



FYI

BUSINESS NEWS UPDATE



Celebrating Our #SupportTheBurne Business Partners



Shelburne's Community Builders!

The Town of Shelburne Economic Development team launched the #SupportTheBurne Initiative to encourage local engagement and strengthen connections within our community. We are proud to recognize the Shelburne businesses that participated in this initiative. Through their involvement, these businesses have demonstrated their commitment to supporting local economic development and fostering meaningful relationships that make Shelburne stronger.

A heartfelt thank you to County 104 FM for their continued support and partnership in promoting community-driven initiatives. Together, we are building a vibrant and connected Shelburne!

Commercial Façade Improvement Grant Program



#SupportTheBurne

Get up to \$13,500 to enhance your building's appearance!

What's Covered:

- Exterior lighting & decorative details
- Exterior Professional painting & signage
- Patio installations
- Design services

Benefits:

- Attract more customers
- Increase property value
- Support downtown revitalization

Requirements:

- Downtown BIA location
- Heritage-appropriate design
- Complete by December 31, 2025

Grant funding is subject to availability, and the program may close without notice once funds are depleted. For more information, visit our website.

[More Info](#)



Help Shape Shelburne's New Business Directory

We're in the early stages of developing an updated Shelburne Business Webpage and Directory – a resource designed to make it easier for residents and visitors to discover and support local businesses.

To prepare for this exciting update, we're asking all registered Shelburne businesses to submit:

- Your official logo (high-resolution preferred)
- A clear photo of your storefront with signage visible

Your contribution will help us create a modern, accurate, and visually appealing directory that truly represents our community.

Please send your files by clicking the link below

Thank you for helping us build a stronger online presence for Shelburne businesses, [#SupportTheBurne!](#)

Email

Business Supports



Living Wage Update

The [Ontario Living Wage Network](#) has released its annual update, and there's a significant change for our area. For the "Dufferin Guelph Wellington Waterloo" area, the living wage has increased from \$21.30/hour in November 2024 to **\$23.00/hour in November 2025**. This jump of \$1.70 per hour reflects the rising cost of living and aims to ensure that wages keep pace with basic expenses like housing, food, and transportation.

Take the Next Step!

Compare your company's salaries today using the [Workforce Planning Board of Waterloo Wellington Dufferin's free Salary Comparison Template](#) and access reliable occupational wage data.



ON Budget Consultations

The Ontario government is seeking ideas from workers, families, business owners, organizations and communities to help inform the 2026 Budget.

We would like to hear from you about the most pressing challenges of today, including:

- protecting Ontario's economy and workers
- creating more jobs
- keeping taxes low and costs down
- delivering better services
- getting critical infrastructure projects built

You Can Share Your Ideas Through:

[Learn More](#)

- [Survey \(before January 30, 2026\)](#)
- [Submit an online written proposal](#)
- Mailed written proposal (received before January 30, 2026)
- In-person consultation

[Learn More](#)



START-UP SEMINARS

Foodpreneur Advantage

Foodpreneur Advantage is a collaboration of Small Business Enterprise Centres designed to support food entrepreneurs at every stage—whether you're launching a new venture or scaling an existing food operation. The Start-Up Program offers four FREE virtual workshops, making it an excellent resource for any startup food business. Clients interested in registering can select Brampton as their local SBEC partner. For more information, click the link button below.

[Upcoming Workshops](#)



Share Your Insights – EmployerOne Survey

The Workforce Planning Board of Waterloo Wellington Dufferin (WPBWWD) is inviting employers to complete the EmployerOne Survey. Your feedback on hiring trends, recruitment challenges, skill needs, and training gaps helps shape strategies to address workforce issues. Aggregated results are shared with educators, community partners, and government to strengthen the local labour market. Have your say and help build solutions!

[Take the Survey](#)



Amendments to the Employment Standards Act, 2000

On November 27, 2025, the Working for Workers Seven Act, 2025 received

Retail Modernization Project Grant

Retail Modernization Project Grant

\$2.5 million is being invested to support small businesses in the retail sector in areas like online payment

Royal Assent, introducing significant amendments to the Employment Standards Act, 2000 (ESA). These changes include a new unpaid job seeking leave, provisions for extended temporary lay-offs, and upcoming regulations for job posting platforms effective January 1, 2026. For full details, updates will be available in Your guide to the ESA, and the legislation can be accessed here: Bill 30, Working for Workers Seven Act, 2025.

[Learn More](#)

systems, inventory management software, customer relationship management tools, digital marketing, cybersecurity solutions and artificial intelligence. The new Retail Modernization Project Grant will provide a flexible grant of up to \$5,000 to be matched by participants adopting new technologies in these areas.

[Learn More](#)

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[Email: Questions or Information](#)

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