

Huron County Immigration Partnership

2025 | NEWCOMER GUIDE



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Welcome to Huron County!

Welcome to Huron County! We have some of Canada's best beaches, the prettiest sunsets and stunning hiking trails. Our farmers' markets and tasting trails are a great way to discover one of Ontario's most agriculturally productive regions.

Huron County is divided into nine municipalities and is home to five towns: Clinton, Exeter, Goderich, Seaforth, and Wingham. There are five villages: Bayfield, Blyth, Brussels, Hensall, and Zurich, along with more than 60 hamlets.

About Huron County Immigration Partnership

The Huron County Immigration Partnership aims to build a welcoming community where newcomers feel supported, have a sense of belonging, and are integrated through participation in all areas of life. Huron County's Immigration Partnership collaborates with community members, organizations and business partners to create a welcoming community for newcomers to Canada.

Land Acknowledgement

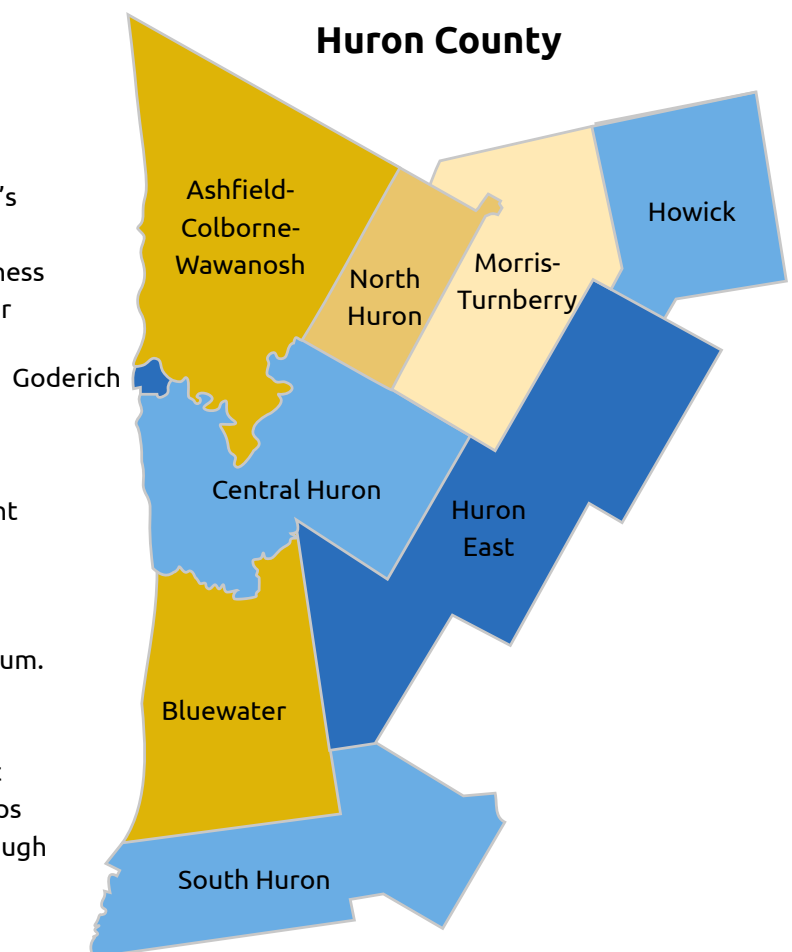
As a newcomer to Huron County it is important to know that the land we stand upon is the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Neutral Peoples and is connected to the Dish with One Spoon Wampum.

We recognize the First Peoples' continued stewardship of the land and water and accept responsibility to renew respectful relationships with First Nation, Métis, and Inuit People through reconciliation and community service.

Who this guide is for:

This guide is intended to be a resource for immigrants, permanent residents, temporary workers, international students, refugees, refugee claimants, and their families.

If you have questions about immigration related matters or the resources for immigrants in Huron County, please email the Huron County Immigration Partnership: home@huroncounty.ca or visit their website: www.huroncounty.ca/immigration-partnership



Your First Week in Canada

Set up an appointment with an immigrant-serving organization

Settlement workers help newcomers settle in their community. They can assist with things like:

- Completing forms and documents
- Referrals and help navigating systems such as health care, recreation services, education and taxes
- Referrals to services and programs
- Learning about Canadian life and culture
- Connections to interpretation services

Settlement support is funded by the government and is provided at no cost to newcomers.

