



Municipality of South Bruce Newsletter

2022 Municipal Election – October 24, 2022

The 2022 Municipal Election is fast approaching. It is important for South Bruce residents to become familiar with upcoming key dates as well as how and when you will be able to vote.

Running for Council

Anyone interested in running for council or as a school board trustee in the 2022 Municipal or School Board Election may file a nomination form with the Clerk during regular business hours at the Municipal Office. The last day for filing will be Friday, August 19th at 2:00p.m. For more information contact Leanne Martin, CAO/Clerk at lmartin@southbruce.ca or by calling the Municipal Office.

Key Dates - 2022

August 19, 2022: Nomination day (last day to be nominated)

August 19, 2022: Final day for withdrawal of candidacy

October 17, 2022 : Advance Voting

October 24, 2022: Voting Day

November 15, 2022: Council term begins

Voting Methods: Citizens of the Municipality of South Bruce will be able to Vote by Internet or by Telephone. Voting is available from any computer or phone line, starting 10:00 a.m. on Monday, October 17th and ending 8:00 p.m. on Monday, October 24th.

Information will be sent by mail to all electors appearing on the Voters' List. This information will provide details on the voting methods available, together with a Personal Identification Number (PIN).

Help/Revision Centers: Help/Revision Centers will be set up to help residents vote as well to make revisions to the voters list including adding individuals who may not be on the list. A complete list of locations and operating hours will be posted on the municipal website by October.

Voters List: You are responsible for ensuring that your name appears on the voters' list. To verify you are on the list please contact the Municipal Office after August 2, 2022.

VOTE EARLY - Residents are encouraged to vote early with voting officially beginning October 17th at 10:00am.

Recreation

Join in on the fun in South Bruce! See below for some of the upcoming programs this fall!

- NEW! Teeswater Before and After School Program begins September 6th.
- Public Skating / Parent Tot / Seniors Skating begins in October
- Pickleball begins September
- Teeswater Senior Cards Begins Wednesday September 14th
- Gymnastics will be beginning in September

For more information on the programs listed above be sure to check out our website! If you don't see a program you are interested e-mail recreation@southbruce.ca

2022 TAXES

2022 DUE DATES for Taxes:

- March 30, 2022 & May 25, 2022
- August 31, 2022 & October 26, 2022

PAYMENT METHODS

In Person: 8:30am-4:30pm

21 Gordon St E, Teeswater (Cash, Cheque, Debit)

Drop Box:

Mac's Milk, Mildmay (Cheques only)

Municipal Office, Teeswater (Cheques only)

Mail: P.O. Box 540, Teeswater N0G 2S0

Pre Authorized Payment: Both monthly and due date (forms available at Municipal Office, Macs and Website)

Banks: At most Chartered Banks and Credit Unions, in person, by telephone, or internet banking and bank machines

Late Payments: Will be subject to Penalty of 1.25% on the 1st day of each month.

Tax Sale for Arrears: Under current Legislation of the Municipal Act, 2001, full or part of two years of arrears, the Treasurer may register a Tax Arrears Certificate against the Title to the property. A tax arrears certificate registered under this section shall indicate that the land described in the certificate will be sold by public sale or tender if not paid in Full and up to date within one year following the date of registration.

Address: Please provide your mailing address to the Municipality if the address we have is incomplete or you have moved. Returned mail is still subject to penalty and interest charges

Important Numbers:

OFA Grey-Bruce – 519-364-3050

Agricorp 1-888-247-4999 contact@agricorp.com

www.ontario.ca/farntax

MPAC – 1-866-296-6722

Farm Property Owners: Under current taxation policy, farm properties meeting eligibility requirements will be identified for Farm Property Class and be taxed at 25% of municipal residential tax rate. Existing farm owners purchasing new farm land, or new farmers should contact Agricorp to apply for Farm Property Tax Class.

New Property Owners: Please notify the Municipal office of your mailing address to ensure you receive future mailings. If your bank is paying your taxes, call the office to be sure you have been set up for mortgage payments. Missing a due date results in a penalty charge. If you have recently renovated or constructed a new home, you will receive a SUPPLEMENTAL BILL. These are in addition to your regular tax bill.

By-Law

If you own a dog in the Municipality of South Bruce, you must register and apply for a dog license by February 28th of each year. All dogs residing on your property must be registered. Failing to register all dogs in the home is an offence and can result in the issuance of a ticket. If your annual dog license renewal is not paid by April 30th, you will be charged double the original fee. A dog license can help us identify and return lost dogs within the community.

Fees for dog tags and kennel licenses will be increasing for the 2023 year on January 1st, 2023. Your first dog license will be increasing to \$20/year. A second and third dog (where allowed) will remain at \$50/year each. Kennel licenses are increasing to \$200/year for a kennel with 10 adult dogs or less. A kennel with more than 10 adult dogs will increase to \$200, plus \$25 for each additional dog, per year. Boarding establishments will be increasing to \$200/year.

A reminder to all dog owners that dogs must be on a leash at all times when off the property of the owner or any other property with the consent of the property owner. A dog is considered "at large" if it is found not to be under the control of a competent and responsible person at any place other than the premises of the owner of a dog or other premises with consent. Allowing a dog to run at large is an offence and can result in the issuance of a ticket. A dog found running at large can also be impounded by a By-law Enforcement or Animal Control Officer, and taken to the Pound Facility. A dog will be released to the owner only after the owner has paid a \$100 reclaim fee, a mileage charge for pick up, and a clinic administration charge per the pound agreement. If the dog is found not to be registered with the Municipality, the dog must also be registered and the owner must pay the licensing fees prior to the dog being released.

