



AGENDA

Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee (METC)

Wednesday March 11, 2026, 10:00 am

Magnetawan Community Centre

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/25994166158946?p=1oWNqO6upDKjlG04ck>

Page # **OPENING BUSINESS**

- 1.1 Call to Order
- 1.2 Adoption of the Agenda
- 2 1.3 Adoption of Previous Minutes
- 1.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 6 2.1 Annual Forum Saturday April 11, 2026
 - *Discussion re broad initiatives and priorities for the coming year .²*
 - *Follow up from October 25th meeting with accommodation providers ²*
- 2.2 Tag Line and Graphic Update
- 2.3 Discussion Merchandising Considerations
- 2.4 Frequently Asked Questions Update
- 2.5 Survey Analysis Update
- 10 2.6 YTD Actuals of Budget Line for METC
- 12 2.7 Save the Date Next Chamber Event is March 24, 2026
- 2.8 Website Update

FOR INFORMATION

- 13 3.1 Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce March Newsletter
- 17 3.2 Employment Lands Light Industrial Lands Available Ad
- 21 3.3 About Invest Ontario
- 24 3.4 Site Ready Funding Motion 2025-333
- 25 3.5 Rural Ontario Development Program (ROD) Funding Program
- 64 3.6 Explorers Edge 2026/2027 Program
- 96 3.7 Municipality of Magnetawan February 2026 Newsletter
- 98 3.8 Municipality of Magnetawan February Events and Programming Newsletter

ADJOURNMENT

- 4.1 Confirm the Proceedings of Committee and Adjourn



Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee (METC)

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday February 18, 2026

1:00 PM

**Magnetawan Community Centre
4304 Highway 520, Magnetawan**

Committee members in attendance:

Chair Rachel Sullivan
Dave Antle
Bill Bishop
Joan Lewis
Rob Ross (electronic participation)
Francine Yolkowskie

Regrets:

Vice Chair Angela Ramsay (Vice Chair)
Brenda Fraser

Staff members in attendance:

Deputy Clerk Laura Brandt (Secretary)

OPENING BUSINESS

1.1 Call to order

The meeting was called to order

1.2 Appointment of Secretary - Laura Brandt, Deputy Clerk - Recreation and Communication

RESOLUTION 2026-05 Bishop-Lewis

BE IT RESOLVED THE Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee welcomes Laura Brandt, Deputy Clerk Recreation and Communication as Secretary for the Committee moving forward AND FURTHER the Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee thanks Erica Kellogg Deputy Clerk Planning and Development for her efforts as the Secretary since its inception of the Committee in 2024

Carried.

1.3 Adoption of the Agenda

RESOLUTION 2026-06 Lewis-Bishop

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Magnetawan Economic adopts the agenda as presented.

Carried.

1.4 **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

Chair Rachel Sullivan stated that should anyone have a disclosure of pecuniary interest that they could declare the nature thereof now or at any time during the meeting.

1.5 **Adoption of Previous Minutes**

RESOLUTION 2026-07 Bishop-Yolkowskie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee approves and accepts the Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee minutes for the January 12, 2026, meeting as presented.

Carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2.1 **Discussion Mandate**

The Chair discussed with the Committee the mandate and how the Committee could be viewed as a Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) as the Committee focus is on industry promotion and support. The Chair explained that there are DMO's across the Province for example Explorer's Edge which would be considered a regional DMO. Within the coverage area of a regional DMO there are smaller DMO's for instance the METC and the Municipality. The Committee discussed the role of the Committee and Municipal Staff. The Committee is a working group focused on promoting and supporting the local tourism industry and does not direct Municipal Staff. The Chair noted that Municipal Staff create or maintain a lot of the tourism product in the community (e.g. Leekfest; parks) and this work should be viewed in the same way as others who create or maintain tourism products (e.g. accommodations providers, the Agricultural Society, etc.). The Committee does not oversee this work but rather aims to support / promote these ongoing efforts. The Committee was in agreement.

2.2 **Annual Forum - Tentative Date April 11, 2026**

The Chair discussed with the Committee the updated Forum work plan that was included in the Agenda Package. The Committee discussed how the agenda for the day could be planned to include workshops and speakers. The Committee would like to engage with as many businesses as possible including STA operators. The Chair discussed with the Committee the budget for this event and it was agreed that a budget of \$5,000 for thank you gifts, speakers, catering and any other materials and supplies needed for the event.

2.3 **Tag Line Graphic Presentation to Council - Update and Next Steps**

Committee Member Ross updated the Committee that the tagline logo will be done at the end of the month. Committee Member Rob Ross updated the Committee that they are currently working with the tagline being legible inside the graphic. Committee Member Bishop asked if the "wan" could be a different colour? or if it could be made to stand out more so those who see it understand the concept. The Committee discussed having the graphic and tagline copyrighted. The Secretary advised the Committee that Staff copyrighted the Leekfest logo and that it was a very simple inexpensive process. Committee Member Rob Ross conduct some research regarding possible merchandising options. The Committee discussed including an

interactive component to this update planned as part of the April 11th forum and to accommodate the additional time needed, focus will be on securing one industry speaker. The Chair to regroup with Committee Member Fraser to modify the event planning accordingly.

2.4 Website - Update

The Secretary advised the Committee that the requested changes to the Municipal Website would have a cost of \$15,000 to \$20,000 as the Municipal Website would have to be migrated to a new platform to achieve them. The Chair asked the Secretary to meet with Committee Members Lewis and Yolkowskie about moving forward with changes that can be completed in house and without great cost.

2.5 Frequently Asked Questions - Update

The Chair deferred until the next meeting.

2.6 Additional Outreach to Accommodation Providers' Responses

The Committee received the results from the additional call out which garnished three responses.

The Secretary advised the Committee that Staff have updated the website business directory to include the new Owners of Quiet Bay. Staff have welcomed them to the Municipality.

2.7 Survey Analysis

The Committee discussed analyzing the data more in depth. There are now over 400 responses. Committee Members Ross and Antle will look at a more in-depth analysis of the data that could be presented at the forum in April.

2.8 Expression of Interest Powassan Maple Syrup Festival Northern Sweet Spots Tourist Showcase Saturday April 25, 2026

The Committee discussed attending the event. Committee Member Joan Lewis could attend with Staff's help if available as no other Committee Members are able to attend. The Secretary will submit the EOI and advise the Committee if we are selected. Rotating slide shows and municipal pamphlets could be handed out at the event table.

2.9 METC Booth for Magnetawan Leekfest Saturday May 9, 2026

The Secretary asked the Committee if they would like to have a vendor booth at the 2nd Annual Leekfest. The Committee discussed not having a static booth and instead walking around the event as tourism ambassadors with Magnetawan of a kind shirts.

FOR INFORMATION

3.1 Wrap Up Almaguin - Official Results

3.2 Almaguin News Article - "Magnetawan: One-of-a-Kind Aims to Pull in More Tourists" - Sarah Cooke

3.3 Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce February 2026 Newsletter

- 3.4 Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce Business Networking Event Thursday February 19, 2026
- 3.5 Destination Ontario, Destination Digest Ontario Recognized in China
- 3.6 Destination Ontario Cross-Border Travel Insights
- 3.7 Explorer's Edge 2026/27 Partnership Program
- 3.8 The Heart of Almaguin - Destination Ontario Presentation by Deputy Clerk Laura Brandt
- 3.9 Report from Deputy Clerk Laura Brandt, Year End Report
- 3.10 Report from Deputy Clerk Laura Brandt, 4th Quarter Report
- 3.11 Outcome of New Years Eve Gala - Deputy Clerk Recreation and Communication Laura Brandt
- 3.12 Report from Deputy Clerk Laura Brandt, Outcome of Dinner and a Drive-In Movie Event
- 3.12 Report from Deputy Clerk, Laura Brandt, Revitalization of Croft Recreational Park
- 3.13 Report from Deputy Clerk, Laura Brandt, Skate/Walk Trail Splash Pad Project
- 3.14 Report from Deputy Clerk, Laura Brandt, 2025 Annual Magnetawan Leekfest
- 3.15 List of Annual Events, Recreational Programming and Initiatives

ADJOURNMENT

- 4.1 **Confirm the Proceedings of Committee and Adjourn**
RESOLUTION 2026-08 Yolkowskie - Bishop
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee adjourns the meeting at 2:50 pm. Chair to meet again at the call of the chair.
Carried.

Approved by:

Chair

Secretary

Subject: FW: April Forum update - can you help with advance notices?

Subject: April Forum update - can you help with advance notices?

Hello everyone,

Following our METC meeting this week, Brenda and I regrouped re the forum and we wanted to provide a high level update as well as share our ideas on changes to the afternoon.

Main session: based on feedback from the meeting, we are focused on the METC update and next steps discussion and a presentation by Explorers Edge (TBC)

We've connected with Explorers Edge and while the response was very positive, we're waiting for them to confirm.

Working Lunch: Maintain working lunch and instead of booths from the different funders / support groups we were looking to showcase in the morning, have different groups showcase area offerings such as programming delivered by the Library and the Recreation Department, upcoming Leekfest, Scotty's Tours, etc. (Note: you may recall that the participants at the accommodations meeting in October thought this would be of interest)

Afternoon Option based on demand (1-2pm):

Having a formal afternoon workshop can make for a long day and it would add to our workload to plan and execute. Instead, we can encourage commercial operators and licensed / and prospective STAs to attend the forum and as part of our next steps discussion we flag our interest in setting up an informal network with accommodation providers and hopefully get people to start 'signing up'.

As well, based on registration, we could offer to host a quick meeting to discuss how we can work together.

Advance notices: In the meantime, we thought it would be important to start giving some key stakeholders some advance notice of the forum. Brenda and I are starting to get some notices out. If anyone has connections with any area accommodation providers or key stakeholders let us know and we can share the template notice we are using (Joan, I'm going to reach out to you re Rockwyn and Lighthouse Landing). We can work with Erica, to get notices out to the other licensed and potential STAs (notice has gone to the two STAs that attended our October meeting).

Thanks,
Brenda and Rachel

DRAFT FAQs (February 2026)

Questions / Notes:

- Should some categories be covered on the website or as part of itinerary packages that we were looking to prepare (e.g. recreation programs, events)?
- Should there be more description added so reader has an idea of what is offered? For instance when it comes to fuel, do the marinas only operate during the summer months and can a vehicle drive up for fuel or would it only be via jerry can? Under places to eat / groceries, specify Home Hardware is outlet for Leadbetter Foods and M&M Foods and some confectionary foods.
- Need to verify list

Places to Eat/Groceries:

Magnetawan Grill & Grocery – 4244 ON-520 Magnetawan, ON
The Bear's Den/Algonquin Fine foods – 59 Sparks St. Magnetawan, ON
Tanner's Dining – 5017 Hwy 124, Magnetawan, ON
The Swiss House – 50 Robinson Dr., Ahmic Harbour, ON
Croswells Mercantile – 62 George St. Ahmic Harbour, ON
Trader Ted's – 6618 Hwy 124, Ahmic Harbour, ON
Dutch Harmony Ranch – 2958 ON-520, Burk's Falls, ON
Magnetawan Snack Bar – 5 Burrows St, Magnetawan
LCBO – 12 Biddy St, Magnetawan
Magnetawan Home Hardware – 15 Burrows St, Magnetawan, ON
Magnetawan Bait & Tackle – 4860 ON-520, Magnetawan, ON
Canadian Farmstead

Shopping:

Algonquin Fine Foods – 59 Sparks St., Magnetawan
Magnetawan Home Hardware – 15 Burrows St, Magnetawan, ON
Magnetawan Bait & Tackle – 4860 ON-520, Magnetawan, ON
Trader Ted's – 6618 Hwy 124, Ahmic Harbour, ON
Ahmic Marine Ltd. – 91 Miller St, Magnetawan, ON
Port Carmen Marina – 3077 ON-520, Burk's Falls
Ahmic Lake Apiaries – 28 Church St, Magnetawan
Canadian Farmstead

Things to Do:

Parks:

Magnetawan Centennial Park- Hwy 520, Magnetawan**
Ahmic Harbour Beach – Ahmic Street, Ahmic Harbour**
Croft Recreational Park – Ahmic Street, Ahmic Harbour
Richard Thomas Memorial Park – 430 Pickeral & Jack Lake Rd #134, Burk's Falls**
High Rock Lookout Park – 843 High Rock Rd, Sundridge
Stan Darling Park, Burk's Falls
Lake Bernard Park, Sundridge**
Mikisew Provincial Park, South River**
Doe lake Municipal Park – 1014 Ferguson Rd, Armour**
Waterfront Park, Sundridge**

****Beach**

Places of Interest:

Heritage Centre Museum – Hwy 520, Magnetawan
Magnetawan Dam & Locks – Hwy 520, Magnetawan
Fagan Falls – Robinson Dr, Magnetawan
Knoefli Falls – Hwy 124, Magnetawan
The Lighthouse – Centennial Park, Hwy 520
Screaming Heads – 981 Midlothian Rd, Burk's Falls
Crystal Cave Mineral Exhibit & Crystal Shop – 11077 Hwy 124, South River

Recreation:

Horse Trails n' Trails – 85 Old Nipissing Rd. S, Magnetawan
Magnetawan Public Library – – see municipal events calendar for programming
Fitness Classes – see municipal events calendar
Pickleball – see municipal events calendar
Line Dancing – see municipal events calendar
Yoga – see municipal events calendar
Nordic Pole Walking – see municipal events calendar
Music in the Park – Centennial Park – Saturdays starting Canada Day weekend
Farmers Market - 4304 N Sparks St, Magnetawan – Saturdays May -October
Art in the Park – Biddy St, Magnetawan

Events:

Family Day Celebrations
Leekfest
Canada Day Celebrations

Services**Churches:**

Knox Presbyterian – 28 Sparks St, Magnetawan
St. Georges Anglican Church – 124 Sparks St, Magnetawan
Trinity Church – 144 Sparks St, Magnetawan
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church – 9 Sparks St, Magnetawan
Holy Spirit Catholic Church - 39 ON-520, Burk's Falls

Boat Launches

Ahmic Lake Hwy 124 Boat Launch – Ahmic Lake
Locks/Museum Boat Launch – Lake Cecebe
Biddy Street Boat Launch – Ahmic Lake
Sparks St Boat Launch – Ahmic Lake
Rockwyn Landing Boat Launch – Lake Cecebe

Waste Management

Chapman Landfill Site – 259 Rocky Rd, Magnetawan, ON
Croft Landfill Site – 25&26th Side Road, Magnetawan, ON

Hospitals/Emergency Services

Huntsville District Memorial Hospital – 100 Frank Miller Dr., Huntsville – 54 min
West Parry Sound Health Centre – 6 Albert St, Parry Sound – 59 min

North Bay Regional Health Centre – 50 College Dr, North Bay – 77 min

Pharmacies

Arnica Medical Pharmacy – 162 Huston St, Burk's Falls, ON

Guardian Sundridge – 107 Main St, Sundridge, ON

Guardian South River – 311 Hwy 124, South River, ON

Pet Resources

River Paws Pet Care Services

Emergency Vet Services – Barrie, ON

Propane

Magnetawan Bait & Tackle - 4860 ON-520, Magnetawan, ON

Magnetawan Home Hardware - 15 Burrows St, Magnetawan, ON

Ahmic Lake Resort - 50 Robinson Dr., Ahmic Harbour, ON

Fuel

Magnetawan Bait & Tackle - 4860 ON-520, Magnetawan, ON

Ahmic Marine Ltd. – 91 Miller St, Magnetawan, ON + (Diesel)

Port Carmen Marina – 3077 ON-520, Burk's Falls (Boat)

Ahmic Lake Resort - 50 Robinson Dr., Ahmic Harbour, ON

Camp Klahanie???

