



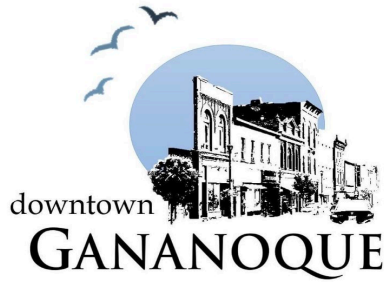
## Downtown Gananoque Business Improvement Area (BIA) Board MEETING AGENDA

Held on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at **6:30PM**

In Person and Online via Webex at Town Hall - 30 King Street East, Gananoque

Meeting Link: [CLICK HERE](#)

<b>1.</b>	<b>Call Meeting to Order</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest &amp; General Nature Thereof</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes</b> (Adoption) – October 19 <sup>th</sup> , November 15 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2023
<b>4.</b>	<b>Public Question/Comment</b> (Only Addressing Reports on the Agenda)
<b>5.</b>	<b>Disclosure of Additional Items</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Delegations</b> – None
<b>7.</b>	<b>Presentations by Staff</b> – Amanda Trafford – Festival of Lights 2023 Report
<b>8.</b>	<b>Treasurer’s Report</b> – Budget Update
<b>9.</b>	<b>Unfinished Business</b>
	1. 2024 Budget
<b>10.</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>
	1. OBIAA Newsletter – 11 January 2024 2. Town of Gananoque Town News – 19 December 2023
<b>11.</b>	<b>New Business/ Reports</b>
	1. 2024 Event Planning – Valentine Date Night, April 8 Eclipse,
	2. 2024 AGM (early February)
<b>12.</b>	<b>Discussion of Additional Items</b>
<b>13.</b>	<b>Next Regular Meeting</b>
<b>14.</b>	<b>Questions from the Media</b>
<b>15.</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>



**Downtown Business Improvement Area (BIA) Board**

**UNADOPTED MINUTES**

Held on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 6:30 PM

Held in Person (& Online via WebEx) at Town Hall 30 King Street East

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT		STAFF PRESENT
<b>Members:</b>	Lisa Robichaud, Chair	Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary
	Randall Smith, Vice-Chair	Amanda Trafford, Economic Development & Cultural Heritage Coordinator
	Lesley Poole, Treasurer	
	Councillor David Osmond	
	Carolyn Harding	
<b>Regrets:</b>	Ryan Chartrand	
	Shannon Treanor	
	Kathrine Christensen	

<b>1.</b>	<b>Call Meeting to Order</b>
	Chair, Lisa Robichaud called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM
<b>2.</b>	<b>Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest &amp; General Nature Thereof – None</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes – September 20, 2023</b>
	<p><b>BIA Motion #23-030 – Approve Minutes – September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023</b></p> <p><b>Moved By:</b> Randall Smith    <b>Seconded By:</b> Lesley Poole</p> <p>BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE DOWNTOWN GANANOQUE BIA BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 MEETING.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED – UNANIMOUS</b></p>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Public Question/Comment (Only Addressing Reports on the Agenda) – None</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Disclosure of Additional Items – None</b>

6.	<b>Delegations – None</b>
7.	<b>Presentations by Staff (Others) – None</b>
8.	<b>Unfinished Business</b>
	1. Halloween Event
	<p><b>BIA Motion #23-031 – Contribute \$2,500 to 2023 Parade – October 19, 2023</b></p> <p><b>Moved By:</b> Randall Smith      <b>Seconded By:</b> Lesley Poole</p> <p><b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE DOWNTOWN GANANOQUE BIA BOARD CONTRIBUTE \$2,500 TO THE 1000 ISLANDS GANANOQUE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TOWARDS THE 2023 SANTA PARADE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED – UNANIMOUS</b></p>
	2. Festival of Lights/Holiday Events
	<p><b>BIA Motion #2023-032 – Direction to Staff to Purchase Holiday Lighting</b></p> <p><b>Moved By:</b> Lesley Poole      <b>Seconded By:</b> Randall Smith</p> <p><b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE DOWNTOWN GANANOQUE BIA BOARD DIRECT STAFF TO PURCHASE HOLIDAY LIGHTING/DECORATIONS FOR THE BIA FOR AN AMOUNT UP TO \$6,000.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED – UNANIMOUS</b></p>
9.	<b>Correspondence</b>
10.	<b>New Business/Reports</b>
11.	<b>Discussion of Additional Items – None</b>
12.	<b>Next Regular Meeting – Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 6:30 PM</b>
13.	<b>Questions from the Media – None</b>
14.	<b>Adjournment</b>
	<p><b>BIA Motion #2023-033 – Adjournment</b></p> <p><b>Moved By:</b> Carolyn Harding</p> <p><b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE DOWNTOWN GANANOQUE BIA BOARD ADJOURN THE OCTOBER 19, 2023 MEETING AT 8:03 PM.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED – UNANIMOUS</b></p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; border-top: 1px solid black; border-right: 1px solid black; border-left: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <div style="width: 45%; border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;">Lisa Robichaud, Chair</div> <div style="width: 45%; border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;">Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary</div> </div>	



