



## Ontario Celebrates Paramedic Services Week 2024 With A Call To "Help Us, Help You"

Paramedic Services Week, May 19 to 25, 2024

In honour of the nearly 11,000 dedicated paramedics in Ontario, Paramedic Services Week 2024 kicked off on Sunday. This year's theme is "Help Us, Help You" and was selected given the current challenges on the healthcare system. It will focus on educating the public about the different ways paramedics help beyond emergency response and to consider other programs and services before calling 911.

"Paramedics support their communities in a myriad of ways and play a vital role in the broader healthcare system. Our focus for Paramedic Services Week this year is to share and recognize all they do, while educating the public on when to dial 911 and when alternate resources might better serve their needs," says OAPC President Michael Sanderson.

The main purpose of Paramedic Services Week is to celebrate paramedics and their commitment to the welfare of others. By bringing attention to the breadth of their responsibilities and empowering people to make informed decisions, we honour and help paramedics to be where they're needed most.

Learn more about paramedicine and the work that the OAPC does as the voice of paramedic leadership in Ontario at [www.oapc.ca](http://www.oapc.ca).



## Official Plan Review

An update on Phase 2 of the Official Plan Review will be brought to Committee of the Whole on May 27, 2024 in Staff Report PDS.24.084.

Planning Staff provided Staff Report PDS.24.014 to Council in January 2024 summarizing the public workshops completed over the Fall and Winter of 2023. Since then, SGL Planning Consultants has conducted one-on-one meetings with Council members to share information learned from the public workshops and to gain insight into each council member's priorities and expectations for the Official Plan project. Policy writing remains underway and will be considering edits to the Official Plan based on the: research completed under the background papers, feedback from public engagement sessions, feedback from letters received, feedback from Council interviews, and also a secondary review of the policy changes considered under Phase 1.

Planning Staff are anticipating that the policy changes will be made available in June 2024. Based on public feedback at previous stages of the project, staff are seeking to ensure there is an extensive review period for the proposed changes and as such, will be targeting late September 2024 for a Public Open House and Public Meeting to be scheduled. Notice of upcoming meetings and the circulation of Official Plan changes will be provided prior to Council summer recess. Depending on the comments received through the Open House and Public Meeting, additional changes to the Official Plan may be required and we anticipate bringing a recommendation report to Council requesting a decision on the Official Plan by late fall this year.

For more information: visit [www.thebluemountains.ca](http://www.thebluemountains.ca)  
519-599-3131 x248



In accordance with the public health and safety exception to the cosmetic pesticide ban, The County of Grey, Municipality of Meaford, and the Township of Georgian Bluffs intend to use pesticide to control noxious weeds, general broadleaf weeds, and brush along selected rural county and municipal roadsides.

The County and member municipalities intend to use the following pesticides registered under the Pest Control Products Act (Canada): Navius FLEX Herbicide (Reg. 30922), which contains the active ingredients Metsulfuron-methyl and Aminocyclopyrachlor, ClearView Herbicide (Reg. 29752), which contains the active ingredients Metsulfuron-methyl and Aminopyralid (present as potassium salt), VisionMAX Silviculture Herbicide (Reg. 27736), which contains the active ingredient Glyphosate (present as potassium salt), and ARSENAL PowerLine Herbicide (Reg. 30203), which contains the active ingredient Imazapyr (present as isopropylamine salt).

Pesticide use is commencing May 27th, 2024, and ending September 30th, 2024. Grey Road 1, 2, 4, 7, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 28, 29, 30, 40, 113, 119, 170

County of Grey, Jim Nicoll, 1-548-877-0884

## Moreau Park Baseball Diamonds Closed For Resurfacing Beginning Tuesday, May 28

The Town of The Blue Mountains would like to advise the public that the Moreau Park Baseball Diamonds will be closed for resurfacing beginning Tuesday, May 28, 2024.