For settlement services in Huron County, contact:

The YMCA of Southwestern Ontario

www.YMCAswo.ca/programs/education-enrichment/new-canada

The settlement worker for Huron County:

Isabella Perez

Email: isabella.perez@swo.ymca.ca

Phone: 226-559-7986

Interpretation and translation services

- London Cross-Cultural Learner Centre
Call: 519-432-1133 or visit: www.lcclc.org/
- Immigrant Services Guelph Wellington
Call: 519-836-2222 or visit: www.is-gw.ca/
- Kitchener Waterloo Multicultural Centre
Call: 519-745-2531 or visit: kwmulticultural.ca/
- Translation of credential-related documents:
World Education Services
Call: 1-800-361-6106
or visit: www.wes.org/ca/

Apply for a Social Insurance Number

Apply in-person:

Service Canada Centre

52 East Street, Goderich, ON

Apply online:

www.Canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin/apply.html

Apply for a government health card

Canada's health insurance system is designed to ensure that all residents of Canada have access to health care. People can apply for public health insurance. When you have public health insurance, you do not pay directly for most health-care services. Instead, all Canadians share in paying for them through taxes. When you use public health-care services, you must show your health card to the hospital or medical clinic.

Sign up for the **Ontario Health** Insurance Plan (OHIP) at a Service Ontario location in Huron County. You must apply in person.

Clinton: 65 Albert St.

Exeter: 388 Main St. S

Goderich: 38 North St.

Wingham: 185 Josephine St.

For more information about OHIP, visit:

www.Ontario.ca/page/apply-ohip-and-get-health-card

Open a bank account

You will need to open a Canadian bank account to be able to be paid for work in Canada, and/or apply for financial assistance. To open a bank account, you will need both of the following:

- Your temporary resident status document [copy of your temporary resident permit]
- Your passport

There are many different banks in Canada. If you want to save money, look for one that offers chequing and savings accounts for free.

Learn more about how to open a bank account: www.Canada.ca/en/financial-consumer-agency/services/banking/opening-bank-account.html

Enroll your children in school

Children aged 6 to 18 are required to attend school in Ontario. Many children can begin full day kindergarten programs beginning at age 4.

There are two public school boards in Huron County.

- **Avon Maitland District School Board's Welcome & Reception Services** are mobile and ready to ensure all new Multilingual Language Learners and their families will be welcomed into AMDSB schools. Welcome & Reception services will meet with you at your local school.
Phone: 1-800-592-5437 ext 267
Email: welcome@ed.amdsb.ca
Visit: www.amdsb.ca/apps/pages/MLL
You can expect to be contacted within three business days.
- **Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board:** To find your nearest school visit: www.HuronPerthCatholic.ca/our-schools/registration



Provide your address

Provide **Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada** with your Canadian address. Your current address is required to help make sure important documents are not delayed or lost and to ensure your application is not refused or abandoned.

Fill out the address change form at: www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/change-address.html

In case of emergency

Dial 911. Fire, ambulances, and police can be dispatched by dialing 911 during an emergency. Learn your residential address so that you can direct emergency responders to your home.

If you need to reach the police and it is not an emergency, call the **non-emergency line 1-888-310-1122**

Get a Canadian phone number

Get a local phone number with a prepaid or monthly plan. Options vary based on usage and budget, including special long-distance plans. Some require long-term contracts for lower rates, so check penalties for early cancellation. Major providers include Bell, Rogers, HuronTel, and TCC. The Office of Consumer Affairs offers a helpful guide at www.ised-isde.canada.ca/site/office-consumer-affairs/en

Your First Month in Canada

Learn or improve your English

You can enroll in adult English as a Second Language classes. Sign up at the **Centre for Education & Learning**:

amdsb.ca/cel

E-mail: erin.jones@ed.amdsb.ca

phone: 519-271-4896

Join a Conversation Circle

Conversation Circles give newcomers an opportunity to connect with each other and practice speaking English with an English-speaking volunteer. Ask about joining in-person sessions at the following locations:

Exeter – Huron County Library

330 Main St S, Exeter, ON

519-235-1890

Goderich – Huron County Library

52 Montreal St, Goderich, ON

519-524-9261

Get ready to work

Community agencies provide employment services for newcomers to Ontario at no cost.

