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www.bluemountainsreview.ca

Vol 10 Issue 46

NOVEMBER 27TH, 2024



New on-line calendar for What's Happening in The Blue Mountains supported by The Blue Mountains Review

www.events.visitblue.ca

Notice of Public Information Centre #2 for Bay Street East Reconstruction

The Town of The Blue Mountains would like to advise the public of an upcoming virtual Public Information Centre (PIC) that has been scheduled to provide an update regarding the Bay Street East Reconstruction project. The meeting will include a public comment and question period. All those interested in the project are invited to attend. Pre-registration is required. www.thebluemountains.ca

Virtual Public Information Centre (Microsoft Teams) Tuesday, December 17, 2024 - 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

About the Bay Street East Reconstruction Project

The Town of The Blue Mountains needs to install a secondary sanitary forcemain from the Mill Street Pumping Station to the Thornbury Wastewater Treatment Plant (TWWTP) to service growth in the west portion of the municipality. The secondary forcemain will begin at the Mill Street Sewage Pumping Station and follow Bay Street East to Grey Street, and then proceed south on Grey Street to the treatment plant.

The Town's Asset Management Plan indicates that the sanitary sewer and watermain on Bay Street is in poor to very poor condition and is approaching the end of its useful life. Considering that Bay Street will be significantly disturbed from Mill Street to Grey Street for the installation of the secondary forcemain, this provides a good opportunity to reconstruct the entire road to ensure that the watermain, sewers and stormwater systems are updated and adequate for the next 50-75 years. The project will also see the installation of a new outfall pipe on Grey Street from the TWWTP to Georgian Bay.

For more information about the project please contact: Operations Department (519) 599-3131 x277



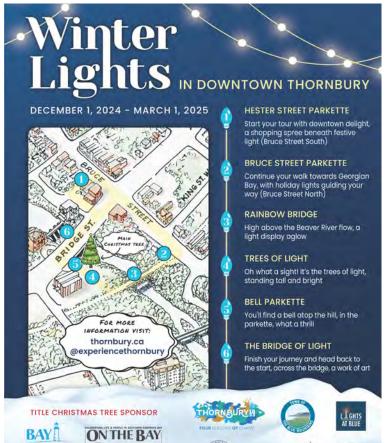
The Blue Mountains Fire Department Reminds the Public to Prepare for Winter Storms

As colder weather approaches, The Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department wants to remind residents and visitors that the Southern Georgian Bay region is extremely susceptible to severe winter storms. To help ensure you are prepared this winter, the Fire Department recommends the following tips:

Outdoor Safety: When spending time outdoors this winter, dress in weather-appropriate clothing like light layers, warm boots, gloves, and a hat that covers your ears. Take regular breaks to warm up inside and check for signs of frostbite, including numbness or white areas on your face and body.

Winterize Your Preparedness Kit: Prepare your emergency kits for colder weather by adding extra blankets, warm clothing and accessories to both your home and car kits. Your kit should include items like: a flashlight, water, non-perishable food, extra blankets and warm clothes. In the event of a power outage, ensure your kit contains reliable sources of heat, fully charged electronics, flashlights and extra batteries.

Stay Informed: Make sure you are aware of winter road maintenance procedures and policies within the Town of Blue Mountains. Before leaving your home, check the local weather forecast and Ontario511 for current road conditions. When driving, give yourself extra time, use caution and drive according to road conditions. If road conditions deteriorate, please avoid unnecessary travel.



Beaver Valley Arena Public Skating

Sat & Sun: 12pm - 2pm

Excluding: Nov. 30, Dec. 14, Dec. 28, Jan.11,

Jan. 18, Feb. 2, Mar. 1-2 Ages 18+: \$3 p/p; Under 18: Free

Adult Skating

Mon & Wed: 10am - 12pm; Thurs: 1pm - 3pm Excluding: Dec. 25-26, Jan. 1, Feb. 17 \$3 p/p; Must be 18+ years of age

Stick & Puck

Mon & Wed: 12pm - 1pm Excluding: Dec. 25, Jan. 1, Feb. 5, Feb. 17 \$3 p/p. Must be 18 years+ of age. All skaters must wear a certified hockey helmet.

Parent & Tots

Thurs: 11am - 12pm, Free. Excluding: Dec. 26, Jan.2, Mar. 13

St. James Fairmount Anglican Church

196759 Grey Rd 7 corner of Grey Rd 7 & Grey Rd 40 1st & 3rd Sunday 9am

Holy Eucharist BCP

2nd & 4th Sunday 9am

Morning Prayer BCP **5th Sunday 4pm**

Evensong BCP & Potluck Supper Rector Jeff Kischak, 519-770-7979

INDOOR WALKING

Beaver Valley Community Centre. Mon. and Thurs. from 9-11am no pre-registration and no fee. Walking with poles with rubber feet and walkers is allowed.