The work is anticipated to be completed by Friday, June 7, 2024, pending no weather-related delays. During the resurfacing, there will be no access to the diamonds.

For more information, please contact:  
Community Services, (519) 599-3131 ext. 254

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**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER** This edition is mailed to residents in The Blue Mountains the first week of each month

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:** We ask that letters be no longer than 250 words, and adhere to standards of fairness, accuracy, legality and civility. Beyond that, we select letters on the basis of timeliness, relevance and diversity and reserve the right to not publish.

**ARTICLES** are from media releases or those that are submitted acknowledge the author.

Publisher Linda Wykes, printed by Riverside Press. Your events, stories and photos of interest to our community can be emailed to [info@visitblue.ca](mailto:info@visitblue.ca) for inclusion in the newsletter by each Friday. Advertising rates available on the website or call 519-599-3345

## Forage Expo 2024

The Ontario Forage Council (OFC), along with Huron County and Eastern Valley Soil and Crop Improvement Associations will be co-hosting Forage Expo 2024 - Forage Equipment Demonstrations and Trade Show. The Huron County event will happen on **Thursday, July 4, 2024, 10 am to 3 pm at 43843 Harriston Road, Gorrie**, the farm of Mark Horst and family.

The Eastern Valley event will happen on **Friday, July 12, 2024, 10 am to 3 pm at 1781 St. Isidore Road, St. Isidore**, the farm of Thomas Haerle and family. This event will be bilingual.

This year's demonstrations will include equipment from the leaders in forage production equipment.

Attendees will not only have the chance to see what's new for 2024 but will also have the unique opportunity to witness this equipment in head-to-head field trials! Equipment will include various mowers, conditioners, rakes, tedders, windrow inverters, mergers, harvesters, dump wagons, large round balers, large square balers, and a small square bale bundler. This event will provide the opportunity for farmers to view the latest technology available to harvest forage quickly with minimal loss and maximum quality. Ian McDonald and Christine O'Reilly, OMAFRA will be in the field, working with the equipment companies to provide information to farmers and answer questions. This is important in making decisions on investments which ultimately enhance their farm operations in capacity, minimizing harvest losses, product quality and profitability.

This is a FREE event! Lunch will be available for purchase on-site, and no pre-registration is required.

For more information on sponsorship/tradeshow/demonstration opportunities, or general information, contact:

Ontario Forage Council

Patricia Ellingwood/Rebecca Vito

Phone: (519) 986-1484, or 1-877-892-8663

E-mail: [support@ontarioforagecouncil.com](mailto:support@ontarioforagecouncil.com)

## Canada and Ontario Bolstering Honey Bee Health

TORONTO – The governments of Canada and Ontario are increasing funding to the Honey Bee Health Initiative by up to \$1 million to help improve the resiliency and competitiveness of beekeeper operations in Ontario. The additional funding will help more Ontario beekeepers better protect their colonies over the winter and protect against invasive pests such as varroa mites which pose a serious threat to honey bee health.

"So many of the crops grown across Ontario depend on healthy bee populations," said the Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food. "We're expanding this vitally important support for our beekeepers so they can safeguard their livelihoods and keep their honey bee colonies healthy and sustainable."

The Honey Bee Health Initiative, made possible through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP), initially opened on September 15, 2023 with a budget of over \$1.3 million. To date, 218 projects have been approved. This initiative builds on previous programs, such as the back-to-back Honey Bee Health Management initiatives offered under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP).

"Honey bees play an important role in our agriculture and food industry as well as in Ontario's ecosystem", said Lisa Thompson, Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. "This increase to the Honey Bee Health Initiative demonstrates our governments' commitment to the bee sector and production of honey throughout the province."

This initiative is delivered by the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) and will directly contribute to the goals outlined in the Grow Ontario Strategy. The outcomes of this initiative will help to support food supply chain stability.