**Downtown Business Improvement Area (BIA) Board**

**UNADOPTED MINUTES**

Held on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 6:30 PM

**Held in Person (& Online via WebEx) at Town Hall 30 King Street East**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</b>		<b>STAFF PRESENT</b>
<b>Members:</b>	Councillor David Osmond	Melanie Kirkby, Treasurer
	Randall Smith, Vice-Chair	Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary
	Lesley Poole, Treasurer	
<b>Regrets:</b>	Lisa Robichaud, Chair	
	Carolyn Harding	
	Ryan Chartrand	
	Shannon Treanor	
	Kathrine Christensen	

<b>1.</b>	<b>Call Meeting to Order</b>		
	The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Due to lack of quorum, the Chair adjourned the meeting.		
<b>2.</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>		
	The BIA Board Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.		
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/>           Randall Smith, Vice-Chair         </td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/>           Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary         </td> </tr> </table>		<hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> Randall Smith, Vice-Chair	<hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary
<hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> Randall Smith, Vice-Chair	<hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary		



**Downtown Business Improvement Area (BIA) Board**

**UNADOPTED MINUTES**

Held on Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023 at 6:30 PM

**Held in Person (& Online via WebEx) at Town Hall 30 King Street East**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</b>		<b>STAFF PRESENT</b>
<b>Members:</b>	Councillor David Osmond	Melanie Kirkby, Treasurer (Online)
	Randall Smith, Vice-Chair	Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary
	Lesley Poole, Treasurer	Amanda Trafford (Online)
	Lisa Robichaud, Chair	
<b>Regrets:</b>	Carolyn Harding	
	Ryan Chartrand	
	Shannon Treanor	
	Kathrine Christensen	

<b>1.</b>	<b>Call Meeting to Order</b>		
	The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Due to lack of quorum, the Chair adjourned the meeting.		
<b>2.</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>		
	The BIA Board Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.		
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <hr/>           Lisa Robichaud, Chair         </td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <hr/>           Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary         </td> </tr> </table>		<hr/> Lisa Robichaud, Chair	<hr/> Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary
<hr/> Lisa Robichaud, Chair	<hr/> Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary		

## Downtown BIA 2024 Budget for Discussion

<i>Account Name</i>	<i>Projected 2023 Spent and committed</i>	<i>Proposed 2024 Budget</i>	<i>2023 Notes/Explanations</i>	<i>2024 for discussion</i>																											
<b>Revenue</b>																															
Levy	47,620	47,610		No appetite to raise levy																											
Less: Levy adjustments	327	-																													
BIA Fundraising	-	2,500		Music and/or comedy show fundraiser(s) at Royal																											
Grants, TAP funding	-	20,000		Possibly for eclipse event promotion																											
Transfer From Reserves		2,290																													
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>47,293</b>	<b>72,400</b>																													
<b>Spending</b>																															
Special projects	12,000	12,240	Lynsey's time - 5 hours per week allocated to BIA	What could be accomplished with add'l staff time?																											
Other wages & deductions	643			N/A in 2024 due to change in how staff time is charged to BIA																											
Ads, publications, subscriptions	248	6,000	?	MyFM or Recorder / Social																											
Memberships	-	250		OBIA membership																											
Conventions/travel	-	1,785		OBIA conference - 1 board member could attend with Amanda to learn more about what other Ontario BIAs are doing																											
Lights and signage	949	1,500	Repair and replace Christmas lights	What is plan for replacement at end of life span (5 years)? Town funded current light purchase (~\$40K)																											
Lights - put up/take down	4,407	4,500	Funnel electricians put up and maintain; town takes down and stores	Consideration to leaving them up year-round Interest in trying for 1 Year?																											
Audit fees	1,109	1,200	Seems like a lot given size and simplicity.	Can town take this on?																											
Beautification (flower baskets)	13,809	16,425	2024 is year 3 of 3-year contract with Minnakers;	BIA would like input to timing and selection of flowers. Could Horticultural Society take on winter greenery with town to install?																											
Events	11,522	28,500	Insurance for Santa Claus parade; Halloween event; new Christmas décor	Add Eclipse plus Easter, possible summer event to amplify Festivlles																											
Misc	-	-																													
<b>Total spending</b>	<b>44,687</b>	<b>72,400</b>																													
Surplus/shortfall	<b>2,606</b>	-	Use 2023 surplus to fund eclipse glasses?																												
				<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Eclipse</td> <td>\$</td> <td>10,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Easter</td> <td>\$</td> <td>2,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Holiday Lights</td> <td>\$</td> <td>2,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>shoulder</td> <td>\$</td> <td>10,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parade</td> <td>\$</td> <td>2,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>halloween</td> <td>\$</td> <td>2,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>festiville</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>bonus bucks</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$</td> <td><u>28,500</u></td> </tr> </table>	Eclipse	\$	10,000	Easter	\$	2,000	Holiday Lights	\$	2,000	shoulder	\$	10,000	Parade	\$	2,500	halloween	\$	2,000	festiville			bonus bucks				\$	<u>28,500</u>
Eclipse	\$	10,000																													
Easter	\$	2,000																													
Holiday Lights	\$	2,000																													
shoulder	\$	10,000																													
Parade	\$	2,500																													
halloween	\$	2,000																													
festiville																															
bonus bucks																															
	\$	<u>28,500</u>																													