E-NEWSLETTER - Use the subscribe form on our website to receive the weekly E-newsletter. www.bluemountainsreview.ca

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

DONATE - by e-transfer to info@visitblue. ca or by cheque to Riverside Press, Box 245, Clarksburg, NOH 1J0

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 for inclusion in the newsletter by each Friday. Advertising rates available on the website or call 519-599-3345

Healthy Meals For Kids, Savings For Ontario Families

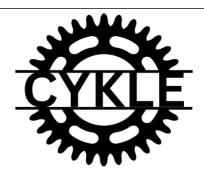
School food programs make life easier. They provide healthy meals to kids throughout the school year. They also save working families hundreds of dollars in grocery bills.

The Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, today announced on November 22, an agreement with the Government of Ontario to increase school food programs in the province. This agreement, under the federal government's National School Food Program, will deliver healthy meals to 160,000 more kids in Ontario this school year. With this agreement, a two-child family in the province will save \$800 in grocery bills a year.

This initial federal investment of \$108.5 million over three years will help families and keep more money in their pockets. Along with increasing funding to school food programs in the province, this investment will also contribute to reduced costs for food transportation, storage, and preparation equipment. All in all, this will result in over 9.8 million more meals served to our kids. This includes 130,000 more school meals served to kids in Indigenous communities across Ontario this year.

Our National School Food Program is a direct investment into the middle class – helping teachers and making mornings a little easier for working families. It is also a safety net for the kids who need this support the most. We're going to work with provinces, territories, and Indigenous partners to ensure every child in Canada has the food they need while at school.

The National School Food Program is part of the federal government's work to put more money in your pocket. Earlier this week, the Prime Minister announced a tax break for all Canadians and the Working Canadians Rebate, giving millions of Canadians cheques in their mailbox and relief at the cash register. We're creating more jobs, building more homes, expanding affordable dental care, and giving every Canadian a tax break.



SMART INDOOR CYCLING

Come ride inside October-March

Smitty's Bike Shop 45 Bruce Street South THORNBURY



GBPH Encourages Residents To Test Their Homes For Radon

Grey Bruce Public Health is encouraging residents to begin testing their homes for radon this November – which is Radon Action Month in Canada.

November is an ideal time of year to test for the invisible, odourless, and tasteless radioactive gas as Health Canada recommends measuring radon for at least three months, ideally during home-heating season.

"Radon can build up in homes of any size and any age. And because you can't see, smell, or taste radon, testing is the only way to know if this gas is in your home," says Andrew Barton, Senior Public Health Manager at GBPH.

Prolonged exposure to elevated levels of radon in the home may lead to lung cancer. Radon is second only to smoking as the leading cause of lung cancer in Canadians, accounting for about 16% of all cases annually.

Radon is released into the environment when uranium – found in soil, rock, or water – breaks down.

When radon escapes into the outdoor air, it is diluted and not a cause for concern. However, radon can seep into homes through cracks in the foundation, gaps around pipes or drains or any other opening where the house contacts the ground. Radon can easily build up in Canadian homes that are well-sealed for the winter weather.

There are two ways residents can test for radon in their homes. They can buy a doit-yourself radon test kit or hire a radon measurement professional to test their home.

More information on radon testing is available at www.takeactiononradon.ca/test-for-radon and on Grey Bruce Public Health's dedicated Radon webpage www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca
For More Information:

To connect with the Medical Officer of Health or the program manager, contact: Denis Langlois,

Communications Co-ordinator, Grey Bruce Public Health, 519-376-9420 or 1-800-263-3456 ext. 1315

DROP-IN BRIDGE

Monday 1-3pm; \$2 p/p St. George's Anglican Church, Clarksburg

BID EUCHRE

Wednesday & Thursday, 12:50-3:30pm; \$2 per day, Small Hall, Beaver Valley Community Centre Lessons Available - Bev 705-507-0563 or Dorothy 519-599-5044

Lobbyist Registry - The Blue Mountains

The Lobbyist Registry came into effect on November 12, 2024 through the approval of the Lobbyist Registry By-law. The registry fosters accountability and transparency by publicly listing details of lobbying activities directed towards Town Council and staff by individuals or organizations.

The registry includes the names of lobbyists, their affiliations, lobbying objectives, and the Town officials lobbied. Lobbyists must register within ten days following any interaction with a public official.

Through the approval of the Lobbyist Registry, Council approved a phased-in education period with enforcement and penalties coming into effect on Monday, May 12, 2025. The education period allows for public, staff and Council training and familiarization with the new process.

