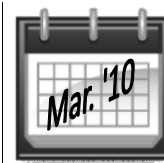


Welcome to the latest issue of Business & Work in Huron County. Employment counsellors, business advisors, and adult education teachers have expressed the need for information on the local labour market as a resource for their clients. This newsletter is a collaborative effort between The Centre for Employment and Learning of the Avon Maitland District School Board, Service Canada and the Huron Business Development Corporation.



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In B&W...

The **“Better Business” Seminar Series** spring session is in full swing! For a complete listing of seminars, visit www.smallbusinesshuron.ca, or call 519.527.0305. Join us and not only improve your business skills, but your bottom line as well!

Newsletter Sponsors



Business News and Notes

Business News and Notes is compiled from a review of articles in Huron County's community newspapers on a monthly basis.

- **The Engaging Huron's Youth in Arts and Culture Program** has allowed area youth to explore arts and culture disciplines with local professional mentors. The first phase of the program focused on a series of three workshops –music, visual arts, and film. The second phase aimed to reach more youth with the EPIC SHIFT Youth Festival which took place in February 2010. With the success of the program thus far, there are plans in the works to offer an interdisciplinary workshop or production that will engage a more diverse group of students in the fall of this year. The program was guided by the Heritage and Culture Partnership's Rick Sickinger, Brittany Fry as well as Melina Hussey who jointly developed the program, co-ordinated the activities with professional Huron County mentors after receiving funding from partners including the Ministry of Culture, with additional support from the Huron Business Development Corporation, the Huron County Library and the Ontario Arts Council.
- **The Sifto Salt Mine** experienced a temporary shut down on January 28, 2010 after a cable failed on a hoist at the bottom of a shaft. After inspecting and repairing all cables to ensure safety of all equipment, work underground and limited hoisting resumed February 2, 2010.
- Now located on the corner of Albert and James Street in Exeter, **Willow Valley Furnishings'** design service is structured to assist families looking for affordable methods to actualize their dream and demystify the often overwhelming aspects of home building projects. The business also offers such items as art prints, fine table and bed linens, and small furniture items.
- On-line advertising is now available at most of the **local Huron County newspapers**. For any consumer or advertiser who wishes to advertise with these newspapers and Flyerland, or any of its sister publications, their ad will now automatically be loaded to the local paper and Flyerland websites. For more information contact your local newspaper website, or www.flyerland.ca
- **Manjin Mechanics** has opened in the former Tolton Motors location in Bluevale. The garage features three vehicle bays and a 75-foot truck bay. Over 300 people attended their grand opening on February 27, 2010. Manjin's offers vehicle service and repairs for all makes and models, and specializes in diesel performance.
- **Doctor James Shuffield** has recently joined the staff of the Wingham Hospital. Shuffield, a primary care physician, will be moving his family to the area in the near future. The addition of Dr. Shuffield brings the hospital one step closer to the six full-time doctors that they are looking for.
- **The Blyth Farmers' Market** will run again this year on Saturdays from 1:00pm to 4:30pm starting June 26 and running until to September 11. Vendors from last year and potential new vendors will be meeting in May to make specific plans for the coming season. New vendors are always welcome. For more information contact Keith Roulston at 519.523.4792, or 519.523.9636.

The 2010 Healthcare Inspiration Event will be taking place on May 11, 2010 at the Royal Canadian Legion in Seaforth. This event will be celebrating the efforts of the caregivers in our communities and recognize those who have gone above and beyond in their careers. Nomination forms can be found at www.healthkickhuron.ca, or by calling 519.600.2273, ext. 261. Deadline for nominations is April 9, 2010.