- **Agilec** provides FREE specialized services to assist job seekers looking for work.
41 West St, Goderich, ON
Visit: www.agilec.ca/contact/goderich/
or call 226-546-5311
- **College Boreal Employment Options** offers support with resume writing, job applications, interview preparation and more.
Visit www.employmentoptions.ca
or call 519-672-1562.
- **Will Employment Solutions** connect immigrant job seekers to employers who are looking to hire qualified workers.
Visit: www.willemployment.ca
- For local job advertisements visit:
www.JobsInHuron.ca
- For tips to strengthen your job search locally: <https://www.ontarioswestcoast.ca/jobseekers/>

Find training opportunities

Technical Training Group offers in-person courses to learn skilled trades. Past courses have included welding, working at heights training and more. Courses are offered at low or no-cost.

Learn more: www.technicaltraininggroup.org

Contact: info@technicaltraininggroup.org

or call 519-801-8641

Contact North helps people in rural Ontario learn about and access online education and training to advance their careers. Connect with a government funded education and training advisor.

Visit: www.contactnorth.ca/

In Huron County, contact: Jeffrey Scholl

Call: 1-855-656-1232

E-mail: huronbluewater@contactnorth.ca





Get your credentials accredited

Certain jobs require your skills and training to be assessed. Regulated jobs, including work in the trades, are controlled by provincial or, sometimes, federal laws. They are governed by a regulatory body or apprenticeship authority.

To learn more visit:

www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/settle-canada/credential-assessment.html

Learn about your rights at work

Find out what to expect in an Ontario workplace and what your rights are, by visiting this website for newcomers moving to Ontario:

www.Settlement.org/ontario/employment

Additional information about worker rights in multiple languages can be accessed from

Community Legal Education Ontario:

www.cleo.on.ca/en/publications/rightswrk

Find childcare

In Huron County, there are many types of child care options for families. These include:

- Huron EarlyON
- Licensed Centre-Based Child Care
- Licensed Home Child Care Agencies
- Unlicensed Child Care
- Nursery Schools
- Before and After School Programs

To learn more, visit:

www.HuronCounty.ca/social-services/childrens-services

Book an immigration medical exam

Some immigration applicants who enter Canada are required to take a medical exam as part of Canada's immigration process. This exam must be performed by a physician who has been approved by the government to do these medical exams.

The following service providers have been identified:

Immigration Medical Examiners

751 Victoria St S, Suite B 106, Kitchener, ON

www.imemed.ca

Phone: 519-748-8510

Dr. Edgard A. Arcia Bravo MPC

750 Baseline Rd E, Suite #104, London, ON

Phone: 519-850-3335

Panel Doctors Kitchener-Waterloo

430 The Boardwalk, Suite 308, Waterloo, ON

www.paneldoctors.ca

E-mail: info@paneldoctors.ca

Phone: 519-744-5932

McDonagh Immigration Medical Services

279 Wharnccliffe Rd N, Suite 225, London, ON

www.sites.google.com/view/mcdonagh-immigration-medicals

E-mail: mcdonaghimmigrationservices@gmail.com

Phone: 519-859-8987

Get your Ontario Driver's Licence

When you move to Ontario, you can use a valid licence from another country for 60 days. After 60 days, you must switch to an Ontario driver's licence.

You can exchange a foreign licence for an Ontario driver's licence from certain countries. To switch your licence, you must complete testing required by Ontario's Licensing System. You can review the requirements at: www.drivetest.ca/licences/exchanges-foreign-licences/

Tests can be completed at:
Huron County DriveTest Centre
154 Beech St,
Clinton, ON
1-888-570-6110

You can find other test locations online at:
www.drivetest.ca/find-a-drivetest-centre/alphabetical_list/#western_ontario

Get support about immigration matters

FCJ Refugee Centre

FCJ Refugee Centre serves refugees and others at risk due to their immigration status, and welcomes anyone asking for advice, counsel and support regarding these issues.

208 Oakwood Ave.
Toronto, ON M6E 2V4
Phone: 416-469-9754
WhatsApp: 437-217-3786
E-mail: info@fcjrefugeecentre.org
Website: www.fcjrefugeecentre.org



Housing

Learn about social housing

People with low income may be eligible to apply for government funded subsidies and rent that is geared to their income. In Huron County, there are social housing units located in Bayfield, Blyth, Brussels, Clinton, Exeter, Goderich, Seaforth, Wingham and Zurich. An application and evaluation process is required to confirm eligibility for social housing. Learn more: www.huroncounty.ca/social-services/housing-and-homelessness/

Finding a home

Realtor.ca is the official website of the Canadian Real Estate Association. It is an interactive website where you can find homes and businesses for sale or rent that are available in the area. You can also find local real estate agents who may know about other properties that are not yet listed online. www.realtor.ca

Renting a home

Find rentals on local forums like Facebook and Kijiji. Many Huron County communities have housing groups—search “Goderich and Area Homes For Rent” to find listings or post your needs.