Important Announcements.... Read ON....

[View this email in your browser](#)



Facebook



Instagram



LinkedIn



Twitter



Website



ONTARIO BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA ASSOCIATION



# January 11, 2024



## NEXT WEEK...

**Monday, January 12**  
2:00pm - OBIAA Executive Committee Meeting

**Tuesday, January 13**  
10:00am - OBIAA Advocacy Committee Meeting

**Wednesday, January 14**  
10:30am - OBIAA CRM Committee Meeting

1:30pm - OBIAA Education Committee Meeting

## THIS WEEK...

**Thursday, January 11**  
9:00am - DMS In-Person Workshop:  
Huron County

---

## OBIAA BEST PRACTICES CALLS

### *See you Tuesday at 2...*

If you want to present or ask a question of your colleagues, please email Erin at [admin@obiaa.com](mailto:admin@obiaa.com)

**Minutes** from the most recent calls *to follow*, prior minutes can be found below under **OBIAA Resources** in OBIAA newsletters. **Calls are recorded** - please email [admin@obiaa.com](mailto:admin@obiaa.com) to request a recording or previous minutes.

#### ***NEXT CALL: Tuesday, January 16***

*On January 16, during the BPC, Wesley Found, Chair of the Downtown Lindsay BIA, will present on what a BIA levy is and how to make the most of it. Municipal Clerks and Economic Development staff will also be invited to attend.*

---

Looking for a good New Year's Resolution? Join OBIAA's Best Practices Calls every Tuesday!

"Looking out for our communities has never been more important than right now. Being part of the OBIAA community is looking out for your own community." – Jody Yantha, Bancroft BIA

---

### ***Follow-up from Tuesday's Best Practices Calls...***

#### **Downtown Sudbury BIA**

- [0 \(Zero\) Vacancy Program](#)
- Precedent Document - [Legal Opinion on BIA Staff running or being a Councillor](#)

See Tuesday's Best Practice Calls notes, and others, *in Resources* at the end of this newsletter. Previous notes are always available upon request.

---



**2024 BIA AWARDS SUBMISSIONS OPEN TODAY!  
SUBMIT YOURS NOW!**



### **A Celebration of Excellence**

You've worked hard, scored some real victories, and made a measurable difference in your community....now it's time to take credit for your efforts! Enter your project, initiative, partnership, promotion, or campaign in the 2024 OBIAA Achievement Awards.

We continue to review and make changes to the program. The changes this year will better align its submission and evaluation criteria with similar associations and urban place management awards programs, while we look to elevate our profession through a focus on strategic goals and measurable outcomes.

Check out the changes to the program this year. OBIAA's Awards are delivered annually to help celebrate excellence – *yours!*

## **Info on the 2024 BIA Awards Program**

---

***From our Liaison Ministry the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs***

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate ▼](#)

---

# Training for Not-for-Profit Organizations

These free virtual interactive train-the-trainer sessions provide organizations with valuable skills and tools to facilitate their own strategic planning. Sessions are based on the stages outlined in Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs' **Strategic Planning Resource** manual.