EV Charging

Magnetawan Community Centre – 4304 N Sparks St, Magnetawan

Boat Rentals

Port Carmen Marina – 3077 ON-520, Burk's Falls (Boat)

Ahmic Lake Resort - 50 Robinson Dr., Ahmic Harbour, ON

Report Date
3/02/2026 3:36 PM

Municipality of Magnetawan
Budgetary Control
For the Period 1/01/2026 - 3/31/2026

Page 1

Account # / Description	Committed	Current	Year to Date	Budget	Variance	%
Expense Totals:						
1-4-2300-2010 - ED - MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	121.09	330.72	523.04	\$25,000	(523.04)	
Expense Totals:	121.09	330.72	523.04		(523.04)	
Net Surplus (Deficit):	(121.09)	(330.72)	(523.04)		(523.04)	

Accounts Printed: 1

\$20,000 METC
\$5,000 sign projects 2025
Budget to be approved by Council

Report Date
3/02/2026 3:36 PM

Municipality of Magnetawan
Budgetary Control
For the Period 1/01/2025 - 12/31/2025

Page 1

Account # / Description	Committed	Current	Year to Date	Budget	Variance	%
Expense Totals:						
1-4-2300-2010 - ED - MATERIALS & SUPPLIES		5,268.15	9,245.77	20,000.00	10,754.23	46.2
Expense Totals:		5,268.15	9,245.77	20,000.00	10,754.23	46.2
Net Surplus (Deficit):		(5,268.15)	(9,245.77)	(20,000.00)	10,754.23	46.2

Accounts Printed: 1



Almaguin
Highlands
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

**Join Us- Tues. March 24, 2026, 6pm-8pm for our Networking Event
at 15 Buck Haven Rd. Sundridge at the Bethel Pentecostal Church**

Come out and enjoy some appetizers while networking with other entrepreneurs!

This event is no-charge to AHCC Chamber members and one guest.

Non-member businesses are welcome to attend at \$10 per person.

Come out and see what being a member can do for your business!

The Chamber of Commerce Membership, a strategically smart- entrepreneurial move.

Presentation Topic:

Workforce Development

Pre-registration is required, Members can reply via the emailed invite link.

Non-Members, please contact almaguinhighlandschamber@gmail.com

In collaboration with:



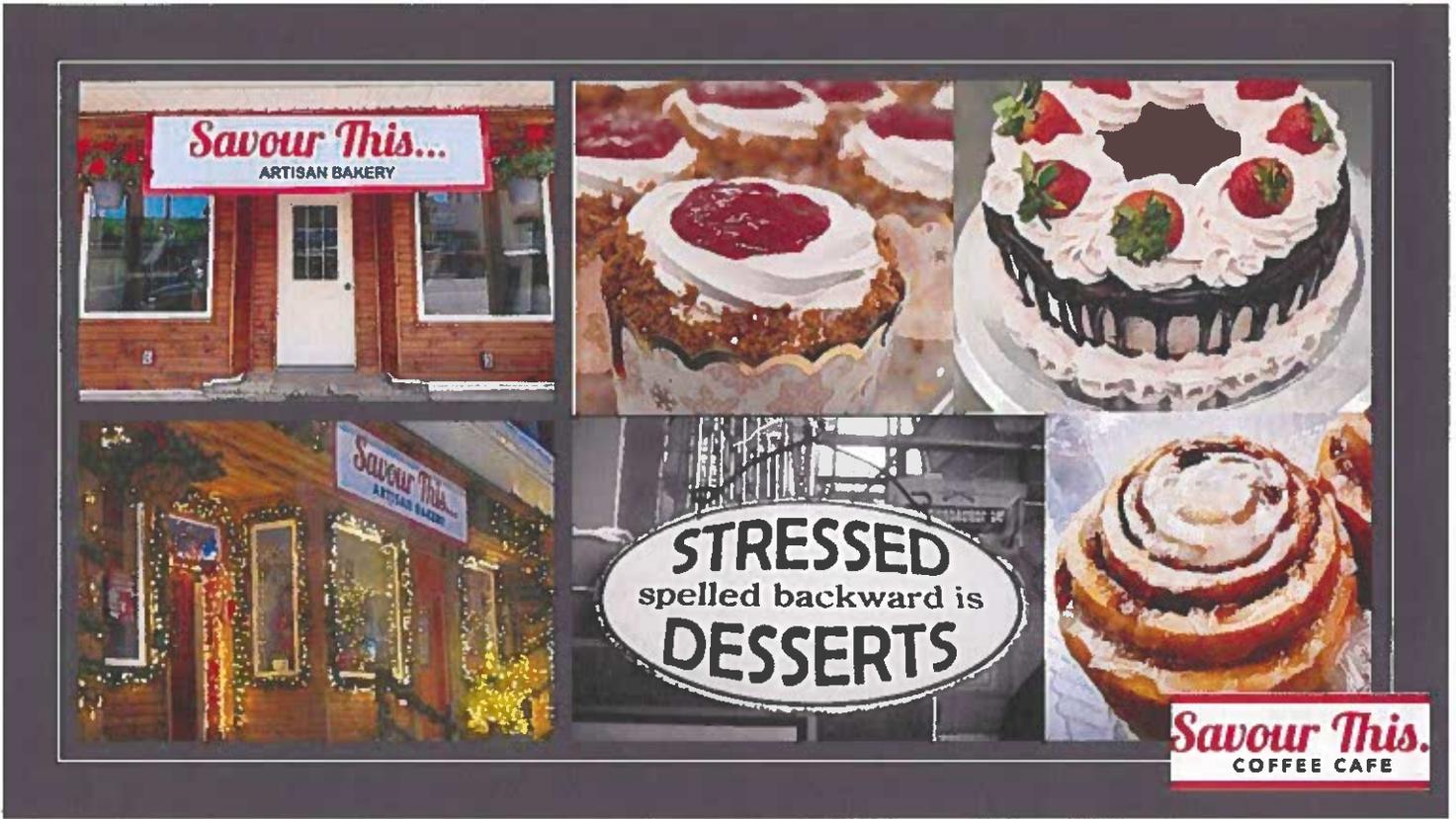
Best regards,

[Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce](#)



Almaguin
Highlands
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

New Member –
Savour This Bakery / Savour This Cafe
Welcome to the AHCC Chamber!



AHCC Chamber Event ~

NETWORKING EVENT



Chamber After-Hours

Save the Date ~
 March 24, 2026, 6pm – 8pm
 Bethel Pentecostal Church
 15 Buck Haven rd. Sundridge
 Topic –
 Workforce Development
 Further Details
 To be Announced...
 Free to Members & 1 Guest
 Non-Members \$10

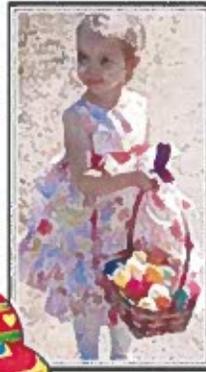
Chamber Member Spotlight Event

Copeman Tree Farm, Annual Easter Egg Hunt Easter Sunday 1pm



What's Included with my Child's \$15 Ticket?

1. Admission into the event
2. Egg hunt
3. Find a **BIG GOLDEN EGG** to win a prize!
4. Hot Dog
5. Juice Box or Water
6. 1 Cookie to Decorate (delicious, soft, home made cookies)
7. 1 Egg Decorating (egg provided)
8. Bird feeder making
9. 1 Raffle ticket
10. Goofy's Maze (if the snow has melted)
11. SPECIAL GUEST: Easter Bunny
12. See 'Mater' and his friends!
13. See Goofy, Tigger, and Shrek too!
14. Playground (if the snow has melted)



2026 Easter Egg Hunt!

★ **Pre-Registration Required**

📍 66 Bloomfield Rd, Sunningdale, ON, Canada, Ontario

☎ +1 705-384-5506

✉ copemanchristmastrees@live.com

Chamber Member Spotlight Event

**Employment North will be hosting an
Income Tax Clinic on March 12th.**



Sudbury Community Service Centre

Can go back up
to 10 years
Can download
T-Slips
Electronically file
2017 to 2025
Cannot file Self
Employed



WHERE? Employment North
131 Ottawa Ave
South River, ON

by appointment. Please call
Chris 705-384-1110 or email
chris@employmentnorth.com

WHEN? March 12, 2026
9:30 am - 3:30 pm

WHAT DO I NEED?

- ✓ FULL NAME
- ✓ BIRTHDAY
- ✓ SIN
- ✓ VALID MAILING ADDRESS

INCOME LIMITS

One person	\$40,000
Two people	\$55,000
Three people	\$57,500
Each Additional person	+\$2,500 per person

CALL TODAY

☎ 705-560-0430 EXT 0

🌐 www.sudburycommunityservicecentre.ca

FREE INCOME TAX CLINICS

On the same day there will also be a representative from Service Canada who can help residents with pension, E.I., passport applications and questions.

March Events



BOARD GAME & PUZZLE SWAP

Saturday, March 7th | 11am-4pm
88 Main Street, Sundridge

Drop-in style event:
Take a puzzle, leave a puzzle
Take a board game, leave a board game

Board games and puzzles must be gently used, clean, and have all of their pieces.



ALMAGUIN TRIVIA NIGHT



2nd Saturday of the month at the
Burk's Falls Legion - 9 Mary St.

January 10 (7-10pm)
February 14 (7-10pm)
March 14 (7-10pm)

\$20 PER TEAM PAYABLE AT THE DOOR
MAXIMUM 5 PLAYERS PER TEAM
EMAIL / CALL / TEXT TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM
AlmaguinTriviaNight@gmail.com | 705-477-4987
Age of majority event. Bring your own snacks!

NUTRITION FOR FAT LOSS



250 clark

WEEKLY COACHING SESSIONS

Four Thursdays in March 6pm
With Cheryl Turpin \$55.
Register at recreation@powassan.net

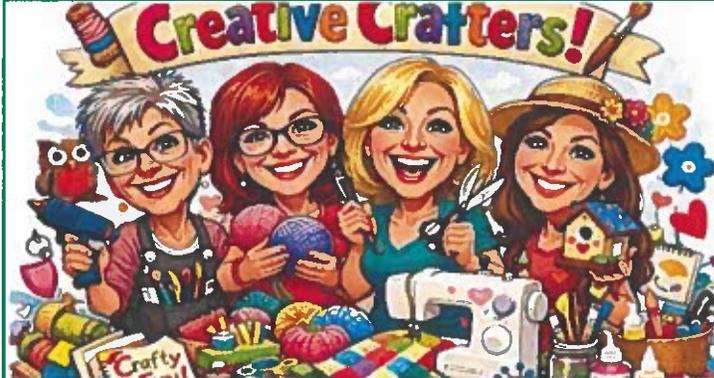
Almaguin Seedy Saturday

Saturday March 14, 2026

Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 10 AM

Almaguin Seedy Saturday
Armour Recreation & Katrine Community Centre

Creative Crafters!



Mon, Mar 2 at 10 AM
Creative crafters
Knox Presbyterian, 28 S Sparks St, Magnetawan, ON P0A, Canada
Shared to Magnetawan, Ontario



Winter Market 250 clark

Saturday March 7 9-1pm



ST. PATRICK'S PARISH IRISH BEEF STEW DINNER

Saturday 14 March, 5:00 to 7:00 PM
Kearney Community Centre

Beef stew, coleslaw, buns, dessert, & beverages
Adults \$20.00, 6-12 yrs. \$10.00, under 6 yrs. free

TICKETS:
Mary Lesperance @ 705-636-7224, or
Andy Dalecourt, Cell: 613-406-0719
Or pay at the door

Proceeds to St. Patrick's Parish General Account

March Events

TEEN Paper Bag
TWEEN Princess
SCENE Day



Saturday,
March 7
10:30-11:30am

Join us for a story and craft!

Burk's Falls, Armour & Ryerson
Union Public Library
705-382-3387
burksfallslibrary@hotmail.com

Family Fun Night!

Sprucedale Community Centre
31 Williams St, Sprucedale

Join us for an affordable dinner & entertainment
with your neighbours!

BAR • KARAOKE • CORNHOLE

\$3 Hot Dogs
\$5 Burgers
\$10 Burger & Beer
March 13, 2026 * 5-9pm

EASTER EGG HUNT

SSJ Arena
Children aged 0 - 10

SATURDAY
MARCH 14TH
10:00-2:00

Must RSVP to Candy @
705-384-5384 X 025
By March 10th



Easter Egg Hunt at the SSJ Arena
March 14th, 2026 | 10:00am - 2:00pm

48 SPRUCEDALE SENIORS PRESENTS 48

Monday Nights **BINGO** AT 7PM



BINGO NIGHT

DOORS OPEN at 6PM
CANTEN AVAILABLE

SPRUCEDALE COMMUNITY CENTRE
31 WILLIAM ST., SPRUCEDALE



EASTER DINNER
MARCH 28 AT 6PM

MAIN COURSE
Ham, Salad, Scalloped Potatoes with a Ban

DESSERT
Cake and Ice Cream

PRICE
Children Under 5 - Free
Age 6 to 12 - \$10.00
13 and Up - \$15.00

RSVP to Samantha
At 705-521-1122

Grease Grrrl
CAR CARE WORKSHOP

Accepting hygiene
donations for the Women's
Own Resource Centre!



March 8
2:00pm - 3:00pm
Truck Accessories Plus
2048 Emsdale Rd, Emsdale ON
almaguin

MARCH BREAK
AT THE MAGNETAWAN
PUBLIC LIBRARY



JOIN US THIS MARCH BREAK!
STARTING TUESDAY MARCH 17TH
EACH DAY UNTIL MARCH 21ST
BETWEEN 11-2PM

WE WILL HAVE NATURE/WILDERNESS
LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND CRAFTS GOING
ON AT THE LIBRARY!
EACH DAY WILL BE A DIFFERENT
ADVENTURE!

Let's Get Moving
March Break!
Monday, March 16th
1:00 to 4:00 PM
St. Patricks Day Crafts!



Think green - leprechaun green! Get into the St. Patrick's Day spirit with us, wear your greenest of greens and be ready to craft all things St. Patty's Day: rainbows, pots of gold & four leaf clovers!

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

FUN GAMES, GREAT PRIZES,
GOOD MEMORIES



WED. MARCH 11, 2026
5:00PM - 7:00 PM
LAND OF LAKES PUBLIC SCHOOL

FREE AT PRIZES
HOUSING DRIVE'S + SNACKS
LAWN BOARD GAMES PUZZLES
JOB SALS

NEW! OFF MARCH BREAK WITH US FOR A FAMILY GAME NIGHT!
STUDENTS MUST ATTEND WITH AN ADULT!



Light Industrial Lands Available!

