression Community Exchange

(FICE) tours of Durham, Neustadt, Hanover, Meaford, Thornbury, Markdale, Flesherton and Dundalk.

Watch for community improvements in your area as our municipalities roll out their downtown initiatives.

Accessibility is Good for Business!

Did you know that one in seven people in Ontario have a disability and in the next 20 years, older adults and persons with disabilities will represent 40% of total income in Ontario? Improved accessibility can help generate significant new

spending – as much as \$9.6 billion in new retail spending and \$1.6 billion in new tourism spending across the province. A more accessible Grey County is good for our economy and our communities.

For more information about how you can make your business more

accessible, please visit mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/accessibility/

For more information about how Grey County is working towards a becoming fully accessible community by 2025, please visit grey.ca/services/accessibility/

GREY COUNTY Corporate Aftercare Program

The Grey County Economic Development Working Group has been meeting with business owners and touring their facilities to promote business retention as part of the Grey County Corporate Aftercare program. Through these visits business owners have an opportunity to meet with elected officials, senior planning and economic development staff.

Town of The Blue Mountains

Announces Communications and Economic Development Coordinator



On September 11, 2013, Chief Administrator Troy Speck announced Elizabeth Cornish as the new Communications and Economic Development Coordinator for the Town of The Blue Mountains. Elizabeth joins the Town from the Ministry of Research and Innovation and the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade for the Province of Ontario where she held the position of Regional Advisor for the Entrepreneurship Branch.

Elizabeth brings to her new role an extensive background and expertise in the areas of sales and marketing, communications, business planning and business strategy together with strong technical skills. Her experience includes the area of consulting with municipalities and supporting both the private and public sectors in the implementation of programs, initiatives and

economic development strategies to grow and support small business. She believes strongly in achieving outcomes and enjoys both the art and science of marketing communications.

Elizabeth's background, abilities and experience will enhance and support current and long range economic development plans and initiatives of the Town including the new Business Retention and Expansion Project and the Open for Business Program.

"Elizabeth is a welcomed addition to the Town Staff and we are excited to have her join our team as the replacement for Lisa Kidd, who relocated to the U.S. in April" said Troy Speck, Chief Administrative Officer. Ms. Cornish will begin work with the Town on September 30.

Local Food



It has been a busy summer for local food projects in Grey County.

The County is pleased to have supported several local businesses with the development of both sector-specific and regional

collaborative projects that are currently under consideration for Greenbelt Market Access Program funding.

Grey County is also leading the development of a Food Safety

Regulatory Training curriculum for small- and mid-sized food businesses, and is working in partnership with the John di Poce South Georgian Bay Campus of Georgian College to develop an Agri-Entrepreneurship day for new food businesses in February, 2014.

The County has been marketing local food actively in several print ads, with a radio campaign for farmers' markets, and through the creation of farm profile videos featuring nutritionist and blogger, Theresa Albert. Additional food

event videos are being produced for use on the Grey County Tourism website. Grey County is proud to have partnered with local wineries to have our area recognized as an "emerging region" in the 2013 Wine County Ontario Guide. The County continues to work in partnership with Bruce County to maintain the **FoodlinkGreyBruce.com** business-to-business networking and marketing website and to support the Grey Bruce Agriculture and Culinary Association.

Hanover is revitalizing their Downtown!



Hanover is in the midst of a Downtown Revitalization.

Improved signage was priority one – so you can now find directional signage to their six free municipal parking lots downtown. The first major project to be completed in 2013 is the reconstruction of the Downtown Parkette (picture above). A facade incentive program is next on the agenda with early December slated as the target launch. For monthly updates from Hanover, visit hanover.ca/d-blast



SOUTHGATE had a busy summer of events!

Southgate had a successful summer season of fun family events including the famous Holstein Rodeo, two exciting dates of Sol E Toiros Humane Portuguese Bull Fights, and the popular new Bluegrass Celebration.

The Economic Development Department completed two key projects: the Downtown Dundalk Building Inventory and the Downtown Business Survey. These projects provided valuable baseline information which will be used to create further projects and programs around downtown improvement for 2014 and beyond!

SMALL BUSINESS MATTERS TO THE OWEN SOUND BUSINESS ENTERPRISE CENTRE

The Business Enterprise Centre (BEC) - Owen Sound and Area opened its doors in 2000 to offer support and guidance to entrepreneurs and small business owners. BEC is a complete Business Resource Centre experience. You can find assistance, expertise and information for the purpose of starting, growing or expanding a small business. This innovative alliance and its services are made available through a funding partnership between The Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Employment and the City of Owen Sound.