## To be participate organizations must:

- be willing to participate in the strategic planning process
- have commitment from the Board of Directors
- have a minimum of 3 active volunteers to commit to being trained
- not be in a crisis

## At the completion of the program, each organization will have:

- experience in facilitating the strategic planning process and volunteers trained to maintain it
- access to a support network for continued organizational development
- volunteers that have developed leadership skills

Session Date/Times	Stages
<b>Session 1 – February 22 10am-11:30am</b>	Introduction to strategic planning Community Economic Development
<b>Session 2 – March 7 10am-11:30am</b>	Vision and Mission
<b>Session 3 – March 21 10am-11:30am</b>	Collect and analyze information & Develop goals
<b>Session 4 – April 4 10am-11:30am</b>	Performance measures and action plans & Implement and monitor

## REGISTER HERE:



For more information, contact [ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca) or call 1-877-424-1300  
A collaborative partnership between OBIAA and OMAFRA





## Facilitating Strategic Planning Training for Not-for-Profit Organizations

These free virtual interactive train-the-trainer sessions provide organizations with valuable skills and tools to facilitate their own strategic planning. Sessions are based on the stages outlined in Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs' **Strategic Planning Resource** manual.

Session Date/Times	Stages
<b>Session 1 – February 22 10am-11:30am</b>	Introduction to strategic planning Community Economic Development
<b>Session 2 – March 7 10am-11:30am</b>	Vision and Mission
<b>Session 3 – March 21 10am-11:30am</b>	Collect and analyze information & Develop goals
<b>Session 4 – April 4 10am-11:30am</b>	Performance measures and action plans & Implement and monitor

### REGISTER HERE:



For more information, contact [ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca) or call 1-877-424-1300

A collaborative partnership between OBIAA and OMAFRA

#### To be participate organizations must:

- be willing to participate in the strategic planning process
- have commitment from the Board of Directors
- have a minimum of 3 active volunteers to commit to being trained
- not be in a crisis

#### At the completion of the program, each organization will have:

- experience in facilitating the strategic planning process and volunteers trained to maintain it
- access to a support network for continued organizational development
- volunteers that have developed leadership skills

**OBIAA** is pleased to once again announce a free train-the-trainer webinar series designed for organizations to gain valuable skills and tools to facilitate their own strategic planning.

Based on the **Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs'** Strategic Planning Resource manual, this step-by-step interactive webinar series will help organizations improve their effectiveness, strengthen their volunteer leadership skills, and build a network of volunteers and leaders to support each other.

**For more information and to determine eligibility, click below.**





***NEW THIS YEAR:*** You will need a code to access the Membership Pricing for the 2024 BIA Conference. [Submit your 2024 Membership now](#) to take advantage of early pricing!

## Info on the 2024 BIA Conference

### ***TIME IS RUNNING OUT....***

#### **Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)**

*We continue to advocate for the extension of CEBA loan repayment - keep an eye on our social media for more information and share on your own channels!*

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- [Canada Emergency Business Account \(CEBA\)](#)
- [OBIAA CALLS FOR CANADIAN GOVERNMENT FOR FORGIVABLE PORTION OF CEBA LOAN FORGIVENESS](#)

**OBIAA** continues to advocate for changes to the Canadian Emergency Business Act (CEBA) and is asking for your BIA to help our small businesses by sending the attached templated letter to your Mayor and Councillors. All your BIA has to do is fill in the highlighted sections and send to you Council.

**OBIAA, on behalf of small businesses, is recommending this**

**Supporting Small Businesses:** Calling on the Federal Government to allow businesses pursuing the announced five percent (5%) loan to also qualify for forgiveness of the forgivable portion (\$10,000 to \$20,000).

## Template Letter

---

### CALL FOR TESTIMONIALS

*Why does your BIA join OBIAA? What are your key benefits?*

*If you had one thing to tell other BIAs about your membership with OBIAA, what would it be?*

Let OBIAA know you value your membership, email us at [admin@obiaa.com](mailto:admin@obiaa.com)

---

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Main Spotlight: Main Street Businesses Show Deep Local Roots and Continued Confidence in the Fall 2023 Small Business Survey



Last year, the **Main Street America** Research team launched the Fall 2023 Small Business Survey. Beginning in early November, they sought out the perspectives and insights of small business owners across the U.S. They heard from **651** respondents, including **547** business owners in 35 states and the District of Columbia...

---

---

## BIAs in the News



Send your news stories to [admin@obiaa.com](mailto:admin@obiaa.com) to have them included in the newsletter!

### Newmarket

- **Newmarket Today** - [Newmarket launching new 'iconic' event on Main Street this winter](#)

### Windsor

- **CTV News** - [Parking at meters and municipal lots in Windsor may become more expensive if proposed budget is approved](#)
- 

## WEBINARS

**Upcoming  
Digital Main  
Street  
Webinars**



***Did you know these Webinars are great for  
BIA Staff and Boards, too?  
Sign up today!***

**Tuesday, January 16, 2024**  
**7:00-8:30pm**

As social media continues to play a crucial role in connecting businesses with their target audience, creating captivating video content has become more important than ever. In this beginner-level webinar, you'll learn the ins and outs of creating compelling videos for platforms such as Instagram Reels and TikTok, with a focus on using smartphones as your main tool. You'll discover editing techniques and tips, and walk away with the knowledge and inspiration to make your videos stand out and effectively connect with your audience on social media.

