



SDG Counties Economic Development Newsletter - January 8, 2024

**SDG Counties
Regional Incentives Program**
Now accepting applications

Deadline: Thursday, February 29th, 2024 (12 pm)
To learn more and to apply, visit: www.sdgcounties.ca/stay-discover-grow

the Counties
SDG
STORMONT • DUNDAS • GLENGARRY



Experience Ontario 2024 is open for applications - tourism event grant

The Ontario Government is launching the Experience Ontario 2024 program, allocating \$19.5 million in funding for eligible in-person festivals scheduled between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. This funding opportunity allows event organizers to apply for

financial support from the provincial government. The application period is currently open and will be close on January 11, 2024, at 5 p.m. EST. Take advantage of this chance to secure assistance for your event and contribute to the success of festivals in the upcoming year.

[To apply](#)

Preparing to export:

Pitch preparation workshop (Tuesday, January 11th at 10:30 am)

This workshop designed to help you develop the all important “pitch presentation” skills for presenting to international buyers. You can expect to leave with all the tools you need to make a lasting impression and differentiate yourself from the crowd.

The webinar will cover topics such as:

- Differentiation and Unique Selling Proposition
- Identifying Your Brand Essence
- Developing Multiple Pitch Formats
- Knowing how to use your pitches in different scenarios (virtual missions, hybrid, in-person, receptions, meetings, etc.)

[To register, please visit:](#)

Only 3 days left to apply to the Canada Summer Jobs Program



A final reminder to let you know that there are only three (3) days left in the application period for Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) 2024. It will close on **January 10, 2024, 11:59 p.m.** (Pacific Standard Time).

Remember to read the **Applicant Guide**. It contains detailed information about the application process, including on how you can demonstrate the quality of your 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, please do not hesitate to **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**.

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. If you are unsure whether you have an account, or your Primary Officer, or your organization already have an account, please contact us. Please note that **initiating a duplicate account for your organization can cause delays in completing the validation process** by Service Canada which enables you to become a fully registered user.

Creating a GCOS account is a one-time process and allows you to apply for CSJ and more funding opportunities with Employment and Social Development Canada in a secure web environment.

GCOS allows you to:

- Apply for funding and track your application status for CSJ and other Employment and Social Development Canada programs;
- Save your application and finish it at any point in time but only

- while the Call for Application is open;
- Submit supporting documents;
- Set up direct deposit;
- Access your account 24/7 from all mobile devices.

Register now to submit your CSJ application

For more information or assistance with your GCOS account:

Visit: 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

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

Apply now!

For more information:

Click: www.canada.ca/canada-summer-jobs

Call: 1-800-935-5555 (ATS: 1-800-926-9105)



The Rural Economic Development (RED) program intake will open for applications in January 2024. You can find all program information including how to apply on the [program's homepage](#) when the program opens.

Information Sessions

OMAFRA staff will be conducting two public webinars to provide an overview of the RED program and discuss the process for applying to the program. Please bring your questions as there will be a Q&A period. The sessions will be on the following dates:

- January 25, 10:00 am – 11:00 am EST
- January 31, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm EST

Sign up on the [session registration page](#).

Coaching with an Economic & Business Advisor

[Book an appointment](#) with one of our Economic and Business Advisors to receive coaching on a Rural Economic Development program application or project idea.

Ontario's Rural Economic Development (RED) program provides cost-share funding to rural municipalities, Indigenous communities,

and not-for-profit entities to support activities that create strong rural communities in Ontario and open doors to rural economic development.

About the RED program

The RED program is focused on outcome-based projects that will have tangible benefits for Ontario's rural and Indigenous communities. The program will have two project categories:

- The Strategic Economic Infrastructure stream provides up to 30 per cent in cost-shared funding for minor capital projects that advance economic development and investment opportunities.
- The Economic Diversification and Competitiveness stream provides up to 50 per cent in cost-shared funding for projects that remove barriers to business and job growth, attract investment, attract or retain a skilled workforce, strengthen sector and regional partnerships and diversify regional economies.

What are RED Outcomes?

RED applications are assessed on their ability to align with the program outcomes:

- address barriers to economic development
- better position rural communities to attract or retain investment
- address labour force development challenges
- build rural community capacity to attract, retain and expand businesses
- renew community assets to drive economic development
- support economic growth through regional partnerships

For more information on how RED can help your community, visit Ontario.ca/REDprogram or call 1-877-424-1300

Digital Main Street Program

Digital Main Street

The logo for Digital Main Street features the words "DIGITAL" in orange and "MAIN ST." in white inside a blue-bordered box. To the right of the logo is a large graphic consisting of a diagonal split between yellow and dark blue, overlaid on a teal-tinted photograph of a street scene with buildings and streetlights.

DIGITAL
MAIN ST.

DIGITAL SERVICE SQUAD

The Digital Service Squad members provide one-on-one assistance to small businesses in Cornwall, Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry and Akwesasne, at

no cost, to help them improve their use of digital technologies and enhance their online presence. The squad members can assist with a number of activities, including:

- A digital assessment of your business' digital literacy
- Access to a free online video-based digital transformation training program
- Developing a basic web presence or enhance your existing web presence by helping you activate easy-to-use tools such as Google My Business and social media
- Providing your business with a FREE 360° Photo where your customers can take a virtual tour of your store simply by using their mouse on desktop, or finger on their smartphone

Register Now!

SDG Counties is dedicated to supporting our residents and businesses. Subscribe to our free newsletter to stay informed about grants, supports and news impacting our community.

Subscribe to our newsletter here



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