Development-Ready Employment Lands
Secure Your Site in the Growing Municipality of **Magnetawan**

LIMITED PARCELS AVAILABLE

- ✓ **45 Minutes** East of Parry Sound
- ✓ **1 Hour** South of North Bay
- ✓ **3.5 Hours** North of Downtown Toronto



Key Features:

- ✓ Intersection of Highway 124 & 520
- ✓ Zoned for Light Industrial Use (M1)
- ✓ **\$5,000 per Acre**
- ✓ Newly Constructed Internal Access Road

Request an Information Package



Visit Our Website - www.magnetawan.com

planning@magnetawan.com



705-387-3947 ext 1011

4.11 GENERAL INDUSTRIAL ZONE (M1)

No person shall within any General Industrial Zone (M1) use any land, or erect, alter or use any building or structure except in accordance with the following provisions:

4.11.1 Permitted Uses

- i) bulk fuel depot
- ii) cartage, express truck, transport or bus terminal or yard
- iii) contractors' yard
- iv) lumber yard
- v) manufacturing, processing, assembling and/or fabricating plant
- vi) retail outlet or wholesale outlet or business office accessory to a permitted use provided that it does not exceed 25 per cent of the gross floor area of the principal use
- vii) sawmill
- viii) salvage or wrecking yard
- ix) warehouse
- x) wood products or planning mill
- xi) workshop
- xii) accessory detached dwelling
- xiii) open storage use of goods or materials if accessory to another permitted use

4.11.2 Regulations for Permitted Uses

	Metric
i) Minimum Lot Area	- 1.0 ha
ii) Minimum Lot Frontage	- 90.0 m
iii) Minimum Front Yard	- 15.0 m
iv) Minimum Interior Side Yard	- 6.0 m
v) Minimum Exterior Side Yard	- 10.0 m
vi) Minimum Rear Yard	- 15.0 m
vii) Maximum Lot Coverage	- 50%
viii) Maximum Building Height	- 10.0 m
ix) Setback from high watermark	- 120 m

ABOUT INVEST ONTARIO

Invest Ontario is the partner for businesses seeking strategic growth in Ontario – one of the world’s top investment destinations.

As the province’s dedicated investment attraction agency, we serve as businesses’ one-window access to the best of what Ontario has to offer.

YOUR ONE-WINDOW INTO ONTARIO INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are here to streamline the investment journey, supporting investors with tailored services and resources to expedite their success within Ontario’s vibrant business landscape and beyond.

With a focus on the advanced manufacturing, life sciences, and technology sectors, we are committed to securing strategic investments that create jobs, generate returns to the province, and drive Ontario’s long-term economic growth and global competitiveness.

PARTNER PORTAL

Join us in building a prosperous Ontario.

As part of **Team Ontario**, Invest Ontario works in partnership with municipalities and other entities to attract investment to the province.

The Partner Portal is our central resource hub designed to enhance collaboration. It provides analytics and data tools to support our partners in their investment attraction efforts.

WHY SIGN UP FOR THE PARTNER PORTAL?

- **Access to Resources:** Gain exclusive access to resources, including our GIS platform containing sites and data to support your investment pitches.
- **Enhanced Visibility:** Showcase your partnership with Invest Ontario, increasing your visibility in the investment community.
- **Shared Success:** Benefit from a collaborative environment that prioritizes mutual growth and shared success.

WHAT WE EXPECT OF TEAM ONTARIO MEMBERS

- **Responsibility:** Commitment to responsible business practices and proactive engagement.
- **Collaboration:** Willingness to collaborate and share insights for collective benefit.
- **Innovation:** Embrace innovative approaches to drive growth and success.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Explore our frequently asked questions about the Partner Portal, including its features, how it works, and how to make the most of the platform.

1. What is the Invest Ontario Partner Portal, and why was it developed?

The Invest Ontario Partner Portal is an innovative online platform designed to enhance collaboration between the province, municipalities, and economic development agencies. The portal centralizes resources, data, and communication tools, enabling partners to more effectively attract and retain investment. It was developed to streamline the investment attraction process, improve data accessibility, and foster a unified 'Team Ontario' approach to economic development.

2. What features and tools does the Partner Portal offer?

The Partner Portal offers a range of powerful tools and resources, including:

- **GIS Sites and Data Platform:** A cutting-edge tool powered by ZoomProspector that allows municipalities to submit industrial sites directly to Invest Ontario, eliminating the need for manual submissions. It also provides access to valuable data and analytics to generate sophisticated reports and insights.
- **Resource Library:** A comprehensive collection of case studies, infographics, videos, and reports designed to showcase Ontario's strengths to potential investors.
- **Events Calendar:** A centralized calendar of investment attraction events, with tags indicating where Invest Ontario and its partners will be present, fostering greater coordination and collaboration.
- **Community Discourse Forum (Coming Soon):** A discussion forum for economic development professionals to share ideas, best practices, and insights.

3. How is access to the Partner Portal granted to municipalities and economic development agencies across Ontario?

To gain access to the Partner Portal, organizations must first accept the Team Ontario Partner Pledge and complete a registration form. Once the form is submitted and the email address is validated, Invest Ontario will grant access to the portal and its features. The first registrant becomes the Partner Portal administrator for their organization and can provide access to other members of their team.



RESOLUTION NO. 2025- 333

DECEMBER 10, 2025

Moved by: Brad Kneller

Seconded by: Bishop

WHEREAS staff submitted an application for Invest Ready-Certified Site Designation, which was denied due to the absence of water, wastewater, and natural gas infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS staff subsequently met with representatives of the associated grant funding program, who advised that additional funding opportunities for rural communities would be forthcoming;

AND WHEREAS the Site Readiness Program for Industrial Properties has since been launched, with eligibility requirements stipulating that any missing infrastructure must be in place and serviceable within two years of acceptance into the grant funding program;

AND WHEREAS it is not financially feasible nor in the best interest of our ratepayers to install full municipal water, wastewater, and natural gas services, as the associated capital and operating costs would impose an undue financial burden on the Municipality's ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS alternative servicing solutions commonly used in rural and northern Ontario—such as properly designed and maintained septic systems for wastewater, drilled wells for drinking water, and propane or hydro for heat—are proven, reliable, and effective forms of infrastructure that can safely and efficiently support industrial and commercial development;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan urges the Province of Ontario to revise its grant funding criteria to recognize and accept these alternative servicing methods as eligible infrastructure, and to ensure that rural and northern municipalities lacking municipal gas, water, and wastewater systems are not excluded from support;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford; the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; the Honourable Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade; the Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka; the Honourable Scott Aitchison, MP for Parry Sound-Muskoka; FONOM; AMO; NOMA; and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried Defeated Deferred

Sam Dunnett
Sam Dunnett, Mayor

Recorded Vote Called by: _____

Recorded Vote

Member of Council	Yea	Nay	Absent
Bishop, Bill			
Hetherington, John			
Hind, Jon			
Kneller, Brad			
Mayor: Dunnett, Sam			

Rural Ontario Development Program (ROD) Guidelines - Community Development

Learn how to get funding for projects that improve rural community economies.

Overview

The Rural Ontario Development (ROD) Program provides Cost-Share funding to support activities that create strong rural communities in Ontario and opens doors to rural Economic Development, by funding Projects that:

- address barriers to Economic Development
- increase capacity and effectiveness for Economic Development
- build rural community capacity to attract, retain and expand businesses
- better position rural communities to attract or retain investment
- support jobs to be attracted and retained in rural communities
- support economic growth and resiliency through regional partnerships
- address Workforce development challenges
- transform community assets to drive Economic Development

The ROD Program is application-based and Projects are selected using a competitive process. All applications are assessed based on the guidelines. Please review these guidelines before completing your application form.

These guidelines and related application forms are subject to change without notice.

Please refer to the glossary section (<https://www.ontario.ca/document/rural-ontario-development-program-rod-guidelines-community-development/glossary-and-legal>) for any capitalized terms. These terms are defined in detail to ensure clarity and consistency throughout our materials.

Eligibility and program overview

Who is eligible

To be eligible to apply to the Rural Ontario Development Program – Community Development, an Applicant must be:

- a Municipality
- a Not-For-Profit organization
- an Ontario Indigenous community or Indigenous Not-For-Profit organization
- a Local Services Board

The Province is committed to supporting the success of Indigenous communities and Indigenous non-profit organizations in Rural Ontario. Indigenous Applicants are encouraged to contact program staff for assistance at: RODprogram@ontario.ca (mailto:RODprogram@ontario.ca) or 1-877-424-1300.

Role of Applicant

Multiple applications from the same Applicant within the same intake are allowed but are discouraged.

An Applicant may not combine or stack funding from multiple Ontario government departments or programs for the same Project. Applications for ROD Program Community Development streams must be for Projects that are not concurrently supported by other Ontario government sources.

The Applicant will submit the application and, if successful, sign the Contribution Agreement with the Province of Ontario.

When working with a Partner, the Applicant is the contact for the Project and assumes full responsibility for the Project, including legal liability, receiving payments and submitting invoices.

Successful Applicants must comply with the Contribution Agreement and all other Requirements of Law.

Role of Partner

Applicants may choose to work with Partners on the Project.

Partners are organizations or community groups that contribute financial or In-kind resources to the Project.

To be considered a Partner, organizations or community groups **must** have a role in the Project and provide either financial or In-kind support to the Project.

In-kind support could include a commitment of resources such as staff time, expertise, equipment, or other non-monetary support.

Who is not eligible

The following are not eligible to apply to ROD Program – Community Development:

- an individual
- a business
- a research institution or organization whose core business or primary activity is research and development (for example, universities, colleges)
- a not-for-profit organization that is not incorporated or a registered charity

Definition of Rural Ontario

Projects must take place in and benefit Rural Ontario.

Rural Ontario for the purposes of the ROD Program is defined as:

- all Statistics Canada census subdivisions (including lower-tier and single-tier Municipalities) that either have a population of less than 100,000 people in the most recent Statistics Canada Census of Canadian Population, or;
- have a population density of 100 people per square kilometre or less, as identified in the most recent Statistics Canada Census of Canadian Population or;
- a rural postal code within areas considered urban. “0” as the second character of a postal code identifies a rural postal code.

Refer to the ROD Program “Rural and Urban Areas” map (<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/efec072314ae451ca6fb59c356d02882>).

This is an overview of the funding streams and sub-streams available for:

- Municipalities
- Not-For-Profits
- Indigenous communities and Indigenous non-profit organizations
- Local Services Boards

Stream 1: Economic diversification, competitiveness and capacity building

Sub-stream	Maximum provincial Cost Share	Maximum provincial funding
Strategies and plans	50%	Up to \$50,000
Economic diversification and competitiveness	50%	Up to \$150,000
Capacity building events	35%	Up to \$10,000

Stream 2: Workforce development, attraction and retention

Sub-stream	Maximum provincial Cost Share	Maximum provincial funding
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Sub-stream	Maximum provincial Cost Share	Maximum provincial funding
Workforce development, attraction and retention	50%	Up to \$150,000

Stream 3: Community infrastructure enhancements

Sub-stream	Maximum provincial Cost Share	Maximum provincial funding
Small Projects	35%	Up to \$25,000
Large Projects	35%	Up to \$250,000

Program streams and Project types

The Applicant is required to identify the program stream and Project type in the application. The program stream and Project type selected will impact the provincial Cost Share, the maximum provincial funding, and the eligible expenses for the Project.

Economic diversification, competitiveness and capacity building stream

Strategies and plans

This sub-stream funds strategies and plans and has a provincial Cost Share of up to 50% and maximum provincial funding of \$50,000.

Projects in this sub-stream will develop strategies or plans that will **build community capacity** and enhance the ability of communities to be prepared for and engage in Economic Development activities.

Example Projects

- Economic Development strategy
- housing plans for attracting and retaining workers
- feasibility or business plans
- community improvement plans

Economic diversification and competitiveness

This Project sub-stream has a provincial Cost Share of up to 50% and maximum provincial funding of \$150,000.

Projects in this sub-stream must implement an existing plan or strategy.

Business retention and expansion

Projects that proactively **engage the local or regional business community** to identify and implement actions that address barriers to growth

Example Projects: Projects that are part of MRA's Business Retention and Expansion Program (BR+E) (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/business-retention-and-expansion-program>) or similar to such Projects with activities including:

- collecting business and market data
- writing and implementing action plans
- executing actions to support local businesses in the community

Downtown revitalization

Projects that focus on identifying and implementing actions that **improve and promote traditional downtowns**.

Example Projects: Projects that are part of MRA's Downtown Revitalization Program (DR) (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/downtown-revitalization-program>) or similar to such

Projects with activities including:

- growing customer traffic
- attracting business to locate in downtowns through marketing activities

Entrepreneurship or business succession

Projects that support **business start-up or succession** in the community.

Example Projects:

- coaching/mentorship
- business succession support (for example, connecting buyers and retiring business owners)
- familiarization tours

Regional marketing and outreach

Projects that **implement marketing or promotional activities** outlined in an existing marketing or communications plan that will have an **impact across multiple communities** in a region.

Example Projects: Promotional campaigns across at least 2 communities (for example, investment attraction)

Technology adoption or innovation initiatives

Projects that support businesses and/or communities to **improve their digital capabilities** and participate in the information economy.

Example Projects:

- digital and cyber security training for businesses
- new technology to improve coordination of business approvals

Capacity building events

This sub-stream has a provincial Cost Share of up to 35% and maximum provincial funding of \$10,000.

This sub-stream funds events to **strengthen rural individuals, organizations and communities' knowledge and skill sets**, to undertake and manage their Economic Development efforts. Events must have an Economic Development skill development and/or training component.

Events that target tourists or general community events are not eligible Projects.

Project examples:

- asset based community development training
- summits/conferences related to community Economic Development
- community Leader skill development
- regional Economic Development capacity building events

Workforce development, attraction and retention

This Project stream has a provincial Cost Share of up to 50% and maximum provincial funding of \$150,000.

This stream funds Projects that support communities to implement strategies and/or to undertake initiatives for attracting and retaining workers.

Attraction, retention, and training of workers

Implementation of strategies to attract, retain and train workers, immigrants or youth.

Example Projects:

- collaborative labour attraction marketing campaigns
- workforce-oriented policy/regulatory improvements
- career days/events
- network development (service providers / businesses/ schools/ post-secondary)
- workforce or sector-based training
- youth training
- intern/apprentice matching system

- welcoming community Projects

Community infrastructure enhancements

This stream funds Projects that update or transform Community Assets that have been identified as important to the community's economy. There are small or large Projects in the community infrastructure enhancements stream, and small or large Projects are eligible for all 3 Project types.

The large Projects sub-stream has a provincial Cost Share of up to 35% and maximum provincial funding of \$250,000.

The small Projects sub-stream has a provincial Cost Share of up to 35% and maximum provincial funding of \$25,000. Small Projects have a streamlined application and assessment process.

Rehabilitation of cultural, heritage or tourism attractions

Minor Capital Costs Projects that **rehabilitate an existing cultural, heritage, or tourism attraction**, as identified through previously completed strategies and Projects that establish its significance for Economic Development.