"Ontario's beekeepers and the honey bee industry are integral parts of Ontario's food supply and food security," said Ian Grant, President

*continued on next page*

of the Ontario Beekeepers' Association (OBA). "The OBA welcomes the Ontario government's further investments into our industry, and thanks Minister Thompson and the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership for their continued support."

Sustainable CAP is a five-year (2023-2028), \$3.5-billion investment by federal, provincial and territorial governments to strengthen competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of Canada's agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector. This includes \$1 billion in federal programs and activities and a \$2.5 billion commitment cost-shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially/territorially for programs designed and delivered by the provinces and territories.

- Ontario beekeepers can apply for cost-share funding under the initiative as of June 3, 2024 and the intake will remain open until funding is allocated.
- Up to 50 per cent of the costs of approved projects may be funded under the initiative. Ontario beekeepers with fewer than 50 colonies are eligible for up to \$4,500 total on approved projects and beekeepers with 50 or more colonies are eligible for up to \$25,000.
- Eligible applicants will be required to provide evidence of completing a pest management course related to Ontario honey bees from a recognized institution.
- The Grow Ontario Strategy is the province's plan to strengthen the agri-food sector, support economic growth and ensure an efficient, reliable and responsive food supply for Ontarians.

## Province Taking Next Steps to Rebuild Ontario Place into Year-Round, Family-Friendly Destination

TORONTO – Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, issued the following statement on the province's progress to rebuild Ontario Place.

"Building on last year's historic new deal with the City of Toronto, the province is taking the next steps in its plan to rebuild Ontario Place into a world-class, year-round destination with expanded parks and public spaces, increased waterfront access, a new public marina and family-friendly entertainment.

Concert goers and music enthusiasts will be pleased to learn that our government is working with Live Nation to create an updated, year-round concert venue at Ontario Place. Once complete, Live Nation's brand-new amphitheatre will welcome more fans to an all-season venue by increasing its capacity to up to 20,000 people while also protecting the much-loved amphitheatre lawn.

Earlier this month, Infrastructure Ontario also released a Request for Qualifications to begin the procurement process to identify a team that will design, build, finance and maintain the new state-of-the-art home for the Ontario Science Centre. The new building will be located on the mainland of Ontario Place and will feature approximately 15 per cent more exhibit space than the current site. It will include fun and interactive spaces for families, students and visitors to enjoy the latest exhibits and science-based educational programming, while also expanding into a modernized Cinesphere and Pod complex.

To ensure the Ontario Place rebuild continues without delays, our government made an enhanced Minister's Zoning Order (eMZO) to provide development permissions for new and existing land uses at Ontario Place. The eMZO is a land use planning tool that will allow the province to maintain site plan control for portions of the site and make much-needed improvements to the publicly accessible open space on the East Island as part of the rebuild of Ontario Place. The eMZO will also allow for expanded public spaces and parks on the West Island.

Ontario Place will consist of more than 50 acres or almost 40 football fields worth of free public parks, beaches and green spaces. With the new Ontario Science Centre and Therme Canada's year-round destination for fun and wellness, as well as the updated, year-round Live Nation concert venue, Ontario Place will offer experiences everyone of all ages can enjoy."

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# Ontario Investing in More Accessible Communities

## Applications now open for the 2024-25 EnAbling Change Program

TORONTO – The Ontario government is investing up to \$1.5 million in the EnAbling Change Program this year to support not-for-profits, municipalities, and other organizations across the province that are developing and implementing innovative initiatives to make Ontario accessible to people of all abilities.

“By working together with businesses, organizations and communities, we can build a stronger and more accessible Ontario,” said Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. “The EnAbling Change Program allows organizations to develop tailored supports to ensure Ontario is open and inclusive to everyone.”

Applications for the 2024-25 EnAbling Change Program are open now until June 27, 2024. Eligible projects can include those that increase the accessibility of community programs and services, as well as online initiatives, educational tools, and public outreach programs that help communities and businesses understand the

benefits of accessibility and inclusion.

