



WELCOME TO OUR
Monthly Newsletter

A message from the
CAO



"It was a snowy start to 2025 in Georgian Bluffs and the surrounding areas. In January, there were 29 days of winter response by our operations team. Thank you to residents across Georgian Bluffs who have experienced disruptions to travel plans, driveway windrows, missed garbage collections and more because of winter weather. Thank you to the townships dedicated operations team who have kept arena parking lots open, roads plowed, and snowbanks pushed back to minimize disruptions to services.

For those winter enthusiasts, this weather has provided great opportunities for winter activities in our area, such as snowmobiling, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. If you're looking forward to warmer weather, it may be on the way as Warton Willie has predicted an early spring!"

-NIALL LOBLEY, CAO

Future Vision and Path Forward



Georgian Bluffs is excited to announce the final approval of View from the Top: Strategic Plan 2025–2030, marking a significant milestone in the community's journey towards a future of sustainable growth, inclusivity, and environmental stewardship. Developed through extensive collaboration with residents, stakeholders, and Council, this forward-thinking plan embodies the community's vision of being "Deeply Rooted, Sustainably Growing." With its four strategic pillars—Enhancing Service Delivery, Empowering Communities, Enhancing Environment & Infrastructure, and Workforce Development—the plan sets a clear direction for achieving long-term goals. The Strategic Plan highlights include a renewed commitment to public service excellence and community engagement, investments in infrastructure to support sustainable growth and environmental resilience, initiatives to foster social and economic opportunities and workforce development programs to attract and retain top talent for a thriving staff team.



The Township is dedicated to transparency and will provide regular updates on the implementation of the plan, with progress reports available throughout the year. This ensures that everyone remains informed and engaged in shaping the future of Georgian Bluffs. To find out more information and to view the Strategic Plan visit www.georgianbluffs.ca/stratplan.

Gliding Through Winter with the Bruce Ski Club



The Bruce Ski Club operates some of the most scenic and affordable trails in southern Ontario. With over 25 kilometers of trails, people of all ages can access these beautiful trails, whether they are experienced or just starting out. The Bruce Ski Club has two trail heads: The Sawmill Nordic Centre in Hepworth and the Colpoy's Ski Trail northeast of Wiarton. The Sawmill Nordic Centre is the club's most popular location, offering trails for novice and advanced skiers, there is even a lit loop for night skiing and snowshoe trails through the forest.

The Bruce Ski Club officially formed in the 1980s and has grown in many ways since. The 2025 membership numbers now exceed 900, and at the height of the COVID-19 Pandemic the club had reached more than 1300 members. "Cross country skiing is a sport people of any age can enjoy," says Bruce Ski Club member and volunteer David White. "You can ski as a family with young children, slowly in the forest enjoying nature or skiing fast and dreaming of winning the Olympics," says David. Adding, "skiing can be enjoyed at your own pace. Skiing is outside and you can enjoy fresh air and nature while you participate in an activity that helps both your physical and mental health." David has been skiing with the Bruce Ski Club since 1995, and says the sport is very encouraging and that people are kind and supportive of those on the trail and in competition. The Bruce Ski Club is the home club to two Special Olympic Ski Teams. The Waxwings and Snow Gliders are teams for youth and adults with intellectual disabilities. They compete provincial and national level competitions. The club is also the home club for Julian Smith, a member of the Canadian Cross Country Ski Team and former Georgian Bluffs resident. Julian spent his youth skiing in the Jackrabbit Ski Program and competing with the local race team Georgian Bay Nordic, now pursuing cross-country skiing as a career.





The Bruce Ski Club operates on land provided through partnership with private landowners and community partners, such as the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority, Kiwanis Club of Owen Sound and the Township of Georgian Bluffs. “We are grateful for these partnerships as without them we would not be able to have ski trails,” says David.

Through this partnership the Bruce Ski Club offers Georgian Bluffs residents a chance to ski for free three times per season, this year these days fall on the first Sunday of January, February and March. To take part, visit one of the two trailheads and fill out the registration form. Be sure to write “Georgian Bluffs Free Ski Day” under the payment section. As you prepare for a day of cross-country skiing or snowshoeing, please be mindful of others on the trails and take care to preserve the natural environment. The Bruce Ski Club is run on the dedication and commitment of volunteers. The club has approximately 140 regular volunteers, including running the Jackrabbit Ski Program for children, developing new trails and maintaining current ones. If you would like to get involved in the Bruce Ski Club visit their website at www.bruceskiclub.ca. Individual and family memberships are available, and day passes can be purchased for non-members. Check the forecast and trail conditions before heading out and enjoy your time skiing or snowshoeing with the Bruce Ski Club!

2025 Budget Approved

In mid-January, the 2025 budget was approved by Georgian Bluffs Council. The budget highlights strategic investments in infrastructure, community facilities, and essential services that matter most. With a municipal tax rate increase of 4.11%, the average single-family dwelling assessed at \$300,000 is looking at an annual municipal tax increase of \$83.78.

To find out more information about the 2025 budget visit www.georgianbluffs.ca/budget.

The township would like to thank everyone that attended budget sessions and provided their feedback. This budget is a result of the collaboration between members of council, staff and the community.

Coming up ...



- February 17 - Family Day. The Administration Office is closed
- February 17 - Family Day Rotary Winterama at Shallow Lake Arena. Details at facebook.com/rotarywinterama
- February 23 - Grey Bruce Polar Plunge & ITFD vs OPP Hockey Game at Shallow Lake Arena. Details at georgianbluffs.ca/polarplunge
- February 5 - Committee of the Whole
- February 12 - Council
- February 18 - Committee of Adjustment
- February 19 - Committee of the Whole
- March 5 - Council
- March 12 - Committee of the Whole
- March 17 - Special Council Meeting

The Council [calendar and agendas](#) can be found on the Township website. Meetings are also [livestreamed](#).

Holly Hogan Draws a Full House



It was a full house at the Author Talk held at Grey Roots Museum and Archives on January 31. Guests gathered in the theatre to hear from Holly Hogan, sharing from her book *Message in a Bottle. Ocean Dispatches from a Seabird Biologist*. More than 70 people attended, organized by Georgian Bluffs in partnership with other local environmental groups.

Exploring the Public Information Library

Did you know, the Township now has a Public Information Library? This is your central hub for accessing important township documents. Whether you're looking for Council meeting agendas, minutes, reports, or by-laws, this is the place to find what you need. Check it out at www.georgianbluffs.ca !