Example Projects:

- rehabilitation of a historic building or structure
- rehabilitation of an established tourism asset
- rehabilitation of a recreational trail

Redevelopment of vacant and/or underutilized buildings

Minor Capital Costs Projects to **redevelop vacant and/or underutilized buildings** to achieve an Economic Development outcome.

Example Projects:

- expansion of an incubator or innovation hub
- development of a co-working space
- youth centre

- agri-food hubs

Streetscaping and landscaping

Minor Capital Costs Projects identified through previously completed strategies that improve the design quality of public areas.

Example Projects:

- wayfinding signage
- beautification (for example, decorative lighting, banners, murals, street furniture, public art, trees)
- wi-Fi equipment for public use

Ineligible Projects

The following Projects are ineligible:

- submissions with incomplete applications
- Projects that do not meet the outcomes of the ROD Program (as outlined in the “Program outcomes and performance measures” section below) or align with the program streams
- Projects that do not benefit Rural Ontario
- Projects receiving any amount of other provincial funding
- Projects seeking funding for academic research
- debt restructuring, fundraising, or financing (for example, re-granting ROD Funds)
- Projects that will influence or lobby any level of government
- Projects seeking funding for major capital Projects (for example, new building construction, roads, bridges, paved or concrete surfaces, water/wastewater treatment facilities, utility distribution, broadband)
- regional marketing and outreach Projects that do not have an impact across at least 2 lower-tier or least 2 communities within a single-tier Municipality, or that focus exclusively on tourism events

- Projects that host events with the intent to primarily attract tourists or general community attendance
- those primarily benefitting an individual business
- Projects that the primary purpose is to ready a property or asset for immediate or imminent sale
- Projects that the primary purpose is to support compliance efforts with current Requirements of Law

How to apply

Intake and deadlines

Refer to the ROD Program page (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/rural-ontario-development-program>) for intake windows and application deadlines

Step 1

Download, save and complete the application form (<https://www.ontario.ca/files/2025-06/mra-rod-community-development-application-form-en-2025-06-23.pdf>).

Step 2

Email RODprogram@ontario.ca (<mailto:RODprogram@ontario.ca>) with:

- A completed application
- Applicants are encouraged to include **supplemental documentation** with the application. Examples include:
 - letters from the Partner confirming their role in the Project by describing their commitment of financial support and/or in-kind commitments such as resources, knowledge or staff
 - quotes or estimates for cost items over \$10,000 to support the Project budget
 - feasibility studies, strategic plans, reports, or relevant evidence that supports the need for the Project and anticipated impacts
- If the attachments are greater than 10 MB, send multiple emails and ensure the subject line remains consistent.

Step 3

The Province will only assess completed applications received by the program intake deadline.

The Province is committed to supporting the success of Indigenous communities and Indigenous non-profit organizations in Rural Ontario. Indigenous Applicants are encouraged to contact program staff within the intake period, to discuss opportunities for ROD Program flexibility such as application intake timelines, Project assessments and reporting timelines. Please reach out during the intake period to:

RODprogram@ontario.ca (mailto:RODprogram@ontario.ca) or call 1-877-424-1300.

Step 4

The Province will send a confirmation email with an application number within 5 business days of the receipt of application.

If you do not receive confirmation, please contact RODprogram@ontario.ca (mailto:RODprogram@ontario.ca) or call 1-877-424-1300.

Program outcomes and performance measures

Applicants are required to describe in the application how their Project will tangibly support the ROD Program's outcomes and how the Project impacts will be measured. For further detail on how Projects are evaluated based on the program outcomes, please refer to the assessment criteria scoring section below.

The ROD Program outcomes and example performance measures include:

Businesses attracted, retained and expanded

The number of businesses that have opened, remained, and/or grown within a community that could reasonably be attributed to the activities of the Project.

Example performance measures:

- number of businesses attracted, retained and expanded

- the change in the number of businesses

Economic barriers addressed in rural including those of Indigenous communities

The reduction of obstacles that hinder Rural Ontario communities, organizations, or Indigenous communities from benefiting from growth and development; and can be reasonably attributed to the activities of the Project.

Example performance measures:

- number of economic barriers or opportunities addressed
- description of economic barrier and how it was addressed

Increased capacity and effectiveness for rural Economic Development

The process of strengthening people, organizations and communities' knowledge and skill sets to undertake and manage their Economic Development efforts.

Example performance measures:

- number of people and businesses engaged
- level of satisfaction
- intent to adopt the information learned

Investment attracted or retained

The attraction of new investments from public and private sources or the retention of investments in a community that might not have occurred without the activities of the Project.

Example performance measures:

- dollars of investment attracted and retained
- building permit value
- new property tax assessment
- preventing loss in tax base from vacancies/closures

Jobs attracted or retained

The number of new paid positions created during or after the Project that will result in longer term jobs that can be directly attributed to Project activities, which otherwise may not have been created; and/or the number of existing jobs that will be maintained within a community during or after the Project that can be directly attributed to Project activities and may otherwise have not been retained.

Example performance measure:

- number of jobs attracted and retained

Regional partnerships that strengthen local economies and resiliency

Partnerships between 2 or more communities, that agree to work together to drive growth and adapt to economic circumstances. Regional, collaborative partnerships help pool limited resources, both human and financial to increase the Project's effectiveness.

Example performance measures:

- number of Partners involved in the Project
- contribution of the Partners towards the Project

Transformed or modernized Community Assets that drive economic growth and resiliency

The enhancement of physical Community Assets that have been identified as economically important to the community. The improvement would lead to the rehabilitation and renewal of the assets that preserves and enhances the unique character of the community.

Example performance measures:

- dollars invested in physical Community Asset enhancement
- increased utilization of the Community Asset

Workforce development challenges addressed

Workforce challenges are acted on, fostering an adequate, equitable and/or stable Workforce in a community that could be reasonably attributed to the Project activities.

Example performance measures:

- number of Workforce development challenges or opportunities addressed
- Workforce and employer engagement
- number of people trained

Project funding and costs

Approved funding payment

Generally, payments under the ROD Program are reimbursement-based and will be made following verification of proof of payment, with the exception of a 10% holdback. The 10% holdback will only be provided once the final report (<https://www.ontario.ca/document/rural-ontario-development-program-rod-guidelines-community-development/selection-process#final-report>) is received and accepted by the Province.

However, the Province may provide an initial payment of 20% of the approved funding for successful Projects following the execution of the Contribution Agreement, provided the following conditions are met:

- The Applicant has indicated the need for immediate use of some program Funds in the fiscal year of 2025-2026 (before March 31, 2026) in its Project budget.
- The Applicant has provided an undertaking that the initial 20% payment will be used solely for eligible costs permitted under these guidelines and the Contribution Agreement.
- The Applicant will provide proof of payment following the use of the initial 20% payment, which shall be verified by the Province before any additional Funds are disbursed.
- Where such verification cannot be completed to the satisfaction of the Province, the Project may not be completed, and the Applicant will be required to repay the initial 20% payment, as well as the costs Incurred by the Province to recover the Funds and interest.

Please note that this initial 20% payment is granted as a one-time approval by the Province and does not establish any precedent, intention, or expectation of continued or future funding in a similar manner.

All payments are subject to the Applicant's compliance with the requirements of the ROD Program and terms of the Contribution Agreement, as determined by the Province in its sole discretion.

Stacking

Stacking with other provincial sources of financing for the Project is not permitted. Projects receiving other provincial funding are not eligible to apply for or receive funding under the ROD Program. Provincial funding includes but is not limited to Funds administered by:

- Provincial Ministries or agencies
- Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation
- regional tourism organizations

Funding from federal government programs (for example, Community Futures Development Corporations) can be used toward a Project's total costs, if it is permitted under applicable federal programs.

Funding sources for Projects

Combined federal and ROD Program funding cannot exceed 90% of the Project's eligible costs.

The Applicant must disclose all potential sources of funding for the Project in the application whether they are secured or not. Secured funding means a written commitment from the Partner. Failure to disclose all funding or possible funding sources may result in mitigation measures, up to and including the termination of the application or Contribution Agreement.

In-kind Contributions are not eligible for funding or reimbursement but can be noted on the application to demonstrate a commitment from Applicants and Partners.

Extenuating circumstances

Applicants may request an increased provincial Cost Share and/or an amount of provincial funding for a Project that exceeds the maximum provincial funding amount noted above, based on significant barriers to or opportunities for Economic Development.

Extenuating circumstances are significant and unique and are not common across program Applicants. Applicants will be required to explain in detail, the significant barriers or opportunities and provide rationale for their additional funding request.

Approval of an increased provincial Cost Share or funding amount for a Project due to extenuating circumstances is in the Province's sole discretion. Any such decision by the Province will be subject to additional provincial approvals that may impact Project timelines.

Eligible and Ineligible Cost items for all Projects

Eligible Costs must be:

- reasonable as determined by the Province
- necessary to complete the Project as determined by the Province
- identified within the Contribution Agreement
- Incurred **within** the period identified in the Contribution Agreement; between the Effective Date and Project completion date outlined in the Contribution Agreement
- Incurred in Ontario
- Incurred by following a process that is transparent, fair and promotes the best value for money (i.e., prices must be competitive and not more than the fair market value)
- paid to an Arm's Length third-party

Ineligible Costs are:

- unreasonable as determined by the Province
- unnecessary to complete the Project as determined by the Province
- Incurred outside the period identified in the Contribution Agreement
- Incurred outside of Ontario

- Incurred by following a process that is not transparent or fair or does not promote the best value for money (i.e., prices are not competitive or are more than the fair market value)
- paid to a non-Arm's-Length third-party or
- In-kind Contributions

Table A: eligible and ineligible expenses for all project streams and sub-streams

Eligible expenses	Ineligible expenses
<p>New Hires</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • new hires who work 100% on Project-related activities - wages and mandatory employer related costs • Other costs for new hires who work 100% on Project-related activities, including the cost of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Laptops, computers, software ◦ Travel in Ontario in compliance with the province's travel, meal and hospitality directive ◦ Portable internet services, cell phones, cellular network services ◦ Professional development costs 	<p>Employee expenses not related to new hires</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct wage subsidies for existing staff on Project related activities or administrative fees charged by the Applicant. • Honoraria or per diems taxable under the Income Tax Act, • Membership costs • Travel and meals for consultants and existing staff <p>Administrative costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financing and financing charges, debt restructuring, loan interest payments and bank fees • Preparing an application, claim submission or reporting requirements for any program, including the ROD Program

Eligible expenses

Professional fees specifically related to the activities of the Project

- Legal
- Architectural
- Engineering
- Environmental
- Surveys
- Project management
- Audio visual
- Marketing and promotions
- Consulting
- Accounting fees

Technology costs

- Project-related computer, communications and audio or video equipment
- Project-related software

Events, marketing and promotion costs

- Design, branding and production of materials, excluding giveaway items
- Media, promotions or advertising

Ineligible expenses

Technology costs

- Recurring software licenses/fees

Events, Hospitality and promotion costs

- Catering, food and refreshments (see Eligible Costs under the Event Stream only for exemption)
- Alcohol
- Gifts, awards, prizes or incentives
- Fundraising
- Sponsorship of conferences and events
- Private sector events
- Events that have already occurred
- Giveaway items (for example, branded pens, buttons, notepads etc.)

Vehicles and Transportation Equipment Costs

- Vehicles
- Transportation equipment
- Material handling equipment (powered and unpowered)
- Agricultural, construction, or mining equipment

Eligible expenses

- Distribution costs, including data, printing, or postage
- Venue rental fees
- One-time tradeshow entrance or exhibit fees

Honorariums

- Honorariums for Indigenous Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers

Ineligible expenses

- Honorariums for speakers or attendees who are not Indigenous Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers

Major Capital Costs

- Costs as identified in the Glossary

Normal business practice costs

- On-going operational costs of an organization
- Insurance and taxes including HST
- Meeting costs not directly related to the Project
- Travel not directly related to the Project
- Office space and utilities
- Regular or deferred maintenance
- Office supplies, stationary, business cards and business-specific promotional items
- Office phones, internet and networks
- Uniforms

Other Costs

- Activities that influence or lobby any level of government

Eligible expenses	Ineligible expenses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permits and approvals • Contingencies • Deposits (prepayments) for expenses that have yet to be fully incurred • Refunds or rebates, including any you are eligible to receive

Table B: Eligible and ineligible expenses for strategies and plans sub-stream

Eligible expenses	Ineligible expenses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional fees or new hires to develop strategies and plans • All expenses included in the ineligible expenses in Table A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major or Minor Capital Costs (refer to glossary) • All expenses included in the ineligible expenses in Table A

Table C: Eligible and ineligible expenses for economic diversification and competitiveness sub-stream

Eligible expenses	Ineligible expenses

Eligible expenses	Ineligible expenses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training development and speaker fees • Workshop and training-related materials and supplies costs • Event related transportation costs • All other eligible expenses included in Table A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major or Minor Capital Costs (refer to glossary) • All expenses included in the ineligible expenses in Table A

Table D: Eligible and ineligible expenses for capacity building events sub-stream

Eligible expenses	Ineligible expenses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training development and speaker fees including transportation, meal and hotel costs for approved Project related activities (in compliance with the province's Travel, Meal and Hospitality Directive (https://www.ontario.ca/page/travel-meal-and-hospitality-expenses-directive)) • Workshop and training-related materials and supplies costs • Event related transportation costs • Catering (in compliance with the province's Travel, Meal and Hospitality Directive) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the primary purpose is an annual general meeting or regular business meeting or a fundraising event • Events that have already occurred • Private sector events

Eligible expenses	Ineligible expenses
<p>(https://www.ontario.ca/page/travel-meal-and-hospitality-expenses-directive))</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All other eligible expenses included in Table A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major or Minor Capital Costs (refer to glossary) All expenses included in the ineligible expenses in Table A

Table E: Eligible and ineligible expenses for workforce development, attraction and retention stream

Eligible expenses	Ineligible expenses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training development and speaker fees Workshop and training-related materials and supplies costs Event related transportation costs All other eligible expenses included in Table A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major or Minor Capital Costs (refer to glossary) All expenses included in the ineligible expenses in Table A

Table F: Eligible and ineligible expenses for community infrastructure enhancements stream

Eligible expenses

Minor Capital Costs

- Contractor's fees
- Cost of materials or supplies (for example, electrical, plumbing, ventilation, structural and finishings) and labour, for:
 - Redevelopment of an existing vacant or underutilized building
 - Rehabilitation of buildings or structures with identified cultural, heritage, or tourism significance
 - Landscaping and streetscaping
- Streetscaping and landscaping such as wayfinding signage, decorative lighting, banners, murals, street furniture, interpretive elements, public art, trees, and accessibility equipment outside of a building
- Rental or purchase of equipment and machinery
- Furniture and major appliances
- Localized Wi-Fi hardware and software for public use
- Project-related computer, communications and audio or video equipment
- Trail rehabilitation (non-paved surfaces), including existing trail bridges

Other costs

Ineligible expenses

Major Capital Costs including, but not limited to, costs of:

- Purchase or lease of land, buildings and facilities
- Site preparation
- Construction of buildings, teardowns or rebuilds
- Construction or rehabilitation of paved or concrete surfaces, parking lots
- Gateway signs
- Major infrastructure (for example, water/wastewater systems, storm water management, transportation facilities, roads, road/highway bridges and streetlights)
- Infrastructure and equipment costs for airports, seaports, railways, and commuter/tourist

Eligible expenses	Ineligible expenses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contingency costs up to 10% Recognition Signage: Projects in this stream are required to install a permanent sign acknowledging the support of the ROD Program. Eligible expenses for the design, fabrication, and installation of the sign will be reimbursed up to a maximum of \$300, based on a total eligible cost of \$857.14 <p>All other eligible expenses included in Table A</p>	<p>transportation systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilities, power lines, chargers, generational systems, broadband infrastructure, and water or wastewater lines outside of a building <p>All expenses included in the ineligible expenses in Table A</p>

Ownership of eligible capital assets must be maintained for a minimum of 2 years after the completion of the Project.