**Wednesday, January 24, 2024**  
**7:00-8:30pm**

Whether you have \$5, \$50, or \$100 a month to spend on Facebook and Instagram advertising, you can still reach your target customers and clients. Discover some creative ways to do so in this fast paced, intermediate-level webinar.

**Register For Upcoming DMS Webinars or In-Person Events**

---

## **FREE** Upcoming DMS In-Person Workshops

**TODAY**

**Huron County: How to Efficiently Plan Your Content for Social Media**

**DATE:** Thursday, January 11, 2024

**TIME:** 9:00am-12:00pm

**LOCATION:** Holmesville Community Hall  
180 Community Centre Road  
Clinton, ON N0M 1L0

Social media is a powerful tool for small businesses, but it can also be overwhelming. This beginner-level workshop will teach you how to create a content plan that will help you stay organized and on top of your social media efforts. You'll learn how to create and repurpose content in a way that is efficient and effective, and how to share it across different social media channels in a way that will help you reach your



owners make the most of their social media efforts and increase their online presence and engagement. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to efficiently plan your content for social media and grow your business.

---

## Oakville: How to Efficiently Plan Your Content for Social Media

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 23, 2024

**TIME:** 9:00am-12:00pm

**LOCATION:** Oakville Town Hall  
1225 Trafalgar Road  
Oakville, ON L6H 0H3

Social media is a powerful tool for small businesses, but it can also be overwhelming. This beginner-level workshop will teach you how to create a content plan that will help you stay organized and on top of your social media efforts. You'll learn how to create and repurpose content in a way that is efficient and effective, and how to share it across different social media channels in a way that will help you reach your target audience. This workshop is designed to help small business owners make the most of their social media efforts and increase their online presence and engagement. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to efficiently plan your content for social media and grow your business.

---

## GOOD NEWS & GREAT IDEAS

*Send us your pictures of your winter events and activations or your good news! Send to [admin@obiaa.com](mailto:admin@obiaa.com)*

*We love receiving your newsletters as they allow us to share your good news and great ideas with the BIAs across the province!*

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### DEADLINE TODAY

#### Experience Ontario 2024 is open for applications

The Experience Ontario 2024 program is now open. Ontario is investing \$19.5 million to provide funding to eligible in person festivals and events taking place between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025.

Festival and event organizers continue to develop and deliver exciting programming in communities across the province. Your many efforts attract visitors to explore all that Ontario has to offer, boosting local and regional economies while celebrating the diverse identities and cultures that make our province a special place to live, work and play.

- For information on the program, please see the [Experience Ontario Application Guide](#).
- Information about how to apply is available at [Ontario.ca](#) and <https://youtu.be/Ffub-cWFlrY>.
- [Regional Advisors](#) are available to assist with questions about the application process.
- **The application period is now open – applications will be accepted until **January 11, 2024, at 5 p.m. (EST)**.**

Note: Experience Ontario is a highly competitive program. Applications will be measured against program criteria and there is no guarantee of funding. **Your application will need to go through the Ontario Transfer Payment system.** Please register for [TPON](#)

---

### DEADLINE TOMORROW

#### Canada Summer Jobs 2024 Deadline Fast Approaching - January 10

The annual Call for Applications for the Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) program is open **until January 10, 2024 at 11:59 p.m.** (Pacific Standard Time).

Applicants can seek funding to hire youth between **April 22, 2024, and August 31, 2024**. Not-for-profit employers can receive a wage subsidy up to 100% of the current provincial or territorial minimum hourly wage. Whereas public and private sector employers are eligible to receive a wage subsidy of up to 50% of the current provincial or territorial minimum hourly wage.

proposed job placement(s), which can help support a successful application. Should you have any questions about CSJ 2024 or the application process after reading the guide, [contact Service Canada](#).

### How to apply?

*Already have an existing Grants and Contributions Online Services (GCOS) account?* Then log in to your account to **apply now**.

*Don't have a GCOS Account?* If you do not already have a GCOS account, create your account today and take note of your Organization ID and User number for future reference.

[Register now to submit your CSJ application](#)

### For more information or assistance with your GCOS account:

**Visit:** [Canada.ca/esdcgrantscontributions](https://Canada.ca/esdcgrantscontributions)

**Call:** 1-800-367-5693 (7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET, Monday to Friday)

**Email:** [NA-GCOS-SELSC-GD@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca](mailto:NA-GCOS-SELSC-GD@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca)

Or Visit a [Service Canada Centre near you](#).