Who should register?

Anyone who engages in lobbying as defined in the Lobbyist Registry By-Law must register. The Town recognizes three types of lobbyists:

- Consultant Lobbyists: Individuals engaged to lobby for a client on a paid basis
- In-House Lobbyists: Individuals lobbying on behalf of their employer
- Voluntary Unpaid Lobbyists: Individuals lobbying for themselves or an organization without compensation

If you are not sure if you are a lobbyist, you can use the Lobbyist Registry flow chart to answer yes/no questions to determine if you should register your activities found on the town website.

When are my activities considered lobbying?

If you are an individual who represents a business or financial interest and are communicating with a public officer holder outside of approved public processes with the intent of influencing a decision on governmental matters, including the development, introduction, passage, amendment, reconsideration or repeal of a by-law, motion, resolution or the outcome of a decision on any matter before Council, a Committee of Council or local board of the Town, or Councillor or staff member acting under delegated authority, then you are required to register your activity with the Lobbyist Registry.

Lobbying is a legitimate activity that is part of an individual's, group's, or company's right to communicate with their elected officials and municipal staff. The purpose of the Registry is to provide accountability and transparency around lobbying activities that serve to benefit an individual or group of individuals with a business or financial interest.

Where can I get more information about the Lobbyist Registry?

More information about the registry can be found at www.thebluemountains.ca/lobbyist-registry or by contacting the Lobbyist Registrar at PostOffice@principlesintegrity.org











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VON Community Support Programs

Caregiver Support

This support program is designed for anyone caring for spouses, children, aging parents, neighbours, or friends. Through monthly peer support groups, Educational Days, Workshops, and personalized one-on-one assistance, caregivers receive the strategies and support they need to manage their responsibilities, both emotionally and practically.

VON Grey Bruce will be offering a six-week workshop in the new year titled "Powerful Tools for Caregivers." This workshop aims to help caregivers reduce stress, effectively communicate their feelings, enhance their decision-making skills, find valuable resources, and prioritize their own well-being. Please reach out if you would like to be notified when the date is announced for this workshop.

If you, or someone you know, could benefit from this program, please call 519-376-5895 (ext. 2).

VON – we are a non profit organization that has been leading home and community care in Canada for 127 years. VON has supported Canadians during The Klondike Gold Rush, World War I, the Halifax Explosion, The Great Depression, World War II, and most recently through the COVID Pandemic. We were among the first organizations in the country to offer home care and public health nursing and now, over a century later, we provide home and community support services to over 10,000 people every day across Ontario and Nova Scotia. VON's Community Support Services enrich the lives of clients and their caregivers, fostering connections and strengthening communities.



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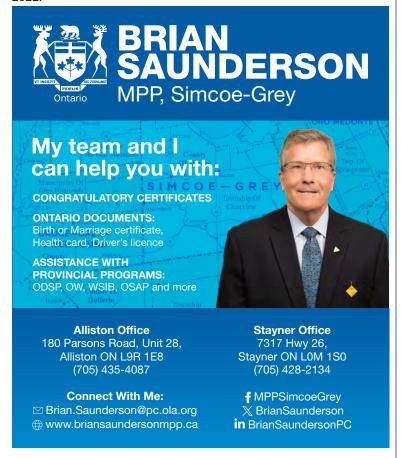
Ontario Increasing Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund to \$600 Million

As part of the provincial government's historic increase to financial support for Ontario municipalities, the province is increasing the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) by \$100 million over two years, bringing the total funding envelope to \$600 million by 2026. The OMPF is the province's main general assistance grant to municipalities.

The 2025 OMPF grant includes an immediate increase of \$50 million to provide \$550 million in unconditional funding to 390 municipalities. The \$50 million enhancement has been targeted to small, Northern and rural municipalities and those with a limited property tax base, with the aim of assisting municipalities so they can provide critical municipal services to people across the province.

"We have heard from small, Northern, and rural municipalities that they need more support to meet the financial challenges they face in delivering services to their communities and that's exactly what this significant increase to OMPF, which is being delivered through our recent Fall Economic Statement, will help them do," said Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy. "Municipalities are critical partners in delivering important local services and we will continue working together to build more homes, support economic growth and strengthen Ontario's communities in a way that is sustainable and responsible."

Ontario has been steadily increasing support to municipalities. From 2019–2023, key provincial support to municipalities grew by over 45 per cent. In 2023 alone, the government provided almost \$10 billion to Ontario municipalities through key transfers. This includes increasing the Homelessness Prevention Program to \$654 million annually, as well as enhanced support for Northern and rural communities, such as the introduction of the \$15 million Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) program in 2021 and the investment of an additional \$1 billion for the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) over five years, starting in 2022.