Applicants may contact the Province at RODprogram@ontario.ca (mailto:RODprogram@ontario.ca) with questions regarding the eligibility of any potential costs not explicitly addressed in this section. Provincial determination of eligibility is final.

Project description, work plan and budget

Single and multi-year Projects are eligible. Projects should incur expenses within the first year of the Project.

In the assessment criteria, preference is given to Projects that are completed by March 31, 2026 or March 31, 2027.

Project description

The Project description should describe:

- the Project key activities

- what the Project will accomplish
- how it will benefit Rural Ontario
- align with the work plan and budget in the application form

Project need

- The Project Need should be described in the application and how the Project will address an Economic Development need or opportunity.

Work plan and budget

The Project work plan and budget should list each activity required to complete the Project, the anticipated start and end date of each activity and the eligible costs items associated with the activity. Applicants are encouraged to attach relevant supplementary documentation to support the application.

The Project budget must:

- list the specific eligible cost items associated with each activity in the Project work plan. Some activities may have more than one eligible cost (for example, an event may have the following costs: venue rental, printing, marketing or promotions)
- list eligible, in-kind and ineligible costs
- indicate when the costs will be Incurred each year
- indicate if funding is secured or not
- if including contingency costs (Community Infrastructure Enhancements Projects only), include a specific "contingency costs" budget line

Eligible costs must be broken down by fiscal year (between April 1 and March 31) and align with the timelines outlined in the Project work plan.

The Applicant is encouraged to provide as much detail as possible about cost items and may attach more detailed budget documents with the application.

In-kind and ineligible costs will not be matched by provincial cost-share funding but do indicate the Applicant and Partner(s) commitment to the Project.

Applicants may submit quotes and estimates for cost items over \$10,000.

Quotes or estimates should include a category breakdown (specify all items per cost item) for all Project costs.

Quotes can be provided either on supplier letterhead or as a screenshot from the supplier's website (screenshot must include website URL, itemized list and totals).

Selection process

Once an application has been submitted and the intake period closes, each application will be assessed based on the following criteria:

Stage 1: Eligibility screening

An application must meet the following basic eligibility criteria to move on to Stage 2:

- a complete ROD Program application and all supporting documentation was received by the date and time indicated for the intake
- meeting all the Applicant eligibility criteria
- meeting all the Project eligibility criteria
- the Project takes place in and benefits Rural Ontario

Stage 2: Project assessment

Applications will be scored based on the following criteria and the criteria are listed in order of importance.

Indigenous community or Indigenous non-profit organization Projects will be given additional consideration, in the assessment areas of:

- partnerships and community support
- financial commitment.

For Projects requesting less than \$25,000 in provincial funding, the applications will not be evaluated on the assessment criteria of:

- performance measures

- sustainability.

Assessment Criteria Scoring

Assessment Criteria	Strong ROD Projects identify the following, through the application and supporting documents
---------------------	--

ROD Program outcomes: The Project addresses one or more of the ROD Program outcomes.

- Strong alignment with 3 or more ROD Program outcomes that will be addressed by the Project
- Provide detailed description of how actions undertaken through the Project will address those outcomes

Project Description: A detailed Project description outlining objectives, activities, Rural Ontario benefits, alignment with the workplan and budget, and the organization’s capacity to successfully deliver the Project.

- Provides a description of the Project that includes:
 - what the Project will accomplish and key activities
 - Rural Ontario benefits
 - alignment with workplan and budget
 - organizations capacity for Project success

Assessment Criteria

Strong ROD Projects identify the following, through the application and supporting documents

Partnerships and Community Support:

Communities or organizations beyond the Applicant that are offering financial and/or in-kind support for the Project.

Please note organizations or community groups that provide a letter of support without committing financial or in-kind support are not considered Partners.

- Partnerships are described and confirmed including how the Partners collaborate such as a:
 - financial contribution
 - expertise
 - resources or staff

Or

- Applicant has identified as Ontario Indigenous community or organization

Project Need: The Project addresses an economic need or opportunity that has been identified by the community (for example through a community consultation, BR+E, strategic plan, supporting evidence)

- Identifies why Project is needed
- Describes how an economic need or opportunity that will be addressed by the Project
- Barriers substantiated

Assessment Criteria

Strong ROD Projects Identify the following, through the application and supporting documents

Performance Measures: A clear, well-supported plan for measuring Project impacts, with realistic, trackable performance measures aligned with ROD Program outcomes.

- Provides a detailed and well-supported description of how the Project impacts will be measured
- The measures are realistic and can be tracked throughout the Project
- Measures align with the ROD Program outcomes

Or

- The Project funding requested is less than \$25,000

Project Work Plan and Budget: The Project provides a detailed Project plan and budget that outlines eligible activities, their costs and realistic timelines.

- Provides a detailed work plan and budget that supports the successful completion of the Project, including all of the following:
 - detailed description of eligible activities and their estimated cost
 - realistic timelines to complete each activity

Assessment Criteria

Strong ROD Projects identify the following, through the application and supporting documents

- costs align with work plan
- costs are reasonable
- Projects are completed by March 31, 2026 or March 31, 2027
- costs are supported by quotes or proposals if over \$10,000

Sustainability: The Project will contribute to longer-term Economic Development activities and outcomes after ROD Program funding ends, through activities like:

- implementation funding identified for strategies and plans
- support for Project outcomes after funding ends
- activities to encourage sustainability (for example, knowledge transfer, sharing materials after an event)
- sustainability plans

- Demonstrates significant and specific efforts to encourage longer-term contributions to Economic Development after ROD Program funding ends

Or

- The Project funding requested is less than \$25,000

Assessment Criteria

Strong ROD Projects identify the following, through the application and supporting documents

Financial commitment: Applicant has made a financial commitment to the Project that meets the Cost Share requirements of the stream.

- The Applicant has secured a financial commitment equal to or greater than the required provincial Cost Share

Or

- The Applicant is an Indigenous Community or Indigenous non-profit Organization

Stage 3: Approvals

All eligible applications that complete stage 2 will be reviewed by the Rural Economic Development Advisory Panel. The Advisory Panel members are appointed by the Minister and have expertise in rural Economic Development and business development. The Advisory Panel will make non-binding recommendations to the Minister of Rural Affairs on funding.

Reserved rights and non-entitlement

The Minister of Rural Affairs retains the exclusive right to approve or reject any Project at their sole discretion and to reduce Cost Share and to reduce maximum funding amounts or both for those Projects that have been approved.

Applicants shall not be eligible for funding under the ROD Program or have any claim or demand or action against His Majesty the King in right of Ontario, his ministers, directors, officers, employees, servants, appointees or agents, solely by reason of having made an application.

After Project approval

Notifying Applicants of decision

The Applicant will be notified as funding decisions are reached, which is usually within 3 months from the posted intake closure date. However, timing may vary.

Next steps after approval

If the Applicant is successful, the Applicant will receive a letter of approval. The Applicant is required to sign a Contribution Agreement prior to receiving any Funds and to abide by the terms and conditions of the Contribution Agreement within the timeframe identified in the Contribution Agreement.

The Applicant's information **must** be up to date with both Transfer Payment Ontario and Supply Ontario.

To register with, or update information previously submitted to, Transfer Payment Ontario, visit Transfer Payment Ontario (<https://www.app.grants.gov.on.ca/tpon/psLogin>).

If you are the Applicant or are authorized to represent the Applicant, you can register and update the information referred to above.

Review the Project Funding and Costs of the ROD Program guidelines for information on Project funding payments.

Applications will be assigned a Project analyst that will monitor and support the Project.

Submitting claims

Claims for approved Projects are submitted through an online portal. Instructions will be provided on how to receive access once the Project is approved. In order for the claim to be processed, all submitted costs must be:

- eligible
- Incurred
- paid in full

A proof of payment must set out in detail

- a. who paid for the good, service or both and their relationship to the Recipient
- b. who received the payment
- c. the goods, services or both that were provided
- d. the date of the payment

For proofs of payment, all personal information (for example, Social Insurance Number, home addresses, banking information, employee number) must be redacted before submission.

Generally acceptable forms of a proof of payment include:

- a. an electronic image of a processed cheque
- b. a statement from a banking institution setting out to whom the processed cheque was written, or electronic payment made, and the amount, or
- c. a credit card or debit card receipt or statement clearly identifying the amount and to whom the payment was made
- d. wire transfer and online bank transfer showing transaction paid in full and cleared (transaction fees are not eligible costs)
- e. confirmation from vendor that bank draft funds have been received

Note: If using a credit card or debit card receipt, cheque or statement as a proof of payment, the number of the credit or debit card as well as all other information, including the unrelated costs to the Recipient's Project must be redacted. Bank statements and processed cheques also contain personal information which must be redacted.

Communications by the Applicant

An Applicant will not communicate about their Project unless the following conditions have been met:

- a. The Applicant has submitted all Project-related external or public facing publications, whether intended for written, oral or visual communications and including social media publications, to the Project analyst (mailto:RODprogram@ontario.ca) assigned to the Project at least ten (10) business days prior to their intended publication date, and has received approval for these Project-related publications from the Project analyst;

- b. The Applicant has acknowledged the support of the Province in the form and manner set out under Contribution Agreement or as otherwise directed; and
- c. Any communications about the Project includes a statement that the views set out in those communications are the Recipient's and do not necessarily reflect the views of Ontario.

The Applicant's internal Project-related communications, such as reports from municipal staff to council, are not subject to the above requirements.

Project completion date

The Project must be completed within the timeframe identified in the Contribution Agreement. If the Applicant does not complete the Project by the Project completion date, the Applicant may be required to repay any and all funds provided to the Applicant, including any interest earned on them, as well as the costs incurred by the province to recover the funds and interest.

Final report

To close the Project, the Applicant is required to submit a final report by the deadline stated in the Contribution Agreement. There is a 10% holdback of Project reimbursement until the final report is received and accepted by the Province, and all other requirements have been met.

Glossary and legal

Glossary

Applicant: means the organization who has applied for funding under the program.

Arm's-Length: means an entity that is not related, as determined under the *Income Tax Act* (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/I-3.3/>), to the Applicant.

Community Asset: refers to public physical places, structures or facilities. These can include cultural, heritage or tourism attractions, recreational trails, or in downtown areas, can include murals, decorative lighting, downtown street furniture or public art.

Community Leader: individuals who guide and direct others within an organization to achieve its Economic Development goals and vision (elected, volunteer or staff position).

Contribution Agreement: The legal contract between the Applicant(s) and the Province of Ontario.

Cost Share: The maximum funding percentage the Province will pay towards eligible costs for an approved Project.

Economic Development: The process of fostering an environment that results in the creation of wealth and well-being for communities.

Effective Date: The date the Minister of Rural Affairs approved an Applicant's Project to begin, which is set out in the Contribution Agreement, and that is no earlier than January 1, 2026.

In-kind Contributions: Non-financial goods and services provided to support the Project. For example, salaries, use of equipment, materials and supplies, or use of facilities.

Incurred: A cost is considered incurred when goods have been received or services have been rendered, regardless of when the actual payment is made.

Local Services Board: A Local Services Board established under the *Northern Services Boards Act, 1990* (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90l28>).

Major Capital Costs: Costs for significant infrastructure, including transportation infrastructure; construction of buildings; construction or rehabilitation of paved, or concrete surfaces, parking lots, bridges; gateway signs; teardowns or rebuilds; purchase and installation of modular facilities for housing; and for site preparation or purchase or lease of land, buildings, facilities and structures.

Minor Capital Costs: Costs that include contractor's fees; costs of construction materials or supplies and labour; redevelopment of the interior or exterior of an existing vacant or underutilized building; rehabilitation of buildings or structures with identified cultural, heritage, or tourism significance; landscaping and streetscaping; installation of localized Wi-Fi equipment for public use, streetscaping and landscaping and recreational trail rehabilitation (non-paved surfaces), including existing recreational trail bridges.

Municipality: A geographic area whose inhabitants are incorporated as described in the *Municipal Act, 2001*. S.O. 2001 c. 25 (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/01m25>).

Not-For-Profit: A legal entity that is either a:

- registered charity as defined in the *Income Tax Act (Canada)* and is in good standing with the Canada Revenue Agency
- corporation incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation or similar entity under an act of Canada or a province or territory of Canada and is in good standing under its incorporating act

MRA: Ontario Ministry of Rural Affairs

Ontario Indigenous community or Indigenous non-profit organization: means a First Nations community in Ontario; Métis community in Ontario; Political Territorial organizations in Ontario; Tribal Councils in Ontario; or Indigenous organizations in Ontario that apply on behalf of and with the support of the communities they represent, and that have a substantiated record of representing those communities.

Partner: an organization that contributes financial or in-kind resources towards Project completion. Partners do not sign the Contribution Agreement with the Province of Ontario. Employees of the Ontario Public Service cannot be Partners and will not provide letters of support for any application.

Project: A set of activities undertaken to achieve specific outcomes.

Requirements of Law: means all applicable requirements of law as may be set out in statutes, regulations, by-laws, codes, rules, ordinances, official plans, approvals, permits, licenses, authorizations, decrees, injunctions, orders and declarations, or any other similar instrument.

Rural Ontario: means all Statistics Canada census subdivisions (including lower-tier and single-tier Municipalities) that either have a population of less than 100,000 people, or have a population density of 100 people per square kilometre or less, as identified in the most recent Statistics Canada Census of Canadian Population or a rural postal code within areas considered urban ("0" as the second character of a postal code identifies a rural postal code). Refer to the ROD Program "Rural and Urban Areas (<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/fec072314ae451ca6fb59c256d02882>)" map.

Workforce: refers to people employed or actively seeking employment including workers, youth and immigrants.

Legal

Confidentiality

Take notice that application forms and supporting material, claims and reports submitted to the Province of Ontario are subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 1990* (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90f31>) (FIPPA). Any information intended to be considered in confidence should be clearly and prominently marked "confidential" by the Applicant. Nevertheless, information supplied to the ROD Program may be disclosed by the Province where it is obligated to do so under FIPPA or by an order of a court, tribunal or pursuant to a legal proceeding. Information contained in an application to the ROD Program may also be disclosed by the Province to verify compliance with other provincial and federal funding initiatives administered by the Province, federal ministries, or a third-party delivery agent, to ensure that there is no duplication of funding. Inquiries about confidentiality should be directed to the ROD Program.

Order-In-Council (OIC) and conflict resolution between documents

The Rural Ontario Development program is an application-based program (OIC 201/2011 ("the OIC")). In the event of conflict between these guidelines, the application forms, and the Contribution Agreement, the terms and conditions of the Contribution Agreement will prevail. In the event of conflict between the terms and conditions of the Contribution Agreement and the OIC, the OIC will prevail.