For rental tips, leases, and home care in Canada, visit: www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/consumers/home-buying/newcomers.

Before you move in checklist

- **Have a signed Residential Tenancy Agreement** www.forms.mgcs.gov.on.ca/en/dataset/047-2229
- **Check for damage**
Ask the landlord to look at the rental unit for damage with you. Take photographs of any damage you see, like holes or stains. Use the Initial Inspection Worksheet found here: www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/consumers/renting-a-home/i-am-renting/inspections
- **Arrange for services and utilities**
Services (internet) and utilities (hydro and gas) are sometimes included in your rental fee, check your tenancy agreement. If they are not included, you will need to call to have the services connected and will have to pay for them separately.
- **Buy tenant's insurance**
This pays for damages to your belongings in the rental unit if there is ever a fire or robbery.
- **Ask your landlord about garbage and recycling**
Many towns have waste collection services, and some apartments have large bins for tenants to use. Talk with your landlord about how to dispose of your garbage and recycling.

Buying a home

More details can be found in Buying Your First Home in Canada: What Newcomers Need to Know available in multiple languages at: www.settlement.org/ontario/housing/buy-a-home/buying-basics/buying-your-first-home-in-canada-what-newcomers-need-to-know/

Transportation

Buses

Huron Shores Area Transit

Check for up-to-date schedules and fares:

www.huronshoresareatransit.ca

Taxis

Goderich:

Goderich Taxi – 519-524-6594

Anytime Taxi – 519-524-8888

Exeter:

Star Taxi – 519-235-2255

Exeter Taxi – 519-235-1013

Clinton:

Clinton Taxi – 519-482-7433

Wingham:

TJ'S Taxi – 519-531-0910

Start Taxi – 519-357-1234

Seaforth:

Blue Heron Taxi – 519-949-7433

Huron Welcome Hub for Newcomers

This collaborative group of volunteers work to welcome and help newcomers from outside Canada who are settling in Huron County. Contact them if you require assistance with transportation coordination, information about services and events or referral to local service organizations.

E-mail: huronwelcome@gmail.com

Visit: <https://huronwelcome.com>

Cars

You can buy a new or used car from a dealer or a private seller. In Ontario, used cars must pass a safety certification before a new owner can drive them. If not included, you must arrange and pay for certification and any necessary repairs. After purchasing a car, register it with the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario and get a license plate at Service Ontario.

Alternatively, you can lease a car from a dealer, agreeing to pay a fee to use it for a set period. At the end of the lease, you must return the car in good condition. Always review the lease terms before signing. For information on buying a vehicle, consult the Canadian Consumer Handbook produced by federal, provincial and territorial governments at www.consumerhandbook.ca

A list of local car dealerships can be found online:

www.huroncounty.ca/economic-development/new-to-huron/#Resources

For affordable vehicle repairs contact:

Christian Automotive Repair Service

405-E Josephine St.

Wingham, ON

Email: office@carsministry.ca

Call: 519-357-2277 ext. 5

Visit: carsministry.ca/

Winter driving

During the winter months the weather can make driving dangerous in Huron County. Sometimes roads are even closed by police because they are unsafe to drive on. When a road is closed it is against the law to drive on it. Find out more:

www.huroncounty.ca/public-works/winter-road-conditions/

Small Business Support

Huron Business Centre

Huron Business Centre supports entrepreneurs at any stage of business, from start up, to growth, to selling. Services include free business coaching, grant opportunities, workshops and seminars.

57 Napier St, Goderich, ON

Call: 519-524-8394 ext. 6

E-mail: smallbusiness@huroncounty.ca

Visit: www.huroncounty.ca/economic-development/huron-business-centre/

Community Futures Huron

Understands small businesses and the local marketplace. They provide important services to businesses, entrepreneurs and social enterprises, including business counselling, business planning, entrepreneurial training and business loans.

435 Turnberry Street Brussels, ON

Call: 226-889-8256

E-mail: pnichol@cfhuron.ca

Visit: <https://www.cfhuron.ca/>

Huron Chamber of Commerce

As the largest business organization in Huron County, the Chamber plays a vital role in advocating for businesses, facilitating partnerships, and creating opportunities that drive regional success.