The Business Enterprise Centre provides:

- One-on-one free confidential consultations with qualified business consultants who will help you start and grow your business
- Information on financing options and help developing a business plan
- Information on permits, licences and government supports
- Business seminars and networking events
- Information and access to youth entrepreneurship programs
- Access to resource materials and use of a computer
- Co-ordinators of the Ontario Self Employment Benefit Program for Grey and Bruce Counties



Visit: 173-8th Street East in Owen Sound **Call:** 519-371-3232

Contact: businesshelp@owensound.ca • owensoundbusiness.ca



17th Annual Meaford Scarecrow Invasion & Family Festival October 4th, 2013

This year marks the 17th Annual Meaford Scarecrow Invasion & Family Festival. This unique event is completely volunteer driven with the mandate to foster community spirit by involving and including all residents, businesses and organizations in the planning and implementation.

The 'Invasion' of Scarecrows began mid-September and carries through to mid-October, with more than 250 scarecrows making the Municipality of Meaford home in this year's theme

'Scarecrows Love the Circus'. Visitors come from all over to see this spectacular display, as well as enjoy the Friday evening Scarecrow Parade and Family Festival that includes games, activities, a competition, live music and food vendors (Friday October 4, 2013).

Come out and see this unique display and creative community spirit for yourself! Visit scarecrowinvasion.com

Owen Sound Salmon Tour



Set against a backdrop of stunning fall colours, rivers and waterfalls, the Owen Sound Salmon Tour is a free,

Owen Sound Tourism has launched a new fall attraction

fun and educational adventure for all ages. You can hike the tour, including parts of the Bruce Trail, cycle the tour through Owen Sound and the surrounding countryside, or drive the route, which is car and motorcycle friendly. You can also take along a canoe or kayak to paddle the route, which follows the Sydenham River

from the Owen Sound harbour on Georgian Bay through the city centre and up to spectacular Inglis Falls. Whatever your mode of travel, the self-guided fall tour brings you up close and personal with the legendary Chinook salmon, prized by fishermen and honoured by many cultures. Owen Sound is one of the few places

in Ontario where you can watch the mighty Chinook spawning in their natural habitat, in streams and rushing rivers, migrating upstream to lay their eggs in the shallows before winter settles in. Visit greatsalmontour.com for more information.

Do you remember how you felt...

In a new club?

In a new community?

In a new job?

How we connect with new people in our community will affect our future. Based on a recent study it is evident that we have an immediate issue of people with skills leaving our area. Did you know there are two major reasons people move? 1. A Job and 2. Family Situation.

How can you help your municipality attract and retain a skilled workforce to support future growth?

Join us at one of the following two meetings to help answer this important question! 9:30am—Noon at each location

Refreshments graciously provided by the host Municipality

October 8th—Township of Southgate

Frank Macintyre Building, 250 Owen Sound St., Dundalk

October 10th—Municipality of Grey Highlands

Kinplex—2 Highland Drive, Flesherton

Register <http://www.eventbrite.ca/org/3963718155?ref=eorgbt>

Hosted by:



**TEAMING UP
FOR TRADESHOWS!**

Grey County's Economic Development Department has teamed up with the City of Owen Sound, the Township of Southgate and the Municipalities of Meaford, Georgian Bluffs and Grey Highlands for the Boomer and Zoomer Shows in Toronto this fall.

Check out the Zoomer Show on October 26 & 27 at the Direct Energy Centre and the Better Living Boomer Show November 7- 10 at the Toronto International Centre.

**The Four County Labour
Market Planning Board has
HIT THE AIRWAVES!**

Gemma Mendez-Smith plays host to a lively conversation on workforce issues. Workforce Focus can be heard the first and third Thursday of every month. Tune in to bluewateradio.ca or 91.3 FM to listen live or visit planningboard.ca/workforce-focus to listen at your leisure. You can also send your workforce issue or question to focus@planningboard.ca



County of Grey Economic Development Office

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Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 5N6

877 • 733 • 4739
ecdev@grey.ca • investingrey.ca

Newcomer Integration Awareness Workshop

PRESENTERS:

Lionel Laroche

Ph.D., P. Eng.

Caroline Yang

CHRP, CCP

Multicultural Business
Solutions

www.mcbsol.com

How we communicate is our strongest asset. Come and hear about communicating in a multi-cultural community. Come and learn how we can make our community more inviting and welcoming to newcomers.

November 08, 2013, 9:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Lunch Provided

Best Western—Inn on the Bay, Owen Sound

Register <http://www.eventbrite.ca/org/3963718155?ref=eorgbtn>

Hosted by:



5th Annual Dragon's Den Meaford October 30, 2013

Meaford Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to present the fifth annual Dragons' Den Meaford:

Watch local entrepreneurs pitch their business ideas to a panel of "Dragons" to win cash and prizes. Since its inception this event has created ten business start-ups with \$120,000 in cash and in-kind

contributions injected into Meaford's economy. In 2010 Dragons' Den Meaford won the Business Retention / Expansion award from the Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO) and was the runner

up for the Lt. Governor General's Award. Don't miss this unique opportunity to cast your vote for our local entrepreneurs. For information visit mcofc.ca



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