Eligibility requirements

The Applicant must also comply with the following requirements:

- have the legal capacity and authority to enter into a Contribution Agreement and take on liability for the Project
- be undertaking an eligible activity set out in the Guidelines
- be in compliance with the following for its business operations at the time of applying and agree to remain in compliance throughout the Project if approved:

- environmental related Requirements of Law

- labour-related Requirements of Law
- tax-related Requirements of Law
- material compliance with all other Requirements of Law
- agrees that Ontario may, should the Applicant be found to be eligible to participate in the ROD Program, publish information pertaining to the Applicant and Project, including:
 - Project-related information
 - the Name of the Applicant
 - the amount of funding Ontario provided
 - the outcome of the Project
- agrees to be bound by the terms, conditions and requirements of ROD Program, as set out in these Guidelines and the letter of approval
- if the Project is approved, cooperate in any audits related to any funding received under the ROD Program

Contact us

If the Applicant has questions or needs help with the application, contact us at 1-877-424-1300 or RODprogram@ontario.ca (<mailto:RODprogram@ontario.ca>) to connect with an advisor.

Laura Brandt

From: Jennifer Montpetit <jennifer@explorersedge.ca>
Sent: March 2, 2026 10:54 AM
To: Jennifer Montpetit
Subject: Explorers' Edge 2026/2027 Program

Good morning,

I am pleased to share that the Explorers' Edge (RTO12) 2026/2027 Partnership Program is now officially open.

The Partnership Program is a strategic co-investment opportunity designed to support tourism planning, marketing, product development, workforce initiatives, and the creation of bookable, high-quality visitor experiences across our region.

Application Period: February 27 – March 27, 2026

Full program guidelines and application details can be found here: [Explorers' Edge 2026/2027 Partnership Program - RTO 12](#)

Start Your Application

- Experience Creation & Travel Company 26/27 [Click here](#)
- Communication, Marketing & Advertising 26/27 [Click here](#)
- Partnership Image Development 26/27 [Click here](#)
- Workforce development and training 26/27 [Click here](#)
- Research & Product Validation 26/27 [Click here](#)

If you have an idea you'd like to explore, I would be happy to connect.

Best,

Jen

Jennifer Montpetit
She/Her
Partnership Manager
Tel: 705-205-5131

The Great Canadian Wilderness www.thegreatcanadianwilderness.com

Explorers' Edge / RTO12 www.rto12.ca

A quintessential Canadian wilderness experience just two hours north of Toronto.

Algonquin Park * Almaguin Highlands * Loring-Restoule * Muskoka * Parry Sound * South Algonquin

We acknowledge that the region we call "the Great Canadian wilderness just north of Toronto" is founded on the traditional lands and waterways of the Anishinabek, Algonquin, Mohawk and Métis peoples, and part of the Robinson Huron (1850) and Williams (1923) Treaties territory. We further acknowledge that as Canadians, we are all treaty people.

Important: This program is not a grant. It is a shared-delivery initiative, subject to approval of our Transfer Payment Agreement with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, Board of Directors and Senior Staff.

New for 2026

Experience Creation & Travel Co Integration

As part of the launch of the Explorers' Edge Travel Co, the 2026/2027 Partnership Program places a strong emphasis on experience development and collaboration. Priority will be given to projects that:

- Pilot new or evolving visitor experiences
- Package or bundle experiences across multiple operators
- Test bookable products that can be incorporated into the Explorers' Edge Travel Co
- Demonstrate collaboration between businesses, operators, or communities
- Align with co-investment models that grow regional value, not just individual promotion

Successful projects may be supported not only through funding, but also through experience design guidance, testing, and potential integration opportunities. Upon completion of the partnership, a consultation with Explorers' Edge Travel Co. will be coordinated to evaluate the success of the experience and explore opportunities for integration into regional sales and distribution channels.

Sustainability, Inclusivity & Accessible Experience / Enhancement

Explorers' Edge supports Inclusivity & Accessible Experiences as a program stream. This stream supports projects that remove barriers to participation and create welcoming, respectful, and accessible experiences for visitors of all abilities, backgrounds, and identities.

Funded initiatives may focus on accessible experience design, inclusive storytelling and marketing, culturally respectful partnerships, and operational practices that ensure visitors feel represented, safe, and welcome. By embedding inclusivity into experience development, this pillar strengthens the region's appeal, broadens market reach, and ensures tourism growth benefits both visitors and communities.

As part of the application process, participants will be asked to demonstrate their commitment to these principles by referencing initiatives such as the District of Muskoka Climate Hero program, the GreenStep Sustainable Tourism Declaration, the Rainbow Registry for 2SLGBTQ+ inclusivity, and Indigenous-led initiatives that honor the principles of Truth and Reconciliation. This requirement reflects Explorers' Edge's ongoing dedication to responsible tourism development, ensuring that funded projects not only support economic growth and visitor experiences but also foster environmental stewardship, community well-being, cultural respect, and welcoming, inclusive spaces for all.

What we Fund: Program Streams

- **Experience Creation and Travel Co Integration**
Pilot projects aligned with the Explorers' Edge Travel Co
Sustainability, Inclusivity & Accessible Experiences and enhancements
New or enhanced visitor experiences
- **Communication, Marketing & Advertising Campaigns**
Trade Shows, Direct Marketing campaigns and social media campaigns, wayfinding and signage projects)
- **Image Development**
In partnership with our Agency of Record (AOR), Explorers' Edge will support the creation of high-quality photo and video assets that help operators tell their stories and market new or evolving experiences.
- **Workforce developing and training**
- **Research and product validation**

Program Benefits

- **Matching Investment**
Leverage Explorers' Edge funds to offset the costs associated with the partnership – up to 50%.
- **Expert Guidance**
Collaborate with professionals to ensure strategic alignment and quality execution.
- **Regional Focus**
Projects must support tourism within the district of Muskoka, Algonquin Park, Algonquin Highlands, Long-Restoule, South Algonquin

and the district of Parry Sound.

- **Flexible Support**

Multiple streams for marketing, product development, workforce support, and infrastructure.

Who Can Apply

Eligible applicants include:

- Established businesses or organizations (with all required operating permits)
- Legally registered to operate in Ontario, with all necessary permits in place (federal, provincial, municipal), and there must be no outstanding legal issues that would affect the processing and outcomes of this project and collaboration with Explorers' Edge.
- Tourism operators (private and non-profit)
- Destination Marketing Organizations and tourism associations
- Municipalities and Indigenous communities
- Economic development offices

Applicants must:

- Located within the Explorers' Edge RTO12 region
- Demonstrate the ability to co-invest (cash match required)
- Have a current online presence and public-facing tourism offering

Key Dates & Requirements

- **Webinar Sign-up:** February 19, 2026
- **Application Period:** February 27, 2026 – March 27, 2026 @ 5.00pm
- **Project Completion Deadline:** March 31, 2027
- **Partner Match:** Must be cash only (no in-kind or government program stacking)

Please note: Applicants are required to contact Explorers' Edge staff in advance to confirm project eligibility and alignment with strategic priorities.

Of note: The application process is competitive, and funds are limited. Thoughtful planning of your project ensures it aligns with Explorers' Edge strategic priorities and enhances your chances of approval. Explorers' Edge reserves the right to limit the number of programs/funds that one stakeholder may receive per year.

Additional Resources

Register for the Zoom Ask Me Anything – February 19, 2026 @ 10.00am – [Click Here](#)

Questions?

We're here to help you craft impactful tourism projects.

Contact: Jennifer Montpetit, Partnership Manager – jennifer@explorersedge.ca

NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP

POSTED IN: [RESOURCES](#)

SHARE ARTICLE 

accessibility. Priority is given to projects that support new or evolving tourism products, collaborative or multi-operator initiatives, and workforce readiness aligned with scalable, bookable experiences.

Projects should demonstrate regional or sector-wide benefit, measurable workforce outcomes, and alignment with Explorers' Edge priorities, including regenerative tourism, inclusivity, accessibility, and long-term destination growth.

This stream is intended to support workforce capacity-building initiatives rather than ongoing operational or staffing costs.



EXPLORERS' EDGE
**PARTNERSHIP
PROGRAM**

Explorers' Edge 2026–2027 Partnership Program

Co-Invest. Collaborate. Create Regional Impact.

Information Webinar | February 19, 2026

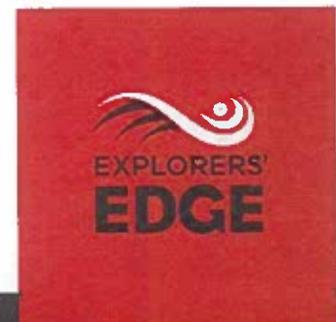


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Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the region we call “the Great Canadian wilderness just north of Toronto” is founded on the traditional lands and waterways of the Anishinabek, Algonquin, Mohawk and Métis peoples, and is part of the Robinson Huron (1850) and Williams (1923) Treaties territory, and the unceded territory of the Algonquins of Ontario.

We further acknowledge that as Canadians, we are all treaty people. Explorers’ Edge staff are committed to the ongoing truth and reconciliation process, including economic reconciliation through tourism development, and we will work diligently to listen, to learn, to take action, and to be respectful towards all First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.



Algonquins of Ontario (Whitney area)



Moose Deer Point First Nation



Dokis First Nation



Shawanaga First Nation



Henvey Inlet First Nation



Wahta Mohawk First Nation



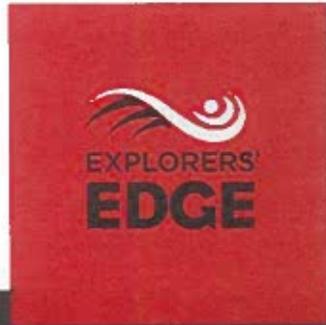
Magnetawan First Nation



Wasauksing First Nation



Moon River Métis Council



Agenda

1. Welcome & Introduction
2. Program Overview
3. Highlights from 2025-2026
4. What's New for 2026–2027
5. 2026/2027 Funding Streams
6. Application Process
7. Project , Partner and General Requirements
8. Q&A

Program Overview

Co-Invest. Collaborate. Create Regional Impact.

The Explorers' Edge Partnership Program is a strategic co-investment initiative supporting tourism planning, marketing, and experience development across the region. The program is not a traditional grant, but a collaborative effort to create regional impact.

The Partnership Program is a shared-delivery, co-investment initiative that matches stakeholder contributions to support projects that:

- Drive visitation
- Enhance and evolve visitor experiences
- Support regenerative tourism and workforce development
- Encourage collaboration and regional storytelling
- Pilot scalable tourism products with long-term impact

Important: This program is not a grant. All projects are subject to approval through Explorers' Edge's Transfer Payment Agreement with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, and approval by the Board of Directors and Senior Staff.

2025/2026 Partnership Program Highlights

Co-Invest. Collaborate. Create Regional Impact.

Budget
\$166,000

Total Funded
42 partners



EXPLORERS' EDGE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



Partner Spotlight – Muskoka Marathon 2025

Looking back on last month, we're still buzzing from the energy of the Muskoka Marathon 2025 in Bracebridge!

[READ MORE](#)



Partner Spotlight – Bracebridge BIA Downtown Market

With support from the Explorers' Edge Partnership Fund, the Bracebridge BIA successfully delivered the second annual Downtown Autumn...

[READ MORE](#)



Partner Spotlight – Commando Museum – Summerfest Celebration

Supported by the Explorers' Edge Partnership Fund, the Commando Museum successfully delivered its 2025 Summerfest, building on the...

[READ MORE](#)



Partner Spotlight – Town of Parry Sound – Cruise Ship Shuttles

Explorers' Edge was proud to support a strategic partnership that successfully advanced cruise ship visitation to the Port...

[READ MORE](#)

2025/2026 Partnership Program Highlights

Co-Invest. Collaborate. Create Regional Impact.

Investing in Placemaking, Wayfinding, and Community Identity

Several partnerships focused on improving how visitors experience and navigate communities while reinforcing local identity and pride.

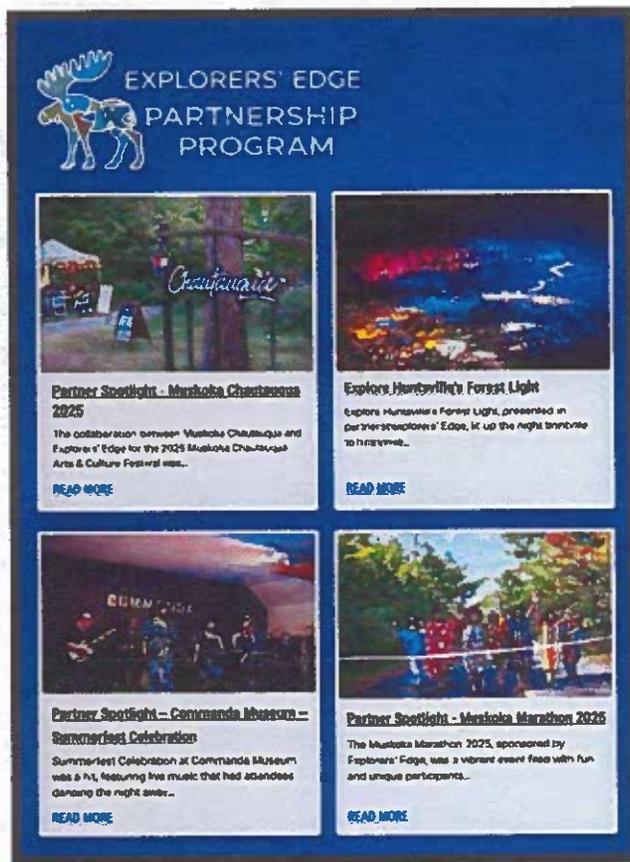
Projects such as Life is Sweet on Ontario Street in Burk's Falls brought vibrant placemaking to the downtown core through custom-designed banners, while wayfinding and heritage signage initiatives in Magnetawan, Georgian Bay, South River, and Loring–Restoule improved navigation, accessibility, and storytelling.

Trail enhancements and interpretive signage at the Loring Deer Yard further strengthened low-impact outdoor recreation and heritage tourism, positioning the site as a key regional asset.



2025/2026 Partnership Program Highlights

Co-Invest. Collaborate. Create Regional Impact.



Strengthening Arts, Culture, and Signature Events

Cultural tourism and community-led events remained a cornerstone of the Partnership Fund.

Longstanding and emerging events alike benefited from strategic support, including the Muskoka Arts & Crafts Summer Show, the Commanda Museum Summerfest, and the Muskoka Marathon.

Winter and shoulder-season initiatives—such as The Bracebridge Fire and Ice Festival, the Hidden Valley Highlands New Year's Eve celebration, and the recent Ontario 55+ Winter Games—demonstrate a strong commitment to year-round visitation and economic resilience.

