



SDG Counties Economic Development Newsletter - February 2, 2024

SDG Regional Tourism Grant Accepting applications until Feb. 20, 2024 at 12 pm

Are you a tourism organization in SDG? Do you have a new idea or want to make an existing event or attraction even better? Then SDG Tourism may be able to help!

The SDG Regional Tourism Grant program is an exciting financial grant program designed to help existing organizations increase visitation to Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry tourism initiatives and attractions.

[Click to learn more:](#)

2024 SDG REGIONAL TOURISM GRANT

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS



SDG Counties Regional Incentives Program

The 2024 intake for the Regional Incentives Program officially launches on Friday, January 5th,, 2024. The intake closes on Thursday, February 29, 2024 at noon. Only one intake is proposed for 2024. Any additional intakes will only occur if there are funds remaining following the initial intake.

The primary goals of the program are to:

1. Stimulate investment in tourism and in the agricultural sector by funding diverse, on-farm expansions and agri-tourism.
2. Encourage redevelopment and private sector investment in existing building stock within SDG Counties to support employment, reduce the number of vacant commercial, institutional and industrial buildings, and increase the assessment base.
3. Increase the amount of permanent roofed accommodations within SDG Counties to specifically accommodate for an increase in tourism establishments that cater to short-term accommodations.

[Click to learn more:](#)



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



Register your employment booth now for the April 24th 2024 Cornwall and Area Job Fair- Featuring Skills Ontario

The Employability Network will once again be hosting the "2024 Cornwall and Area Job Fair", which will return to the Cornwall Civic Complex on Wednesday, April 24, 2024. This year the event will feature Skills Ontario. The day will roll out in two sessions, with employer setup from 8:30 am to 10:00 am, on the date of the event.

The first public session for job seekers will run from 1 pm to 3 pm and the second session will run from 6 pm to 7 pm.

The registration deadline is March 11th

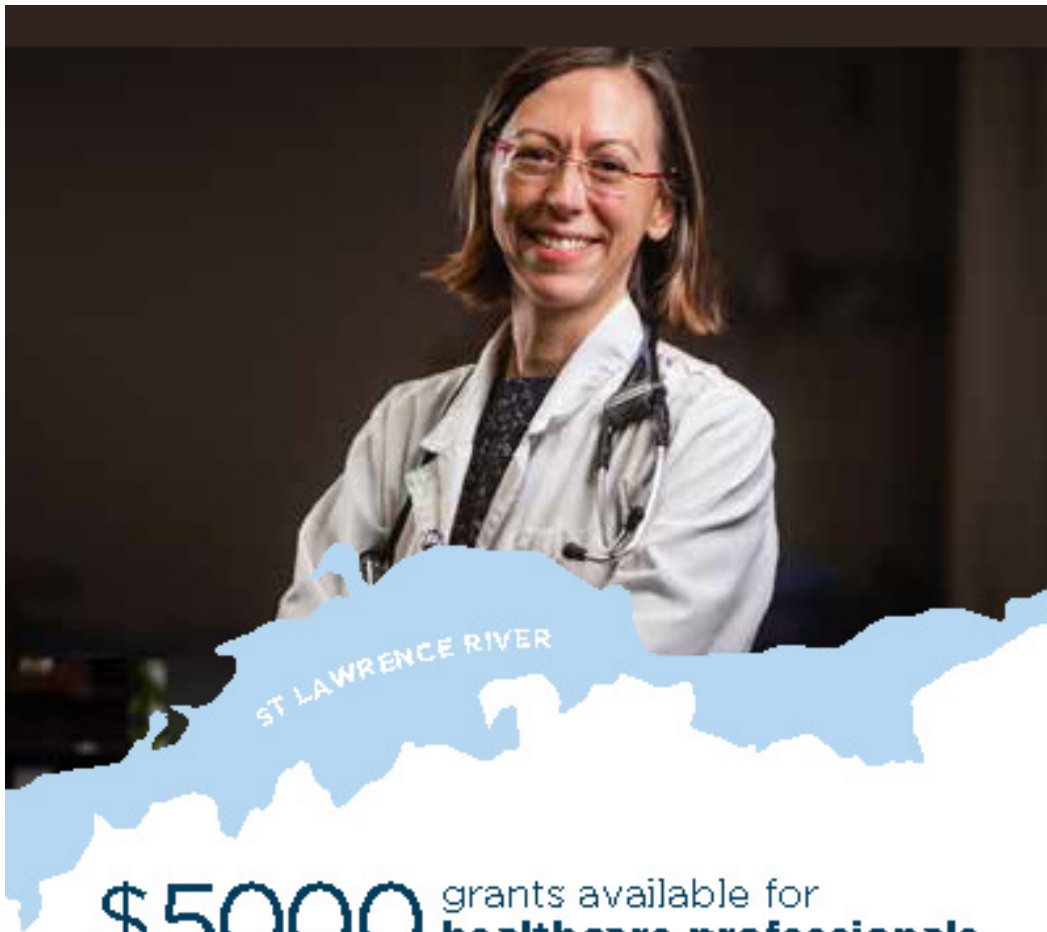
Kindly be aware that booth space is restricted this year. We urge you to promptly register to secure your spot. The attendance fee is \$75.00, and you can complete your registration by visiting the following link: <https://2024jobfair.eventbrite.ca> (Eventbrite will collect a small admin fee).