"We will not leave any part of the province behind as we work together with our municipal partners to create stronger communities," said Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. "By increasing our infrastructure investments for small, Northern and rural municipalities, we are helping lay the groundwork for more homes for the hardworking people of Ontario."

"This announcement continues to demonstrate our government's commitment to rural and Northern municipalities," said Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs. "We have created a stand-alone ministry dedicated to rural affairs and we are listening and taking action as well as building supports that will enable small towns and rural communities to thrive and prosper. Increased funding through the OMPF will ensure small, rural, and Northern Ontario municipalities receive additional base funding needed to address local priorities."







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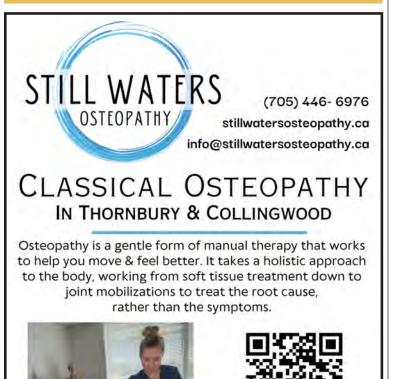


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Learn More & Book Online











Exhibit Opening: Elements – Earth, Water, Sky; Sat Nov 30; 2 - 4pm The Gallery at the L.E. Shore Library

In this duo exhibition, photographers Kathleen Heithorn-Althoff and Karin Modotto present nature's elements of earth, water and sky in a series of larger, fine art photographic works. The public is invited to attend the artists' opening reception on November 30 from 2 to 4PM. This is a rare opportunity to engage with the exhibit and its artists and gain a deeper understanding of their work. We look forward to seeing you there!

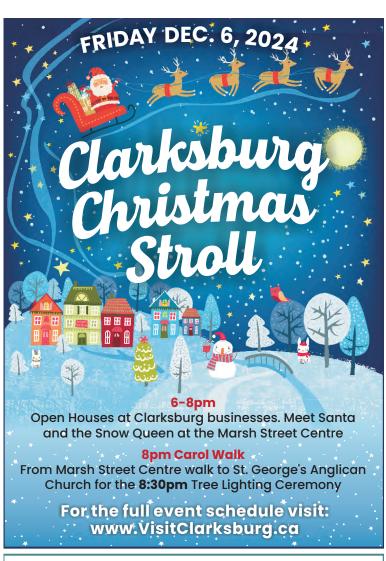


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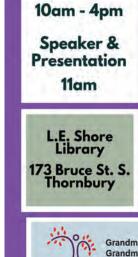




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DAVE RANDALL & FRIENDS CONCERT Sunday December 8th, 2.30pm St. Paul's Presbyterian Church 165 Russell Street E., Thornbury



Sunday, December 8th 3:00pm - 5:00pm **Grace United Church, Thornbury**

Join us for our annual Carolfest, a celebration of Advent and Christmas featuring community choirs and musicians. Donations accepted.

All proceeds go to the Beaver Valley Outreach.

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Downtown Thornbury * Saturday, December 14, 2024

10 A.M. - 12 P.M. L.E. SHORE LIBRARY

A VERY VINTAGE CHRISTMAS - FESTIVE CRAFTS

3 - 6 P.M. **OUTSIDE TOWN HALL**

NEW! OLDE FASHIONED CHRISTMAS BLOCK PARTY -THORNBURY BIA COMMUNITY MARKET. MUSIC. MEET THE SNOW QUEEN, HOT CHOCOLATE & MORE!

5:30 P.M. **OUTSIDE TOWN HALL** **ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING**

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7 - 7:45 P.M. **BRUCE ST S** GROOVE DANCE PARTY WITH TYLER BOYLE

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Ontario Expanding the Role of Nurse Practitioners and Registered Nurses

The Ontario government is making it easier and more convenient for people to connect to the care they need. Upcoming regulation changes will expand the scope of practice for nurse practitioners and registered nurses to order more tests and provide additional services in a variety of settings including hospitals, interprofessional primary care teams and long-term care homes.

Starting July 1, 2025, nurse practitioners will be able to:

- Order and apply a defibrillator to provide faster care to someone in cardiac arrest.
- Order and apply a cardiac pacemaker to make it faster for people to receive care if their heart isn't beating regularly.
- Order and perform electrocoagulation, a process to treat skin conditions and lesions, such as skin tags, helping people get them
- Certify a death in more circumstances, improving the end-of-life experience for families after the death of a loved one.





SMART INDOOR CYCLING

Come ride inside October-March

Smitty's Bike Shop 45 Bruce Street South **THORNBURY**





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