Public Works

Fall Leaf Pick Up: Public Works staff will be completing leaf collection this Fall. Watch for the ad that will be posted on our website and in the Mildmay Town Crier indicating the dates of pick up this fall.

Winter Parking

As per By-Law #2012-40 the following section stipulates which violations will be enforced by the Municipal By-law Enforcement Officer and the Ontario Provincial Police.

- **It is an offence to park a vehicle on any roadway between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. during the months of November, December, January, February and March.**

All applicable fines will be assessed for the offence observed. Please co-operate with the Public Works staff by keeping your vehicle off the street. Vehicles that make it dangerous or impossible to clear snow may be tagged and/or towed.

Depositing Snow on Highway or Sidewalk

Please refrain from depositing snow on highways or public sidewalks as this can interfere with pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

Section 181 of the Highway Traffic Act states "No person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing from the Ministry or the road authority responsible for the maintenance of the road."

The fine for violation of Section 181 is **\$105.00**

Treasury

2021 YEAR END: The Municipality of South Bruce ended the year 2021 with an operating cash surplus of \$228,979 which will be placed in reserve for future capital projects or to offset future budget deficits. The 2021 Audited Financial Statements will be made available on the Municipality's web site www.southbruce.ca and copies will be made available at no cost to any taxpayer or resident of the Municipality of South Bruce, upon request, once they are completed.

2022 BUDGET: Council adopted the 2022 Annual Budget By-law #2022-22 on February 22, 2022. The tax rate and average residential tax bill will increase 3.7% however the impact on individual tax bills will vary in accordance with changes to the property assessment values. Council continues to increase the funding transfers to address the infrastructure deficit that continues to climb. The latest Asset Management plan identifies the annual infrastructure deficit as \$5.9M for South Bruce. Capital expenses are expected to be \$12,141,142. Capital projects will be funded by the following sources of revenue: Government Grants \$4,558,259; Community Donations and Capital Contributions including NWMO contributions \$3,676,892; Equipment sales \$1,500; Other Municipalities \$5,000 and municipal reserves of \$3,898,589. Details of the 2022 Capital and Operating Budgets can be found on the Municipality's website. Funding from the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) will cover costs incurred by the Municipality for its continued participation in the Deep Geological Siting process through the NWMO Resource funding. NWMO has approved another \$300,000 in funding for 2022 under the Community Well Being program and \$4M was made available through the Near Term Investment Fund.

Government Funding Programs have been approved to help offset costs to the municipal taxpayer: They are as follows

- Ontario Municipal Partnership Funding is used to help offset taxes.
- Safe Restart Funding will be used to offset some of the operating costs incurred by the Municipality due to ongoing pandemic impacts
- Modernization Funding is being used to purchase of e-permitting software, Human Resource Download software, Municipal Innovation Council, Budgeting software.
- Rural Economic Development fund will be used to help renovate the Teeswater Medical Centre.
- Municipal Asset Management Funding will be used to help complete Building Condition Assessments and to help with a detailed Asset Management strategy.
- Federal Gas Tax Funding will be used to rehabilitate the Falconer Bridge.
- Ontario Community Infrastructure Funding will be used to resurface Rural Roads and storm-water projects on Adam Street
- Ontario Southwestern Development funding will go toward the Sanitary Sewer Treatment plant expansion project
- Ontario Trillium Funding will fund costs to employ a Recreation Co-ordinator for one year to help recover from the pandemic impacts
- Investing in Community Infrastructure Funding approved for the following projects:
 - Resilience Stream – will be used to purchase a diesel exhaust system for both Fire Halls and upgrades to the Mildmay Tennis Courts
 - Rural Stream – will help with costs to remove the dam and replace with a culvert structure and road upgrades on Adam Street
 - Recreation Stream – upgrades at the Mildmay and Teeswater Arena facilities

Economic Development

There are many grants available to you as South Bruce Business Owners:

- 1) Digital Transformation Grant 4.0 for \$2,500 is now open for brick and mortar businesses throughout South Bruce!
- 2) Digital Service Squad (DSS) Member – Social media, website and online assistance for free!
- 3) South Bruce Façade Improvement Grant - up to \$2,000 for main street businesses within the Community Improvement Plan (CIP).
- 4) Spruce the Bruce Grants – various grants to improve your building, façade and signage etc up to \$4,000
- 5) NEW – Building Better Futures Grant is now open for local organizations which will have a positive impact on the community -up to \$2,500

More information on all of these programs can be found at: <https://www.southbruce.ca/en/build-and-invest/grants-and-resources.aspx>

To have your business added to the mailing list to keep you updated on new programs, e-mail rniesen@southbruce.ca or call 519-392-6623.

South Bruce Nuclear Exploration Project

Working towards an informed decision for our community.



Do you want to receive regular updates about the Project? Visit: forms.southbruce.ca/Stay-Connected to get media releases, CLC meeting reminders, notices about workshops and events and more delivered directly to your email inbox.

Studies

- Get involved with ongoing Project-related activities, and other opportunities to provide your input. Sign up for our online community engagement tool, South Bruce Switchboard: www.southbruceswitchboard.ca.
- A number of studies were completed this year to help inform South Bruce about the Nuclear Waste Management Organization proposed project to store Canada's used nuclear fuel. Visit www.southbruce.ca/studies to find out more about the studies that are taking place. Full reports and summaries of the studies are posted as they are completed.
- Other ways to learn about the studies include: Community Liaison Committee meeting presentations, Meet the Experts virtual open houses, and information sent to your mailbox.