Call: 519-440-0176

E-mail: info@huronchamber.ca

Visit: www.huronchamber.ca

South Huron Chamber of Commerce

Supports and advances the interests of the business community in South Huron and area. Through advocacy and outreach they help the business community to thrive, and make South Huron a better place to work and live.

303 Main St, Exeter, ON

Call: 226-423-3028

E-mail: office@shcc.on.ca

Visit: www.shcc.on.ca



Other resources

- **Business and Self-Employment**
Find out the requirements and supports available to you if you start a new business in Canada.
www.settlement.org/ontario/employment/business-and-self-employment
- View this self-employment pathway to explore the idea of setting up a small business in Canada
www.jobskills.org/self-employment-pathways-for-newcomers
- Hire Immigrants provides services and resources for newcomer entrepreneurs.
www.hireimmigrants.ca
- The Bank for Canadian Entrepreneurs offers financing, advisory services and capital for small and medium sized businesses.
www.bdc.ca/en
- Pro Bono Ontario's Free Legal Advice Hotline can help small businesses and non-profits with common legal issues, 1-855-255-7256.
www.probonoontario.org/corporate
- If you're new to Canada and are unsure about your credit, Futurpreneur can help you with support and resources.
www.futurpreneur.ca/en/offering/newcomers

Financial Support and Taxes

Federal funding programs

- There are a variety of financial support programs provided by the government for people in need. In most cases, you must meet certain criteria to benefit from these programs. You can obtain information on what support is available by visiting: www.canadabenefits.gc.ca

Provincial funding programs

- **Emergency assistance:** temporary financial support.
Visit: www.Ontario.ca/page/apply-emergency-assistance

Municipal funding programs

- **Ontario Works:** Provides income support to assist with the cost of basic needs like food, clothing, and shelter, as well as health benefits for people in temporary financial need. Visit: www.huroncounty.ca/social-services/ontario-works/
- **Pathways to Self-Sufficiency:** Emergency health and non-health items to support health and well-being or prevent homelessness. Funds for rent, heat or housing.
Call: 519-482-8505 or 1-888-371-5718
Visit: www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-works
- **Subsidy Program:** Supports eligible families with the cost of child care expenses.
Call 519-482-8505 or 1-888-371-5718.
Apply: occms.huroncounty.ca/childrensservices/en-ca/olaf/welcome
- **Recreation, Arts, Sports Program:** Up to \$800 per child in funding is offered to support participation in recreation, arts and sports program through a Huron County partnership with the YMCA of Southwestern Ontario.
Call 519-453-8858 ext. 1104 or www.ymcaswo.ca/rasp-yrasp

Local not-for-profit funding programs

- **Huron Area Newcomer Fund - Goderich Lions:** Up to \$1,500 for emergency expenses or unforeseen needs is available for people during their first 18 months in Canada. Visit: www.Goderichlions.ca/abouthuronareanewcomerfund

Taxes

Residents of Canada pay a variety of taxes to all three levels of government: federal, provincial or territorial, and municipal. By filing an income tax and benefit return you may qualify for various government benefits, such as the Canada Child Tax Benefit, the Universal Child Care Benefit, and the Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax credit. You may also qualify for benefits from provincial or territorial government programs. For more information, visit: www.canada.ca/en/services/taxes.html

Community volunteer income tax clinic

Volunteers will help newcomers file taxes if you have a modest income and a simple tax situation. Learn more about the Community Volunteer Income Tax program: www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/community-volunteer-income-tax-program.html

Assistance with Food and Clothing

Food banks, community meals, and other support

Several food banks, community meals and resources are available as you resettle and for emergency use. Each organization offers different support including food, hot meals, clothing, household supplies and school supplies.

Food banks

- Bayfield: **Bayfield Area Food Bank** – monthly food bank. Contact 519-525-8286
- Centralia: **Huron County Food Bank Distribution Centre** - mobile food bank truck with pick-up locations in Brussels, Blyth, Dungannon, Huron Park, Lucknow, and Vanastra. 39978 Crediton Rd, Centralia, ON, 519-913-2362
- Clinton: **Salvation Army** - monthly food bank, regular support with clothing and household items, transportation assistance, rent and utility assistance and more. 32 Albert St, Clinton, ON, 519-482-8586
- Exeter: **Exeter and Area Food Bank** - monthly food bank. 249 Andrew St, Exeter, ON, 519-860-4104
- Goderich: **Salvation Army** - monthly food bank, regular support with clothing and household items, transportation assistance, rent and utility assistance; store selling used clothing and more. 309 Suncoast Dr E, Goderich, ON, 519-524-2950
- Goderich: **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** - community food bank; store selling used clothing, household items and furniture; support for health related issues, emergency shelter, rent assistance, and more. 441 Macewan St, Goderich, ON, 519-524-1087
- Seaforth: **Seaforth and District Food Bank** - monthly food bank. 72 Main St, Seaforth, ON, 519-527-0281
- Wingham: **North Huron Community Food Share** - monthly food bank. 405 Josephine St, Wingham, ON, 519-357-2277
- Wingham: **Salvation Army** - monthly food bank, regular support with clothing, rent and utility assistance; store selling used clothing and more. 205 Josephine St, Wingham, ON, 519-357-1387
- Zurich: **Blessings Community Store** - monthly food bank; store selling used clothing and household items. 45 Main St, Zurich, ON, 519-236-4376