2025/2026 Partnership Program Highlights

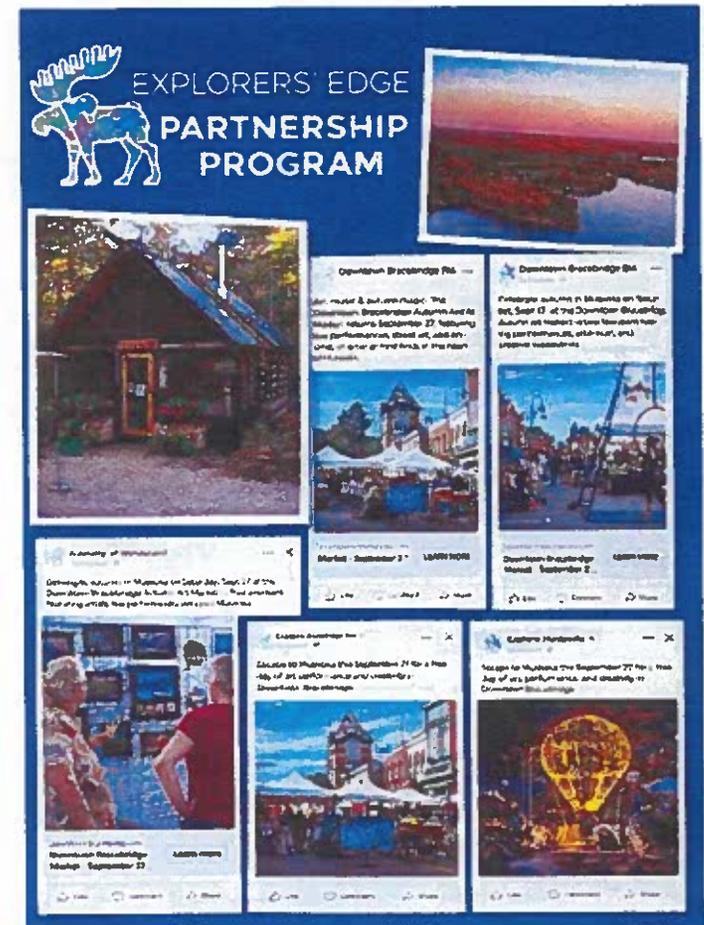
Co-Invest. Collaborate. Create Regional Impact.

Advancing Digital Tools, Marketing, and Storytelling

Digital readiness and storytelling were key themes throughout the program.

Investments supported/supports enhanced digital wayfinding platforms in downtown Parry Sound, expanded social media storytelling by the Loring-Restoule Business Association, and high-quality photography and videography initiatives with Muskoka Tourism and Brennan's Hill Camping & Cabins.

These projects help ensure that communities and operators are better equipped to reach new audiences, tell authentic stories, and convert interest into visitation.



2025/2026 Partnership Program Highlights

Co-Invest. Collaborate. Create Regional Impact.

Supporting Sustainable, Experiential, and Export-Ready Tourism

The Partnership Fund also supported science-based and experiential tourism initiatives such as Friends of the Muskoka Watershed's educational programs, regenerative tourism storytelling with Forest & Farm, and international market development through Jayne's Luxury Rentals' participation in ILTM Cannes.

EXPLORERS' EDGE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Partner Spotlight - Forest & Farm - Commanda
With support from the Explorers' Edge Partnership Fund, Forest & Farm is enhancing visibility and visitor engagement through.
[READ MORE](#)

Partner Spotlight - Jayne's Luxury Rentals
With support from the Explorers' Edge Partnership Fund, Jayne's Luxury Rentals participated in ILTM (International Luxury)
[READ MORE](#)

Partner Spotlight - Friends of the Muskoka Watershed - Science-Based Tourism Experiences
With support from the Explorers' Edge Partnership Fund, Friends of the Muskoka Watershed (FOTMW) successfully delivered two engaging.
[READ MORE](#)

Partner Spotlight - Loring Deer Yard - Trail Enhancements and Interpretive Signage
[READ MORE](#)

What's New for 2026

Experience Creation and Travel Company Integration

As part of the launch of the Explorers' Edge Travel Co, the 2026 Partnership Program places a strong emphasis on experience development and collaboration. Priority will be given to projects that:

- Pilot new or evolving visitor experiences
- Package or bundle experiences across multiple operators
- Test bookable products that can be incorporated into the Explorers' Edge Travel Co
- Demonstrate collaboration between businesses, operators, or communities
- Align with co-investment models that grow regional value, not just individual promotion

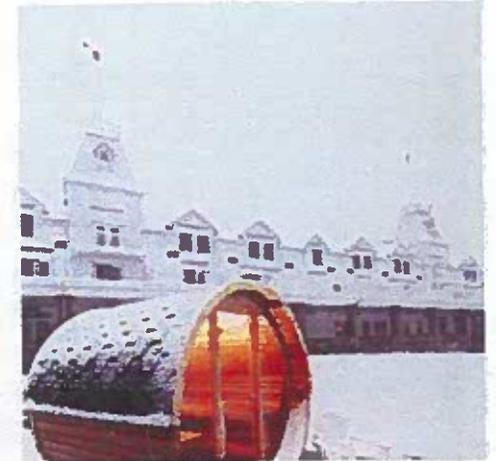
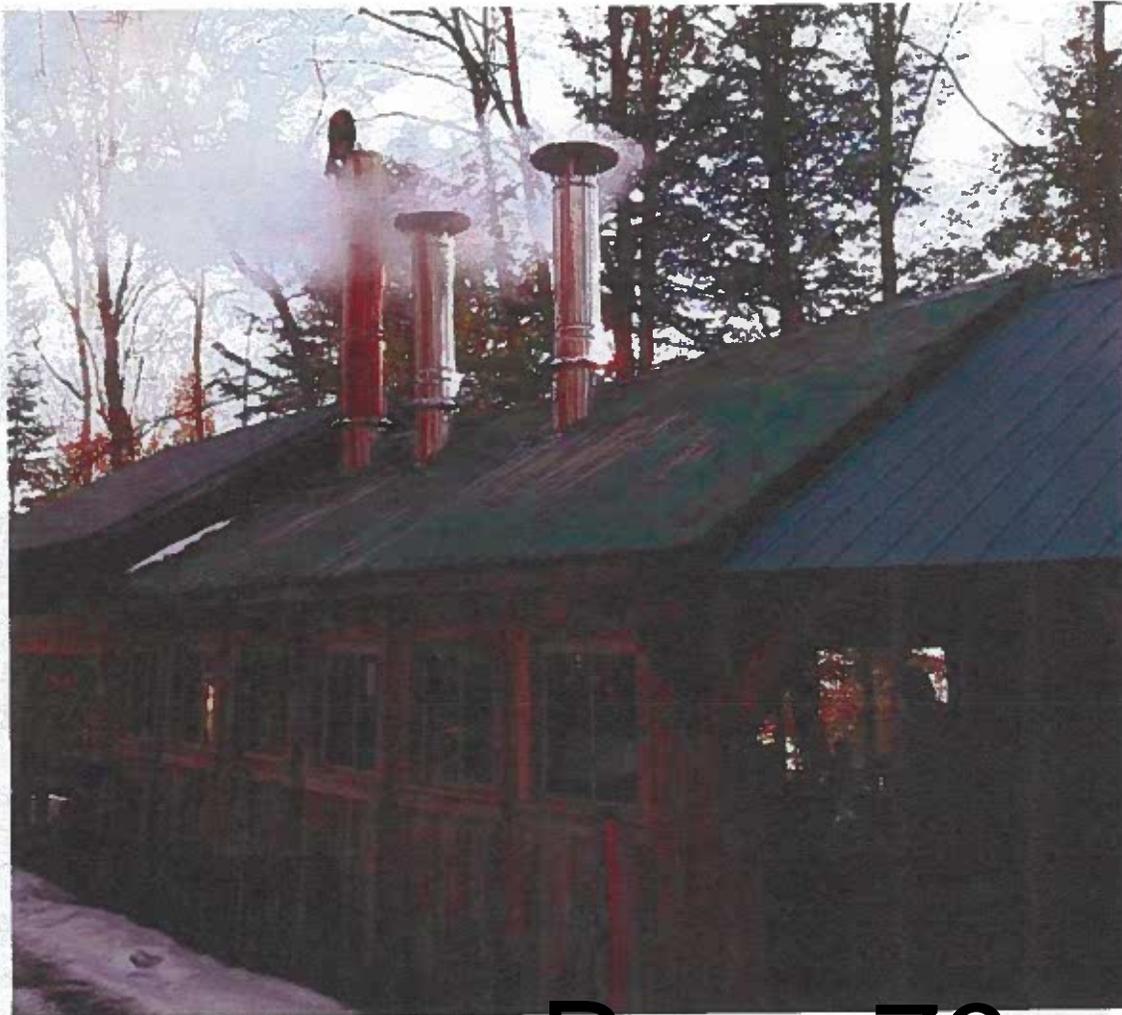
Successful projects may be supported not only through funding, but also through experience design guidance, testing, and potential integration opportunities. Upon completion of the partnership, a consultation with Explorers' Edge Travel Co. will be coordinated to evaluate the success of the experience and explore opportunities for integration into regional sales and distribution channels.

A Muskoka Maple Adventure at Windermere House

2 ADULTS
\$1,650.00 CAD

BOOK NOW

 March 20 - 22, 2026



What's New for 2026

Sustainable, Inclusivity & Accessible Experiences and Product Development

Inclusivity & Accessible Experiences

- Focused on inclusivity and accessibility
- Removes barriers to participation for visitors
- Creates welcoming, respectful, and accessible experiences
- Supports visitors of all abilities, backgrounds, and identities



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS



VISITOR EDUCATION

Funded initiatives may include:

- Accessible experience design
- Inclusive storytelling and marketing
- Culturally respectful partnerships
- Operational practices that foster safety and representation



COMMUNITY BENEFIT



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP



CULTURAL HERITAGE

What's New for 2026

Sustainable, Inclusivity & Accessible Experiences and Product Development

Sustainability & Responsible Tourism

- Supports eco-friendly and responsible tourism initiatives
- Protects the region's natural environments
- Encourages collaboration and co-investment
- Integrates sustainability into visitor experiences and operations



ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITY



LOCAL
PARTNERSHIPS



VISITOR
EDUCATION

Supported initiatives may include:

- Low-impact outdoor experiences
- Sustainable transportation options
- Waste and energy reduction practices
- Visitor education promoting environmental stewardship



COMMUNITY
BENEFIT



ENVIRONMENTAL
STEWARDSHIP



CULTURAL
HERITAGE

What's New for 2026

Sustainability Declarations and Commitments

2026/2027 Program Focus Stronger emphasis on: Sustainability | Inclusivity | Truth and Reconciliation

Explorers' Edge Positive Impact Series:

- Access to educational webinars and practical resources
- Supports meaningful action in priority areas
- Participation strongly encouraged
- Engagement strengthens applications
- Deepens impact within organizations and communities



Application Requirements:

Demonstrate commitment to sustainability and inclusivity principles. Reference relevant initiatives, such as:

- District of Muskoka Climate Hero Program
- GreenStep Sustainable Tourism 2030 Pledge
- Rainbow Registry (2SLGBTQI+ inclusivity)
- Indigenous-led initiatives aligned with Truth and Reconciliation principles

2026/2027 Funding Streams



Product / Experience Development



Communication, Marketing & Advertising Campaigns



Image Development – Explorers' Edge Agency of Record



Workforce development and training



Data Research

2026/2027 Application Process

2026 / 2027 Budget | \$166,000

- Competitive program with demand generally exceeding available funds.
- Priority is given to measurable, evolving projects.
- Priority will be given to applications that demonstrate sustainability, inclusivity and accessibility.
- Identical year-over-year applications may not be supported.

Please note:

If partnership funds are not fully allocated during the March - April intake period, a second intake may occur in Fall 2026, and again in Winter 2027 if funding remains available.

2026/2027 Application Process

Attend Information Session – Feb 19 2026

Review Guidelines –Posted to EE website Feb 27 2026

Submit application by March 27 2026 via Explorers Edge Website

Project Review & Approval approx. 30-day review period. MOU Executed.

Third Party Invoices Submitted to EE for payment. Project Completion by March 31 2027

Invoices and MOU reconciled by March 31 2027

Wrap Report and Partner Invoice Invoice Payment within 30 days of invoice date

Who Can Apply

Established Businesses

- Legally registered in Ontario

Tourism Operators

- Private and Non-Profit

Destination Marketing Organizations

- Tourism Associations

Communities

- Indigenous Communities
- Municipalities
- Economic Development Officers

2026/2027 Project Requirements

Project Requirements :

- Projects must be conducted by third parties i.e. Partnership funds cannot be used to pay or reimburse partner organizations. Third parties may include one of Explorers' Edge Agencies of Record - or a subcontractor identified through a mutually led procurement process.
- The exception to Explorers' Edge leading the procurement process is for signage projects, in which the municipality/partner procures services from a supplier in a process that aligns with the Explorers' Edge procurement requirements.
- Signage is the only capital expenditure that is eligible within the Partnership Program.
- If an approved project is delayed/cancelled prior to start, you must advise Explorers' Edge as soon as possible to allow other projects/stakeholders to access funds made available.
- If an approved project is delayed/cancelled prior to start, you must advise Explorers' Edge as soon as possible to allow other projects/stakeholders to access funds made available. Any expenses incurred prior to cancellation of a project will be your responsibility.

2026/2027 Partner Requirements

Partner Requirements :

You must:

- Have a current website/social media page(s), phone number and email address that are regularly monitored.
- Select one representative only to act as the decision maker and liaison with Explorers' Edge and the Agency of Record or consultant assigned to the project to ensure timely and constructive execution of the project. Failure to provide timely and constructive execution may lead to project cancellation, with costs incurred to date the responsibility of the partner.
- Identify Explorers' Edge and the Province of Ontario as partners (not sponsors) with logos on website with active links back to GreatCanadianWilderness.com with logos on all printed collateral supported through the program with 'Funded in Part by the Province of Ontario' on all digital ads supported through the program and in all press releases related to the project – press releases must be approved by Explorers' Edge and include recognition of the funding from Explorers' Edge.

2026/2027 Partner Requirements

Partner Requirements :

You must:

- Tag @GreatCanadianWilderness using #greatcanadianwilderness on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram posts related to the project.
- Sign up for the Explorers' Edge E-Newsletter (funding updates, announcements, etc.).
- Sign up for Positive Impact Series

Partnership Financial Contribution

- Co-investment required in CDN dollars (cash match, provided to Explorers' Edge by EFT, INTERAC e-transfer or cheque)
- NOT be funding from other Ontario Government programs, such as Experience Ontario, or Ontario Government agencies such as Destination Ontario, the Ontario Trillium Fund, OMAFRA or other RTOs.
- Payment in full must be made within 30 days of the invoice from Explorer's Edge. Partnerships greater than \$5,000.00 will require a deposit of 10% prior to the partnership commencing. Failure to remit payment in a timely fashion may cause delays
- Explorers' Edge wants to see businesses continue to evolve, to learn from previous projects supported by Explorers' Edge and ultimately, stand on their own, therefore Explorers' Edge may not support applications that are identical year over year.

Measuring Success

There are project-specific metrics that you are required to commit to tracking and reporting on in your final partner report - these will be dependent on the type of project you are undertaking and your objectives. That may include but are not limited to:

- Event Attendance
- Program Outcomes
- Earned Media
- Anecdotal pieces from Attendees
- Visitor Exit Survey
- Website Analytics

There are also a number of broad tourism metrics we encourage you to consider tracking. As data is the backbone of good tourism planning, the metrics that are considered most useful to Explorers' Edge and/or stakeholders are elaborated during the MOU process.