Examples of projects currently funded through the 2023-24 program include:

- BioTalent Canada is receiving approximately \$150,000 to promote equitable employment opportunities for people with disabilities.
- The Geneva Centre for Autism is receiving approximately \$112,500 to create The Inclusive Education Resource Hub to support better outcomes and experiences for neurodiverse students in publicly funded education.
- The Canadian Apprenticeship Forum is receiving approximately \$100,000 to develop a guide for employers on recruiting and retaining apprentices with disabilities in the skilled trades.
- Toronto Metropolitan University is receiving approximately \$150,000 to develop, pilot and disseminate a curriculum called The Enabling Accessible Healthcare Delivery project, which aims to foster accessible and sensitive health care for disabled people.
- The Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility’s Age-friendly and accessibility grants web page has information on how to apply for the 2024-25 EnAbling Change Program.

[www.ontario.ca/page/age-friendly-and-accessibility-grants](http://www.ontario.ca/page/age-friendly-and-accessibility-grants)

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## Simcoe-Grey MPP Brian Saunderson on banning Cell Phones in the Classroom

Imagine what school would have been like if we had one in the 70's, 80's or 90's.

Imagine the videos we would have taken throughout town, the photos we would have shared with fellow students and the messages we would have sent.

I often hear people say, "Imagine what school would have been like if we had cellphones back then."

I'm certain they would have had a significant impact on our school years.

Don't get me wrong, I think cell phones are a great tool, there's no question about that.

Technology has made our world much smaller.

Connecting with kids, family, and friends near and far has been one of the many benefits of cellphones.

When it comes to parenting, we know some teens even prefer texting instead of talking.

However, like anything, there is a time and place for cellphone use.

And the classroom is not one of them.

### Does banning cellphones help students ...

We've heard from teachers and parents. And we're listening.

That's why our government is introducing measures to crack down on cellphone use and vaping in schools.

The new rules will go into effect this September.

### Should Kids Use Cell Phones in School ...

Students in kindergarten to Grade 6 will be asked to keep their phones on silent and out of sight for the entire day, unless permitted by an educator.

For parents, School boards will be required to notify moms and dads annually on the restrictions and requirements for student cellphone use and the consequences for non-compliance.

There will be a commitment to have report cards include comments on students' distraction levels in class.

Every school will have uniform policy to have cellphones on silent and removed from sight at the beginning of instructional time – the new default unless explicitly directed by the educator.

If students do not comply, cellphones are immediately surrendered where there is no explicit allowance from the educator.

As well, Social media sites will be banned on all school networks and devices.

Also in September, a new ban on sharing and recording videos or photos of individuals without explicit consent.

Our government has also introduced new enforcement procedures for bans on tobacco, electronic cigarettes (vapes), nicotine products, recreational cannabis, alcohol and illegal drugs.



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### Connect With Me:

✉ [Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org](mailto:Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org)  
🌐 [www.briansaundersonmpp.ca](http://www.briansaundersonmpp.ca)

f MPPSimcoeGrey

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a better day, in Simcoe-Grey!*

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4th Tuesday

Tuesday, May 28th at 12:00

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St. Paul's Presbyterian Church  
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GREAT  
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The Meaford Hospital Volunteer Gardners popular plant sale has an ironic twist this year. All the profits will be used to plant concrete.

Usually the volunteers lovingly dig up plants from their own gardens and the hospital grounds to raise money for expenses. This year all proceeds will be donated to making a brand new wheel chair accessible patio in a garden sanctuary. This special garden is tucked in behind the hospital overlooking the ravine. It is just outside the palliative unit and the patient rooms. And is a refuge for all, with plantings in memory of beloved nurses and doctors. The years have taken their toll and now the patio is a mess. The patients, families, staff and gardeners all agree the need is there. But, financial constraints get in the way. To volunteer or for information email [meafordhospitalplantsale@gmail.com](mailto:meafordhospitalplantsale@gmail.com)



Branch 281  
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## DRUMHEAD CEREMONY AND CENOTAPH REDEDICATION

### Sunday June 2 Gather at 1.30pm

Ceremonies commence 2.00pm



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Refreshments and bar to follow  
at the Beaver Valley Community Centre

All Welcome

Donations to the cenotaph fund will be  
accepted until end of May



## BVAA BASEBALL MEMORIAL DAY

### Saturday June 8th, 2024

The BVAA Baseball Club's getting ready to host our Memorial Game Day. The day's planned with games from players 5-18 years old, and we're excited to share that the senior men's team - The Clarksburg Blues will also be playing.