Community meals

- Brussels: **Soup n' More** - weekly community meal by donation. Melville Presbyterian Church, 55 Dunedin Dr, Brussels, ON, 519-887-6820
- Clinton: **Soup and More** - weekly community meal. 243 Princess St, Clinton, ON, 519-482-5264
- Exeter: **The Community Table and Noah's Ark Family Apparel** - regular community meals; store selling used clothes. Exeter Pentecostal Tabernacle, 70670 London Rd, Exeter, ON, 519-235-2991
- Goderich: **Goderich Fishes and Loaves** - weekly free meal pick-up program. Locations vary, sign up here: www.facebook.com/fishesmeals/

Emergency housing assistance

- Clinton: **Salvation Army** 519-482-8586
- Goderich: **Salvation Army** 519-524-2950
- Goderich: **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** 519-524-1087
- Wingham: **Salvation Army** 519-357-3757
- Ontario Works: www.ontario.ca/page/apply-emergency-assistance

Healthcare Support

Emergency services

Call **911** if you are in an emergency, if you require an ambulance or police assistance.

Huron County hospitals

- Clinton: **Clinton Public Hospital** 98 Shipley St, Clinton, ON, 519-482-3440
- Exeter: **South Huron Hospital Association** 24 Huron St W, Exeter, ON, 519-235-2700
- Goderich: **Alexandra Marine General Hospital** 120 Napier St, Goderich, ON, 519-524-8323
- Seaforth: **Seaforth Community Hospital** 24 Centennial Dr, Seaforth, ON, 519-527-1650
- Wingham: **Wingham and District Hospital** 270 Carling Terrace, Wingham, ON, 519-357-3210

Walk-in clinics

Walk-in clinics provide medical care for people who do not have a family doctor or have one and are unable to reach them. You can see a nurse or doctor, often without an appointment at a walk-in clinic, and get advice, assessment and treatment for minor illnesses and injuries

- Blyth: **Blyth Walk-In Clinic** 442 Queen St, Blyth, ON, 226-532-9500
Check website for available dates, times: <https://blythpharmacy.ca/walkin-clinic>
- Exeter: **South Huron Medical Centre Walk-in Clinic** 23 Huron St. W., Exeter, ON, 519-235-2700. Check website for available dates, times: www.shha.on.ca/shmc

Find a family health provider

Many Canadians have a health practitioner (family doctor or nurse practitioner) they go to whenever they need medical care. Register for a family health provider by visiting a local community health centre:

- Clinton: **Clinton Family Health Team** 105 Shipley St, Clinton, ON 519-482-3000, www.clintonfht.ca
- Exeter: **South Huron Medical Centre** 23 Huron St W, Exeter, ON, 519-235-2700, www.shha.on.ca/shmc
- Goderich: **Maitland Valley Family Health Centre** 180 Cambria Rd N, Goderich, ON, 519-524-6060, www.mvfht.ca
- Grand Bend: **Grand Bend Area Community Health Centre** 69 Main St E, Grand Bend, ON, 519-238-2362, www.gbachc.ca
- Hensall: **Grand Bend Area Community Health Centre** 122 King St, Box 159, Hensall, ON, 519-262-3140, www.gbachc.ca
- Seaforth: **Huron Community Health Team** 32 Centennial Dr, Seaforth, ON, 519-600-2273, www.hcfht.ca
- Wingham: **Listowel-Wingham and Area Family Health Team** 271 Frances St, Wingham, ON, 519-357-3930, www.lwafht.ca
- Zurich: **Bluewater Area Family Health Team** 6 Goshen St. S, Zurich, ON, 519-236-4314, www.bluewaterareafht.ca