Beyond the array of sectors and employment possibilities that have been prevalent for numerous years, Skills Ontario will be featuring local businesses in the skilled trades. We extend an invitation to those keen on exploring the myriad opportunities within this sector to join us and delve deeper into the diverse offerings. The Eastern Ontario Training Board along

with the Newcomer Employment Welcome Services will continue their partnership by providing an added feature of Community Connections - A yearly event that brings together the many newcomers in our community and the local agencies to support them.

[Register here:](#)

SDG Counties looking to match with medical professionals



\$5000 grants available for **healthcare professionals**

Physicians, Physicians Assistants, Nurse Practitioners or Nurses who sign a contract with a medical agency located within **Stormont Dundas and Glengarry** Counties can win one of five \$5000 grants.



One additional \$5000 grant is



available for physicians looking for positions in the **Township of Russell**.



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For information about the Great River Ontario Health Team visit groht.ca



Apply Today!

For testimonials and contest details visit:
GreatRiverDOCS.ca

Finding a love match is hard and SDG Counties is hoping you can spread the word that as of today, *Date My County* is back! In the 2024 iteration of this popular resident attraction contest, SDG Counties is hoping to “mend it’s broken heart” by “swiping right” with eligible physicians, physician assistants, nurses and nurse practitioners willing to work within SDG Counties.

The Great River Docs campaign aims to showcase the wealth of healthcare positions that are available in our region and to help some of our medical institutions match with potential candidates.

As an incentive to help attract physicians, physician assistants, nurses and nurse practitioners to the region, SDG Counties is offering five, \$5,000 cash incentives to eligible applicants who sign employment contracts within our region. The funds will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to eligible applicants. Half of the funds will be distributed to the eligible applicants upon signing of a contract within SDG Counties. The remaining funds will be dispersed after six months of employment. All applicants are required to fill out the application form, which is available at www.greatriverdocs.ca

“This program illustrates SDG Counties’ commitment to community wellbeing,” said SDG Counties Warden Jamie MacDonald. “These grants signal our dedication to fostering a robust healthcare landscape in SDG Counties, ensuring residents receive the quality care they deserve. Together, we are building a healthier, vibrant future for families and newcomers who reside in eastern Ontario.”

The application process includes proof of employment in SDG Counties

starting Jan. 24, 2024. Candidates currently working within SDG Counties, Akwesasne or the City of Cornwall are ineligible to apply.

"We launched this contest in an effort to attract more healthcare workers to our region. Regional health statistics show that we currently have more than 15,000 residents in our area who don't currently have a primary care provider. This contest is part of an effort to address that shortage of healthcare providers," said SDG Counties Manager of Economic Development, Tara Kirkpatrick.

SDG Counties is located within the territory of the Great River Ontario Health Team (GR-OHT) and is part of a collective of health and social services providers who plan and work together, as one coordinated team, to provide integrated services and supports to meet the health needs of people who seek care in the City of Cornwall, SDG Counties, Akwesasne and parts of rural Southeast Ottawa and Russell Township.

This regional approach to health services ensures a unified approach that brings together sector partners to plan, coordinate and improve service provision for the future.

In this spirit of collaboration, SDG Counties has invited the Township of Russell to participate in the Great River Docs campaign. In addition to the five, \$5,000 recruitment grants being offered by SDG Counties, the Township of Russell is offering an additional \$5,000 grant to a doctor who commits to working in that municipality.

"I am thrilled that Russell Township is partnering with SDG Counties in the Great River Docs program, an initiative reflecting our dedication to enhancing healthcare access in our community. By offering a \$5,000 grant to a doctor who commits to serving in Russell, we are not only investing in the health of our residents but also in the prosperity of our local healthcare system. This program symbolizes our ongoing efforts to make Russell Township a welcoming and supportive place for medical professionals and patients alike," said Township of Russell Mayor Pierre Leroux.

[Apply online](#)

Digital Main Street Program

Digital Main Street

The logo for Digital Main St. features the word "DIGITAL" in orange above the words "MAIN ST." in blue, which are enclosed in a blue rectangular box. The logo is positioned on the left side of a graphic that includes a diagonal yellow and dark blue stripe and a background image of a modern building facade.

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!](#)

ALUS Ontario East: Where agriculture and nature meet



ALUS came to eastern Ontario in 2012. Today, ALUS Ontario East operates within the boundaries of the Raisin-South Nation Source Protection Region. The program is led by the local Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC) with assistance from its legal entity, the Raisin Region Conservation Authority. The PAC is comprised of members from both the local farming and environmental communities.

ALUS Ontario East works with farmers and ranchers to enhance ecosystem services on marginal, inefficient, and fragile areas and on lands that can be managed in a different manner through projects that best suit their farming operations. ALUS participants receive an annual payment for every acre enrolled in the program in exchange for managing and maintaining projects that increase ecosystem services to that benefit both their farm and wider community.

ALUS Ontario East supports the establishment, management, and maintenance of various innovative and sustainable projects such as

wetlands and beaver baffles, erosion control, buffers, windbreaks, grasslands, modified grazing practices, livestock exclusion fencing, and more. ALUS is voluntary and non-prescriptive, which allows for increased flexibility when designing projects to suit any farming operation. The program is always on the lookout for interesting and innovative project ideas that will bring together agriculture and nature.

[Click to learn more](#)

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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