Raffles, good food and so much fun to be had.



If you would like to kindly donate a prize please contact

Paige McRonald [mcronaldpaige@gmail.com](mailto:mcronaldpaige@gmail.com)  
Caitlyn Hewgill [bchewgill@gmail.com](mailto:bchewgill@gmail.com)  
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**ST. GEORGE'S**  
THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF  
THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

166 Russell Street E, Clarksburg 519-599-3047

St. George's Famous Garden Party

**FISH FRY**

**Saturday, June 15**  
**4:30 to 7:00 pm**

Cash Bar with Beer & Wine  
*operated by the Beaver Valley Legion*

**FISH, HOMEMADE SALADS & LOCAL PIES**

(Gluten-Free Fish or GF Vegan meal available ORDER AHEAD 519-599-3047)

Tickets: Adults \$30 / Children (10 and under) \$10

Thank you for bringing your own plate and beverage cup.

Cutlery supplied.

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purchase at: [www.parishofthebluemountains.ca](http://www.parishofthebluemountains.ca)

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**2024 Clarksburg Children's Festival**

**SPONSORS NEEDED!**  
**VENDORS WANTED!**  
**CALL FOR ENTERTAINERS!**

**SATURDAY JUNE 22**  
**11-2PM**

Clarksburg Village Association  
[visitclarksburg.ca](http://visitclarksburg.ca)

**BLUE MOUNTAINS**  
**ARTS & CRAFTS** **WALK**

**THORNURY & CLARKSBURG**

**JULY 6, 2024 | 10AM-4PM**

*40th Anniversary of  
Community Service 1984 - 2024*



Thornbury Beaver Valley Lions Club  
PRESENTS 22ND ANNUAL



**DUCK RACE**

**SATURDAY,**  
**JUNE 22, 3PM**

Lions Park  
Clarksburg

Tickets \$5.00

1st Duck Drawn

**\$1000 CASH**

2nd \$500 • 3rd \$250

4th \$100 • 5th \$50

Gift Card • Special Draw

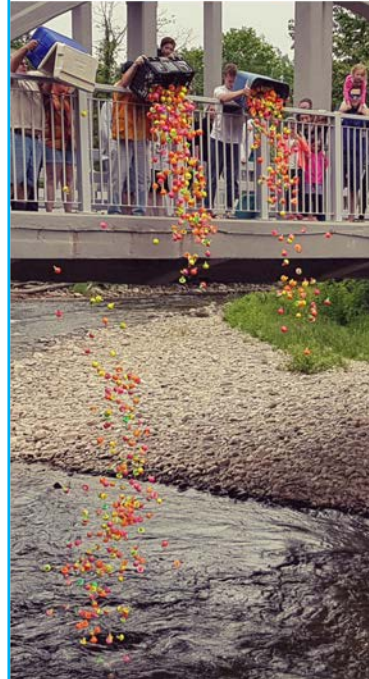
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**OPENING SATURDAY, JULY 6TH**

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To participate in the parade please sign up at  
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**Events for Life**  
**High Tea & Hats**  
Wednesday July 24th, 2024

**SAVE THE DATE!**



**\$25**

Ticket go on sale June 1, 2024

[www.eventsfor.life](http://www.eventsfor.life)  
Beaver Valley Community Centre

[josh@joshdolan.com](mailto:josh@joshdolan.com) 705-446-8404

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