Unattached Care Clinic

For individuals without a family doctor, addressing health needs that are not emergencies but require timely attention. Clinics are in Stratford, Listowel, Wingham, Goderich, Zurich, and Exeter. For appointments or general inquiries, please call the clinic nearest to you:

- **Stratford Family Health Team:** 226-766-0510
- **Listowel-Wingham and Area Family Health Team:** 519-291-4511
- **Bluewater Area Family Health Team, Exeter Medical Clinic** (currently offering limited services); **Maitland Valley Medical Centre:** 519-870-9034

Helplines

Telehealth Ontario

Telehealth Ontario is a free, confidential service offering 24/7 health advice from a Registered Nurse. They help you decide on self-care, a doctor's visit, a clinic, or emergency care. Interpreters are available. Call 1-866-797-0000.

Refugee HealthLine

The Refugee HealthLine (1-866-286-4770) is a 24/7 toll-free, multilingual service supporting refugees and humanitarian arrivals.

Mental health support

Huron Perth Helpline and Crisis Response Team

If you or someone you know needs urgent mental health and/or addictions support, please call the Huron Perth Helpline and Crisis Response Team at 1-888-829-7484.

If you are looking for short or long-term support and resources for mental health and/or addictions, visit:

- **Canadian Mental Health Association Huron Perth**
(519) 271-6819
<https://cmhahuronperth.com/>

Financial support for children's dental assistance

Healthy Smiles Ontario is a government-funded dental program that provides free preventive, routine, and emergency dental services for children and youth 17 years old and under from low-income households.

The program includes regular visits to a licensed dental provider and covers the costs of treatment including:

- Check-ups
- Cleaning
- Fillings (for a cavity)
- X-rays
- And more

Learn about this program at:

www.ontario.ca/page/get-dental-care



Community Connections

Volunteering

Volunteering your time is an excellent way to meet people, contribute to your community and gain your first Canadian work experience. You can volunteer in many places, including community centres, schools, charitable organizations, hospitals, retirement homes, and other organizations.

Sports teams and sports centres

In most communities, there are organized leagues for many sports. For each sport, there are different age groups (adults, teenagers and children). There are also sports centres where you can enjoy fitness classes, swim, work out and do other sports-related activities. To find a sports club, go online and search your nearest town's name and the sport you wish to play.

Joining social clubs or associations

There are also many opportunities for people with common interests to gather. Examples include joining book clubs, game clubs, and music, arts or dance clubs. You can find out about associations and clubs in your area by consulting a local library staff member or inquiring at a Town Hall.

Getting involved in your child's school

In Canada, schools encourage parents to support their child's education by getting involved with the school and school board. This helps your child succeed and provides an excellent opportunity to meet people and become part of the school community.

211 Ontario

211 Ontario is a free, confidential service that connects people to programs and services. 211 is available by phone in multiple languages or by text, online search, email, or chat in French and English. www.211ontario.ca/

Huron Welcome Hub for Newcomers

Contact this collaborative group of volunteers who work to welcome and help newcomers from outside Canada who are settling in Huron County without other support. The group acts as a touchstone to link newcomers to agencies and programs that can provide the services they need to ensure a successful transition to life in the county.

If you require assistance with transportation coordination, information about services and events or referral to local service organizations contact huronwelcome@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/share/g/19xVdUZRrn/



Community supports

- **Community Living** is a non-profit organization that provides services and supports to people with disabilities and their families residing in the communities of Huron County.
- **Community Living-Central Huron**
Call 519-524-7362 or visit www.clch.ca/
- **Community Living Wingham & District** - Call or visit: 519-357-3562 <https://wdcla.org/>
- **Community Living South Huron**
Call 519-237-3637 or visit www.clsh.ca/
- **Rural Response for Healthy Children** serves Huron and Perth County families. They support families through education and support groups, activities and workshops for parents and caregivers.
Call 226-699-0707 or visit www.rrhc.on.ca/
- **The Well Community Collective** provides a range of social and community services including peer services, outreach and system navigation services. They also offer drop-in activities and care for youth aged 12-25. For current activities visit: www.facebook.com/thewellcommunitycanada
- **South Huron Connection Centre** in Exeter offers weekly drop-ins with access to services like legal aid, employment help, housing support, ID assistance, and mental health/addiction resources. Drop-in meals also provided.
Exeter Pentecostal Tabernacle, 70670 London Road, Exeter
E-mail: eptcan.office@gmail.com
519-235-2991 ext. 4
<https://perthhuron.unitedway.ca/community-resources/unitedwayconnectioncentres/>
- **North Huron Connection Centre** in Wingham supports people facing homelessness or housing instability by connecting them to housing, medical, financial, and legal services and support.
St. Paul's-Trinity Anglican Church, 23 John St. E, Wingham 519-271-6819 ext. 404
<https://perthhuron.unitedway.ca/community-resources/unitedwayconnectioncentres/>