Program Benefits



Key Dates

- Attend February 19th Webinar or coordinate pre-consult call with Jennifer Montpetit
- Application intake will go live on Explorers' Edge website Feb 27th 2026
- Application Period: February 27 - March 27, 2026 @ 5:00 PM
- Project Completion Deadline: March 31, 2027

Applicants are required to contact Jennifer Montpetit, Partnership Manager in advance to confirm project eligibility and strategic alignment

jennifer@explorersedge.ca

Questions & Contact Information

Thank You!

Page 95 of 99

Municipality of Magnetawan



February 2026 Newsletter

Quick Links

- Explore
- Government
- Residents
- News
- Join Our Mailing List
- Privacy Policy

Read All About It !!!

Want to be the first to hear about Municipal News and Events? Join our Mailing List! Visit our website at www.magnetawan.com You can find the **JOIN OUR MAILING LIST** at the bottom of the **HOME PAGE** under **QUICK LINKS**. Do not forget to confirm your subscription!! (If you do not receive a confirmation email, check your **JUNK MAIL!**)

Did you know Magnetawan has an EV Charging Station conveniently located in the Municipal Parking lot? Users can charge their vehicle while visiting the library, skating at the outdoor pavillion or having a bite to eat at one of our local eateries. For more information visit the Municipal website.



Can't find what you're looking for on our website? Utilize our convenient search bar located in the top right corner of the home page!

The Municipality has a few 45 Gallon Rain Barrels left from our Summer 2025 initiative. Barrels are sold at cost (\$78.00), and available to anyone. Contact the office for more information!



Residents who deposit waste at the Landfills, your Landfill Card top up took place electronically January 2026. You do not need to contact or visit the Municipal Office. Residents with curbside collection stickers, your stickers will not expire, and we encourage you to use what you have left first. If you have more stickers than you need, bring them back to the Municipal office and we can recirculate them!

2026 curbside collection has changed since our new Provincially appointed provider EmTerra took over January 1st. Council and Staff thank residents for being patient while new routes were learned. With mandated changes, the collection at curbside now begins with household waste followed by recycling. Residents are reminded that curbside collection begins at 7am and the contractor has until 6pm to complete their route. Any concerns or questions about the collection can be directed to EmTerra at 1-888-597-1541



DO YOU KNOW A SUPER SENIOR?



The Ontario Senior of the Year award gives each Municipality in Ontario, the opportunity to honour one outstanding local Ontarian who, after the age of 65, has enriched the social, cultural, or civic life of their community. If you would like to nominate a **SUPER SENIOR** from our Municipality for this prestigious provincial award, please send your nomination telling us why this person is a **SUPER SENIOR** to lbrandt@magnetawan.com or drop it off at the Municipal Office by **Friday March 13, 2026**



Building Permit Reminders!

Please ensure you obtain a building permit before you build or renovate. The 2024 Ontario Building Code came into effect January 1, 2025! If you are planning on building, make sure you are familiar with the changes! When in doubt give the building department a shout! (705) 387-4029

Applications are available online on our applications and licensing page of our website at www.magnetawan.com or by reaching out to the Municipal Office at (705) 387-3947 or by email at info@magnetawan.com

The Municipal Office is located at

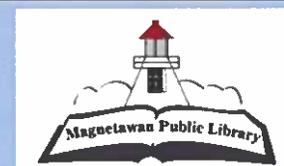
4304 Highway 520, Magnetawan, Ontario POA 1P0
705-387-3947

Please visit our website at www.magnetawan.com or email us at info@magnetawan.com

and Like The Municipality of Magnetawan on Facebook!

Property tax due dates for 2026:

For 2026, the payment dates for your property taxes are on the 24th day of March, June, September, November.



Visit our website for more information magnetawanlibrary.com Or call (705) 387-4411

Council Meetings

Council generally meets every third Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. As always Council agendas and meeting dates are posted on our website for your convenience!

DO YOU HAVE GENTLY USED ELECTRONICS OR FUEL OPERATED MACHINERY? Please consider donating these items to a local organization such as the Magnetawan Agricultural Society for their White Elephant Sale, other thrift stores like The Restore or Salvation Army, or give them away for free to friends and/or neighbours who may want to or could repair them!

Have you moved or changed your mailing address? Mailing address changes must be submitted in writing with permission to submit your address change to MPAC!



From Fire Chief Derek Young

The Ministry of Natural Resources' fire season runs from April 1st through to October 31st. Daytime burning is prohibited between 10am and 6pm during this time. Green (Low) rating means all day burning is allowed of brush or clean wood. Yellow (Moderate) rating means normal burning after 6pm and extinguished by 10am. Orange (High) rating means small fire for cooking, warmth, and socializing after 6pm and extinguished by 10am. Red (Extreme) rating indicates a TOTAL FIRE BAN and no burning of any kind, and/or the use of fireworks are banned. Fires must always be monitored. For more information, visit our website at www.magnetawanfire.ca where you can sign up for email notifications of fire rating changes, view the open-air burning by-law, and access other useful information and tips. Questions? please contact Fire Chief Derek Young at fire@magnetawan.com or (705) 349-8477

Witnessed Illegal Dumping?

If you are able snap a pic of the license plate and dumping site. Take a description of the person and take note of the property address!

Please contact us at the Municipal Office (705) 387-3947

Violators will be guilty of a Provincial Offence, subject to a maximum penalty of \$5,000 and a day in court!



PERSONAL INCOME TAX FRIENDLY REMINDER!

Don't forget to keep a copy of your 2025 final tax bill for your 2026 personal income tax filing!!!

Dog Tags 2026

Help your furry friend find their way home. By purchasing a dog tag, lost dogs can be easily identified to help reunite them with their owners. The cost of a lifetime tag for your pooch is \$10.



Do you have a Trailer you are using on your property?

Did you know that Trailer By-law 2023-46 only permits trailers on properties zoned Rural Residential (RR), Agricultural (A) and Rural (RU) with a valid Trailer License? Annual trailer licenses are issued from May 1st to November 30th and are \$750. Monthly licenses can be purchased for \$150/month for a maximum of 3 months in a calendar year. **Don't forget to post your licensing sticker in a visible location on your trailer!**

From Public Works Superintendent Scott Edwards

WHAT ARE WE UP TO? FLUSHING CULVERTS

Come Spring thaw, many culverts have ice buildup which blocks water flow. When the temperature drops overnight the water freezes blocking up the culvert reducing or restricting proper waterflow. The roads crew will be using a steamer designed to steam out the ice. This will ensure drainage and help avoid flooding. Remember don't pollute, it clogs our ditches and culverts!



Not sure about Half Loads? Not sure if you need a Road Occupation Permit? Think You Have a Blocked Culvert? Tree Down Across the Road? Any Other Public Works Questions? Contact Scott Edwards, Public Works Superintendent at (705) 349-3034 or by email at sedwards@magnetawan.com

e-billing!

eBilling!

eBilling!

Have you signed up for eBilling? Get your property tax bills emailed directly to you! Please visit our **Treasury** page under **Residents** on our website at www.magnetawan.com to sign up now!



The 2nd Annual Leekfest will be held Saturday May 9th to coincide with the harvesting of wild leeks in our region. This event draws foodies, gardeners and leek enthusiasts from near and far with an estimated 600 attendees in its inaugural year! Staff estimates close to 1,000 visitors will attend the event in 2026 and plans are in motion to make this event a BIGGER SUCCESS! Whether you're a seasonal leek lover or new to this versatile vegetable. Leekfest occurs the 2nd Saturday in May and promises to be an annual tradition worth marking on your calendar!

Just a reminder you can make payments through online banking, by cheque (CDN and US funds), or in person with cash, credit card or debit card. Don't forget to please include your roll number on your cheque!

LANDFILL HOURS

SUMMER - Begins Saturday of May Long Weekend
Both Sites Closed all Statutory Holidays

CHAPMAN SITE 259 Rocky Road
8am to 4pm
Sunday Monday Saturday

CROFT 218 25TH & 26TH Side Road
8am to 4pm
Sunday Tuesday Friday Saturday

WINTER - Begins Tuesday after Thanksgiving Weekend
Both Sites Closed all Statutory Holidays

CHAPMAN SITE 259 Rocky Road
8am to 4pm
Sunday Monday

CROFT 218 25TH & 26TH Side Road
8am to 4pm
Tuesday Friday Saturday

Did You Know?

The Magnetawan Lions receive donations of empty alcohol bottles and cans at both Landfill locations. The funds raised from donated bottles and cans support the Magnetawan Lions in their efforts to support the community.

Selling your property?



Don't forget to leave your landfill card behind for the new property owners!

We want to hear from you!! Ideas, questions, and/or opinions? Contact us at (705) 387-3947 or info@magnetawan.com www.magnetawan.com

Municipality of Magnetawan



BORED? NOT IN THIS TOWN!
THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAGNETAWAN HAS SOMETHING TO OFFER FOR EVERYONE,
ALL YEAR LONG!

FREE WEEKLY PROGRAMS AND CLASSES ALL YEAR ROUND

MONDAY

- ✓ **HEALTHY AGEING FITNESS CLASS**
- 10:30 AM TO 11:30AM
- ✓ **FAB FIT FUN CARDIO FITNESS CLASS**
- 6:00 PM TO 7:00 PM
- ✓ **NORDIC POLE WALKING/SNOWSHOEING**
- 11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

- ✓ **TAI CHI WITH HUGH**
- 6:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

FRIDAY

- ✓ **NORDIC POLE WALKING/SNOWSHOEING**
- 11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

TUESDAY

- ✓ **PICKLEBALL TUESDAY**
 - ORGANIZED PLAY 10:00 AM TO 12:30 PM & 6:00 PM TO 7:30 PM
 - DROP-IN PLAY 12:30 PM TO 5:00 PM
 - SENIORS LIGHT PLAY (ONE COURT ONLY) 1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM

THURSDAY

- ✓ **HEALTHY AGEING FITNESS CLASS**
- 10:30 AM TO 11:30 AM
- ✓ **YES TO YOGA CLASS**
- 5:15 PM TO 6:15 PM
- ✓ **LINE DANCING**
 - **\$12 DROP IN OR \$110.00 FOR 12 CLASSES**
 - 11:45AM TO 12:45PM

FREE SEASONAL PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

SUMMER – JULY TO AUGUST

- AQUAFIT
- ARCHERY
- ART IN THE PARK
- BIKE SHARING
- BASKETBALL - DROP IN
- BEACH WHEELCHAIR
- BEACH TOY LENDING
- COLOURING BOOKS
- DRUMMING
- GAME SHARE
- HERITAGE MUSEUM CENTRE
- LOCKS (check out our website for times up to Cecebe and down to Ahmic)
- MUSIC IN THE PARK
- ROLLERSKATING

WINTER

- LIONS PAVILION OUTDOOR RINK (check our website for public skating and hockey ice time hours!)

- NORDIC POLE WALKING/SNOWSHOEING
- HOCKEY SLEDGE LENDING
- HOCKEY NETS

ANNUAL MUNICIPAL EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

Do not miss important updates and event line ups!

Visit our WEBSITE at www.magnetawan.com and click on "Events Calendar"! All *Municipal Events* can be found there! Click on the event to display more details! You can also click "EXPLORE" on the homepage top bar, then click "RECREATION" to find more information on our current programming!



SMALL TOWN, BIG CALENDAR! HERE ARE A FEW WAYS YOU CAN STAY CONNECTED WITH EVENTS AND PROGRAMS WITHIN THE MAG!



Like and Follow the Municipality of Magnetawan on *Instagram* and *Facebook* where we post new and upcoming events, program updates municipal updates and more!

Quick Links

Home
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Join Our Mailing List
Privacy Policy

Join our *mailing list*! Visit our *website* at www.magnetawan.com You can find the "join our mailing list" at the bottom of the homepage under *Quicklinks*. Don't forget to confirm your subscription! (if you do not receive a confirmation email, check your junk folder!)

GEOCACHING AND PUBLIC ART

➤ GEOCACHING

- Become part of a worldwide community of treasure hunters who enjoy the outdoors and the thrill of discovery. Magnetawan has hidden "caches" all around our beautiful municipality!

➤ PUBLIC ART

- Magnetawan Community Rock Stack, Maritime the Moose Mural, Sport/Recreation Mural, Lions Pavilion Mural, Boats through History Mural, Steamship Lighthouse Mural, Steamship Carving, X Marks the Spot, Heritage Museum Indoor Mural

on desk

Laura Brandt

From: Erica Kellogg
Sent: March 10, 2026 9:02 AM
To: Laura Brandt
Subject: FW: FW: Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce- venue question

Laura,

The AHCC has gotten back to me on booking the Magnetawan Community Centre for the **business reach out**. This is intended to make business aware of the Chamber and I believe increase their membership. I've connected Samantha and Sandra to complete the booking together and I will attend the event.

You will be aware at OGRA but wondered if you wanted to circulate to METC to see if they want to be present. I've asked Sandra to give me what ever she creates to advertise the event so that I can circulate to businesses here in Magnetawan and we can get it shared on our Socials too.

Keep me posted,
EK

Erica Kellogg |Deputy Clerk – Planning & Development
Municipality of Magnetawan | PO Box 70 | 4304 Highway 520 | Magnetawan, ON POA 1P0
Phone 705-387-3947 ext. 1011 | Fax 705-387-4875 | ekellogg@magnetawan.com

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After subscribing make sure to confirm your subscription through the confirmation email.
<https://magnetawan.com/join-our-mailing-list>

From: Almaguin Highlands <almaguinhighlandschamber@gmail.com>
Sent: March 9, 2026 11:38 AM
To: Erica Kellogg <ekellogg@magnetawan.com>
Subject: Re: FW: Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce- venue question

Hi Erica

I've got a couple Directors set for **April 1st**, leaning towards a pre-dinner 4pm-5:30pm timeframe.
How did you make out your end?

Sandra Connell
Executive Director
Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce
705-571-3624



on desk

Laura Brandt

Subject:

FW: Event Announcement: Quickbooks Workshop, April 08, 2026

From: Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce <AlmaguinHighlandsChamberOfCommerce@wildapricot.org>

Sent: March 10, 2026 12:19 PM

To: Laura Brandt <lbrandt@magnetawan.com>

Subject: Event Announcement: Quickbooks Workshop, April 08, 2026



Dear Laura Brandt,

You are invited to the following [event](#):

Quickbooks Workshop

When: April 08, 2026 6:00 PM, EDT

Where: 91 Water St., Sundridge

Will you be attending?

Yes

Maybe

No

EVENT DETAILS:

QUICKBOOKS WORKSHOP



LEARN BOOKKEEPING BASICS & SOFTWARE

With Beattie Balanced Books

8
APRIL
2026

91 Water St., Sundridge | 6:00-8:00pm

Registration Required - \$10 for chamber members, \$15 non members.

Visit: <https://almaguinhighlandschamberofcommerce.wildapricot.org/event-6590004>

Presented by:    

Best regards,

[Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce](#)



Almaguin
Highlands
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

If you no longer wish to receive these emails you can [unsubscribe](#) at any time