---

**HINT:** Due to a BIA's unique status under the Municipal Act, here is how Doug Sams from Kerr Village BIA applies:

1. He ticks the box that states he is a not-for-profit
2. He uploads his application to GCOS
3. He hand delivers a hard copy of the application to his local **MP**, with the attached letter, along with his BIA By-Law

**SAMPLE - Canada Summer Jobs Letter (Kerr Village BIA)**

---

## Tourism Growth Program (TGP)

The Federal Minister of Tourism, announced the launch of the [Tourism Growth Program \(TGP\)](#) as part of the previously announced [Federal Tourism Growth Strategy](#). With \$108 million in federal funding, the TGP will be delivered by Canada's seven regional development agencies over three years, starting in 2023-24. The regional development agencies will deliver the program funding directly to businesses and other organizations.

The TGP will support Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, small and medium-sized businesses, and not-for-profit organizations in developing local

Indigenous tourism, seasonal expansion, and tourism in rural and remote areas, with the goal of diversifying regional economies and supporting economic growth. Approximately 15% of TGP funding will support Indigenous-led tourism initiatives.

**Applications are being accepted from November 20, 2023, to February 29, 2024, 8:59 pm eastern time.**

- **Have a tourism project with activities happening before March 2024?** Don't delay! Apply early.
- **Interested in applying?** [Register for an information session](#) to get an overview of the application process.

There is no deadline for Indigenous applicants. Watch for the next intake opening summer 2024.

***NOTE, eligibility includes governments (municipal/provincial/territorial and related entities), which would therefore include BIAs.***

**NORTHERN ONTARIO  
INFO**

**SOUTHERN ONTARIO  
INFO**

---

## **Expanded Communities at Risk: Security Infrastructure Program (Expanded SIP)**

Public Safety Canada is pleased to announce that the **Expanded Communities at Risk: Security Infrastructure Program (Expanded SIP)** call for applications is now open and accepting requests for funding.

Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis **until March 31, 2024**, at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time (PT), or until all funding has been allocated. All projects supported through the expanded SIP must be completed and all funding spent by March 31, 2024.

In addition to the recipients and activities currently eligible for funding through the SIP, the expanded SIP will:

- allow for the provision of funding for time-limited security personnel;
- support security measures at additional publicly accessible, community-based facilities used by Canadian, privately run, not-for-profit organizations, such as daycares and office spaces.

To apply and learn more about eligibility, please visit Public Safety Canada's website at ([Communities at Risk: Security Infrastructure Program](#) -

If you have any immediate questions regarding the expanded SIP, please send an e-mail to: [SIPexpanded-PISelargi@ps-sp.gc.ca](mailto:SIPexpanded-PISelargi@ps-sp.gc.ca).

---

## Funding Opportunity

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is pleased to introduce Ontario's public electric vehicle (EV) charging program, **EV ChargeON**.

In March 2022 the government announced a \$91 million investment to support the installation of public EV chargers outside of Ontario's large urban centres. This program aims to enhance accessibility and availability of public electric vehicle charging infrastructure throughout the province, tackle range anxiety and make long-distance EV travel easier.

EV ChargeON is a competitive, application-based funding initiative for eligible municipalities in Ontario. The program's objective is to expand EV charging infrastructure, alleviate range anxiety, and support long-distance EV travel.

To assist in the application process, we have compiled materials, including Q&As and webinar recordings, available in the provided Dropbox [link](#).

For further guidance or to discuss the program in greater detail, we are available for one-to-one sessions. Please email us at [evchargeon@ontario.ca](mailto:evchargeon@ontario.ca) with any questions or to schedule a meeting.

For application support, please visit the Transfer Payment Ontario website or contact their service team through email ([TPONCC@ontario.ca](mailto:TPONCC@ontario.ca)) or phone (416-325-6691 or 1-855-216-3090).

**The application deadline is January 31, 2024, at 5 p.m. EST.** Applications can be submitted through [Transfer Payment Ontario](#)

***NOTE: OBIAA has confirmed that BIAs are eligible as Local Boards of Council***

[More Info](#)

---

## Available funding opportunities from the Ontario Government

Find out what funding is currently available from the **Government of Ontario**, if you're eligible and what you need to apply.

*date information on potential grants?*

Find out more and Register: [HERE](#)

## Ontario Government Funding Opportunities

---



### Ontario - Cultural Tourism and Local Events

The [Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund](#) is to help develop, promote and present high-quality, high-profile events that strengthen the economies of communities across Ontario.