Immigration consultants

Many people choose to hire an immigration consultant to help with their applications to become a temporary resident, permanent resident, or citizen in Canada. To learn more please visit: www.settlement.org/ontario/immigration-citizenship/immigrating-to-ontario/general-information-about-applying/should-i-get-help-with-my-immigration-application-from-an-immigration-consultant-or-lawyer/

To find a registered immigration consultant visit: www.college-ic.ca/protecting-the-public/find-an-immigration-consultant

Huron County Immigration Partnership newsletter

The **Huron County Immigration Partnership** collaborates with organizations and service providers to host events for newcomers. Learn about upcoming events by signing up for their newsletter:
www.huroncounty.ca/economic-development/



What Does Your Municipality Do?

Huron County Library

The Huron County Library has branches in 12 communities. Each library offers an outstanding selection of resources, services, and programs, along with free wifi, public access computers, books, materials to borrow, events, classes and clubs. To learn more visit www.huroncountylibrary.ca

- **Bayfield:** 8 Bayfield Main St N, Bayfield, ON (519) 565-2886
- **Blyth:** 392 Queen St, Blyth, ON (519) 523-4400
- **Brussels:** 402 Turnberry St, Brussels, ON (519) 887-6448
- **Clinton:** 27 Albert St S, Clinton, ON (519) 482-3673
- **Exeter:** 330 Main St S, Exeter, ON (519) 235-1890
- **Goderich:** 52 Montreal St, Goderich, ON, (519) 524-9261
- **Hensall:** 108 King St, Box 249, Hensall, ON, (519) 262-2445
- **Howick:** 45088 Harriston Rd, RR 1, Gorrie, ON, (519) 335-6899
- **Kirkton:** 70497 Perth Rd 164, RR 1, Kirkton, ON (519) 229-8854
- **Seaforth:** 108 Main St S, Seaforth, ON, 519-527-1430
- **Wingham:** 281 Edward St, Wingham, ON, 519-357-3312
- **Zurich:** 10 Goshen St N, Zurich, ON, 519-236-4965

Municipalities

Your local municipality can provide you with information about community services, sports, recreation activities, parks, roads, garbage removal, recycling and much more! Huron County is divided into nine municipalities. Visit your municipal website to learn more about the area where you live.

- **Ashfield Colborne Wawanosh**
www.acwtownship.ca
- **Bluewater**
www.municipalityofbluewater.ca
- **Central Huron**
www.centralhuron.ca
- **Goderich**
www.goderich.ca
- **Howick**
www.howick.ca
- **Huron East**
www.huroneast.com
- **Morris-Turnberry**
www.morristurnberry.ca
- **North Huron**
www.northhuron.ca
- **South Huron**
www.southhuron.ca

Recreation Funding Available

Up to \$800 per child in funding is offered to support participation in recreation, arts and sports programs through a Huron County partnership with the YMCA of Southwestern Ontario.

For more information, visit: www.ymcaswo.ca/rasp-yrasp

5 Reasons you'll fall in love with Huron County!



1. Lake Huron Beaches

Watch some of the world's best sunsets on Huron County's beaches! Build a sand castle, swim, paddleboard or walk along the shoreline. Be sure to explore all that Lake Huron has to offer.



2. Farmers' Markets

Find a variety of local Farmers' Markets featuring fresh vegetables, fruit and products throughout Huron County. Huron's Farmers' Markets are a great opportunity to connect with local farmers and learn more about the community.



3. Festivals, Fairs and Events

There is a lot to celebrate in Huron County! Enjoy outdoor music festivals, arts and cultural festivals, sporting events, rodeos and agricultural fairs. There's something for everyone.



4. Nature Trails and Outdoor Adventure

Huron County is home to beautiful nature trails and conservation areas that are perfect for hiking, cycling, canoeing or fishing. Explore one of the 30+ outdoor trails that are available for all ages and skill levels.



5. Farm to Table Dining

Finding local, fresh, and delicious food doesn't get any easier than in Huron County. The diversity of food and beverage products grown and produced in Huron is remarkable!

Learn more about things to see and do in Huron County at:

www.OntariosWestCoast.ca

HURON COUNTY



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