[Apply Now](#)

---

## RESOURCES FOR SHARING

We will be continually adding to this section. Please feel free to share any additional resources by emailing them to [admin@obiaa.com](mailto:admin@obiaa.com)

**NOTE:** New resources highlighted in yellow.

---

## GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

---

### Government of Canada

- [CRA resources to help your business thrive](#)
- [Learn how to stop IP theft](#)

### Ontario Regional Economic Development

- [2023-2024 Teeny Tiny Summit](#)

## Canadian Statistics Advisory Council - [2023 Annual Report](#)

### Province of Ontario

- [Helping Contain Costs of Building Roads and New Homes](#)
- [ServiceOntario Partnering with Retailers to Enhance Access to Services](#)

- [Rural Ontario Data and Information Resources](#)

### OMAFRA

- [Dine Ontario](#)
- [Ontario Driving Economic Growth in Rural Communities](#)

### MSAA

- [2023 Accessibility Compliance Reporting for your members](#)

## OBIAA RESOURCES

OBIAA's Resources can be found on our Website.

Members Only Resources are also available, such as the 2023 Member Salary Survey.

### OBIAA's WEBSITE

---

#### **BEST PRACTICES CALL MINUTES**

- [Minutes 12 12 23](#)
- [Minutes 12 19 23](#)
- [Minutes 01 09 24](#)

#### **Previous BPC Minutes & Recordings** *available upon request*

- [250th BPC Video](#)

#### **CONFERENCE**

- [2024 Sponsorship Package](#)
- [2024 Trade Show Package](#)

#### **SUPPLIER RESOURCES AND PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

- [Supplier Catalogue](#)

#### **OBIAA ADVOCACY**

- [CEBA INFORMATION](#)
- [CEBA Letter Template](#)
- [AMO Ending Homelessness Symposium - May 2023](#)
- [Homelessness Response Toolkit for BIAs](#)
- [Homelessness Response Toolkit QR Code](#)

#### **DIGITAL MAIN STREET**

- [Working with a Digital Services Professional: Tips for Small Businesses](#)
- [SEO Fundamentals](#)
- [Grow Your Brand on Instagram](#)

**OTHER**

- [Governance Samples, including Constitutions](#)
- [2023 Salary Survey](#)
- [ROI of BIAs Report](#)

[Person Video](#)

- [Digital Transformation Grant 5 Year Video](#)
- [Digital Service Squad 5 Year Video](#)
- [Advancing Digital Horizons for Small Business](#)

## OTHER RESOURCES

---

**Realtor.ca** - [5 Canadian Communities Where Home Sales Soared in 2023](#)

---

**BNN Breaking** - [Toronto's Decade-Long Construction Nears End: A Beacon of Hope for Local Businesses](#)

**The Brantford Expositor** - [Bulldogs bring 'new energy' to Brantford](#)

**Cambridge Times** - [2 Cambridge BIAs hold byelections to fill positions](#)

**Cambridge Today**

- [Cambridge celebrates and reflects on New Year's Eve](#)
- [Main Street business becomes latest victim of slim margins](#)

**CBC News**

- [Cambridge won't explore idea to build affordable housing over city parking lots](#)
- [More than 1,900 'security incidents' recorded at Sudbury, Ont., transit terminal since July](#)

**I Heart Radio** - [Downtown Windsor BIA supports street cleanup program with further funding](#)

**InSauga** - [Grinch spotted cleaning up the streets in Mississauga](#)

**Kawartha Now**

- [Charlotte Jewelers customer receives a \\$500 reward for shopping local in downtown Peterborough](#)
- [kawarthaNOW's top 23 stories of 2023](#)
- [Art School of Peterborough wins downtown holiday window contest for second year in a row](#)

**Muskoka 411** - [Fire And Ice Festival Returns To Bracebridge – Volunteers Needed](#)

**Muskoka Region** - ['Bring this magical event to life': Volunteers sought for Bracebridge Fire and Ice Festival](#)

**My Muskoka Now** - [Volunteers needed for Fire and Ice Festival](#)

**My Timmins Now** - [New boss at](#)



[on looming CEBA repayment deadline](#)

- [As the deadline approaches, Windsor businesses will struggle to pay back pandemic loans](#)

**City News** - [Weekend need-to-know: Take a dip into the New Year](#)

**CP24** - [Yonge-Eglinton intersection reopens as Crosstown construction inches closer to an end](#)

### CTV News

- [Preparations for Bracebridge's Fire & Ice Festival are underway](#)
- [Yonge-Eglinton intersection reopens after years of Crosstown construction](#)
- [Downtown Windsor BIA supports street cleanup program with further funding](#)

**Curiocity** - [Toronto's Chinatown is hosting a two-day Lunar New Year celebration next month](#)

**FM 101 Milton** - [The history behind the 'Quality Greens Place' sign in Downtown Milton](#)

**The Fort Frances Times** - [Business service expands funding](#)

**The Globe & Mail** - [Toronto will get nearly half a billion dollars in federal funding for housing](#)

**The Hamilton Spectator** - [Concession Street BIA on Hamilton Mountain refreshing its image](#)

### The Ottawa Citizen

- [ByWard Market businesses in 'crisis mode' as crime rates and safety concerns increase](#)
- [Adam: Given Ottawa Council's inaction, the ByWard Market is becoming a no-go zone](#)

**The Peterborough Examiner** - [The Art School of Peterborough wins the annual downtown Holiday Window Contest](#)

**PTBO Canada** - [The Art School of Peterborough Victorious In Annual DBIA Downtown Holiday Window Contest](#)

**Quinte News** - [Staffing to be front and centre in Quinte West budget talks](#)

**Stratford Today** - [BIA starting year with a clear set of governance goals and guidance](#)

**Thorold Today** - [Thorold BIA announces winners of Downtown Holiday Decorating Contest](#)

**The Timmins Daily Press** - [Robin takes over as executive director of Downtown Timmins](#)

**The Welland Tribune** - [Welland Downtown BIA chair grilled over Concerts on the Canal series](#)

**Thanks for reading to the bottom!**



”

*“For me, big goals aren't the solution. They are the problem. reframe everything to make it accessible. When you concentrate on tiny tasks, and let small goals compound, soon you'll be looking back at a mountain of progress!”*

”

— Yuhakko (Mathias)



***A BIA is integral to advancing a distinct, livable, vibrant, and resilient business district in its local community.***

Copyright © \*2023\* \*Ontario BIA Association\*, All rights reserved. \*Newsletter\*

Our mailing address is:

**Ontario BIA Association**

92 Lakeshore Rd E, Suite 203

Mississauga, ON L5G 4S2

**M:** 647-521-5341 | **TF:** 1-866-807-2227

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

# TOWN OF GANANOQUE NEWS

## Council December 19, 2023

---

- Council met on December 7th & 8th for the 2024 Budget Deliberations and is currently considering a 7% tax levy increase. Council will be considering a first and second reading of the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets as well as the 2024 Water / Wastewater Budgets at their regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 16, 2024. The third reading will be considered on Tuesday, February 6, 2024.
- Jennifer Baril, Tourism Coordinator presented the 2023 Visitor Centre Year-End Report
- Council approved not-for-profit lease agreements as follows: “Additional Rent Only – Cost recovery of operating expenses and contribution to reserves for the building, as negotiated by the Manager of Parks and Recreation and Facilities, per square foot, per year, and; allow the tenants the opportunity to negotiate rent based on approved capital improvements in line with the Asset Management Plan (AMP) for contribution to reserves only.”
- The Community Grants Program Policy was amended to include delegation of authority to the Treasurer and various policy amendments. As such, the Delegation of Powers and Duties Policy By-law was also amended.
- Council passed a By-law to amend the Remuneration and Expenses By-law for Council which ties Council remuneration increases to the CUPE and non-union increase for 2024 at 2%.
- A budget deviation of up to \$125,000 was approved for the lagoon road and berm maintenance project, to be funded from the wastewater reserves.
- Council approved accepting TLTI’s offer of \$158,500 towards the 2024 recreation cost sharing agreement for the Lou Jeffries Arena and to add the remaining shortfall of \$14,170 to the arena budget.
- Council approved a Motion put forth by Councillor Harper to rotate the membership of the Finance Working Group on an annual basis, starting in January 2024.
- Deputy Mayor Leakey put forth a Motion to Amend the Parking Meter Rates and Exemptions at various locations between December 2023, January and February 2024. This was defeated.
- Mayor Beddows put forward a motion to amend the criteria of the Physician Recruiting Locum Program by amending the terms from “8 weeks or 40 days”, to “up to 8 weeks or 40 days”. This was approved.
- Mayor Beddows proposed a motion seeking a staff report on Debt-Financing Re-Capitalization of the Municipal Marina by June 2024. This was approved.
- Council directed the Treasurer to add \$14,855 to support the 1000 Islands Gananoque Visitor Centre from the Tourism Advisory Panel reserve.
- Council amended a By-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign an Amending Lease Agreement with the Thousand Island Youth Boxing Club (TIYBC) for a portion of 400 Stone Street North to extend the term of the lease to March 31, 2024.
- The Emergency Management Program and Emergency Response Plan Review was received for information.

### Next Council Meeting

**Tuesday, January 16, 2024**

Council and Committee Meetings will take place in person and virtually.