Business News and Notes *Continued from Page 2...*

- Barrister, solicitor and notary public **Sharla M. Haney** has opened up a law office in Blyth. Haney will be offering assistance with such law related issues as wills, estates, and corporate issues. The office is located in Haney's home on Queen Street.
- Rose Star Ranch operator Mark Beaven and his partner Heather Toll have made a pitch to Goderich Council to operate a **horse-drawn carriage business** in time for the tourist season. Two tours, one heading northwest and one southwest from the Square could begin Victoria Day weekend through until Labour Day weekend on Thursday and Friday evenings. Council approved the project in principal, with final approval expected to come in the near future.
- At the Mayoral address in Goderich on February 10, 2010 Karen Leitch unveiled the town's newest tool in their quest for new business -an **on-line land inventory**. The website, which will be linked through Goderich's town site, lists all the commercial and industrial property in town, complete with specifics such as dimensions, floor plans and services. It will also list whether or not the properties are for sale, lease, or rent. For more information visit www.goderich.ca.
- For its second season, the **Exeter Farmers' Market** has been granted permission by South Huron Council to move to the Rec Centre. Having been originally located at the Gary Bean Property last year, there were some concerns expressed by residents and consumers over parking issues. As a result, a motion to move the market was brought to council. The market will run on Thursday evenings from May to October.
- Richard Harding, former CAO of Central Huron, is the new full-time CEO and Executive Director for the **Regional Equine and Agricultural Centre of Huron (REACH)** in Clinton. Harding was the founding visionary for the project and the municipal senior staff member responsible for the design and construction of the facility.
- Al Webster is the new owner of the **Canadian Tire** franchise in Exeter. Webster previously owned franchises in Mount Forest and Hamilton. Webster does not have any immediate changes planned for the store.
- On March 23, 2010 the second **Huron Perth Show and Share** event was held at the Brodhagen hall. Local food related groups, producers and organizations gathered at this event to network and highlight their products and services. The launching of the Huron Perth Farm to Table website - www.huronperthfarmtotable.ca - was a key attraction, as was the ability for producers to sign up for the next edition of the Huron Perth Buy Local Buy Fresh map.
- **The Royal Bank** in Goderich recently celebrated 100 years in business. A recent open house highlighted this milestone, and monetary and clothing donations were made to local charities. The Royal Bank continues to be an excellent corporate citizen and a shining beacon in Goderich's downtown core.

The 21st Annual Huron Tourism Event and Brochure Swap will take place on April 21st at the REACH Centre in Clinton (169 Beech Street). Walking and bus tours, workshops and the main brochure swap will all be part of this day-long event. To register your booth space call 519.524.8394, ext. 3, or visit www.ontarioswestcoast.ca

Employment Services Huron County

- The Employment Services Huron County statistics below are tracked on a monthly basis and are contributed by The Centre For Employment & Learning and HBDC Employment Services.
- In Chart 1, we see the number of new clients case managed across the five sites increase by 3% when comparing year-over-year, and decrease by 39% when comparing month-over-month. The number of client case closures due to clients finding employment did not change month-over-month, and increased by 41% when comparing year-over-year. The number of client case closures due to other reasons did not change when comparing month-over-month, and increased by 17% when comparing year-over-year.
- In Chart 2, the total number of in-person client visits across the five sites decreased when comparing both month-over-month and year-over year - 2% and 4% respectively.

Chart 1

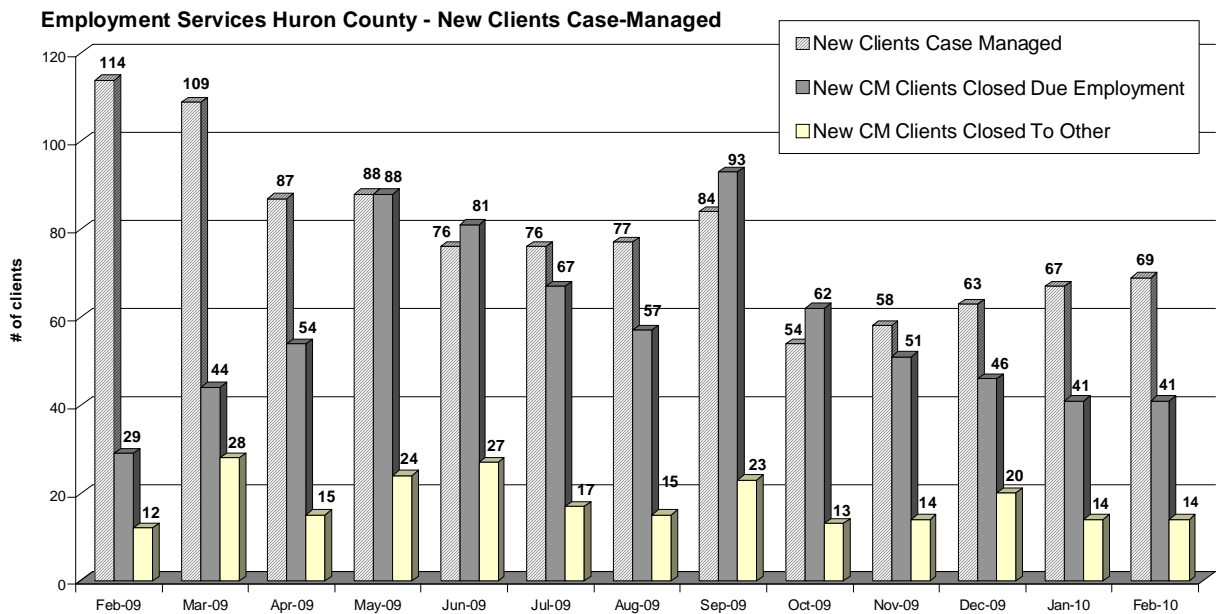
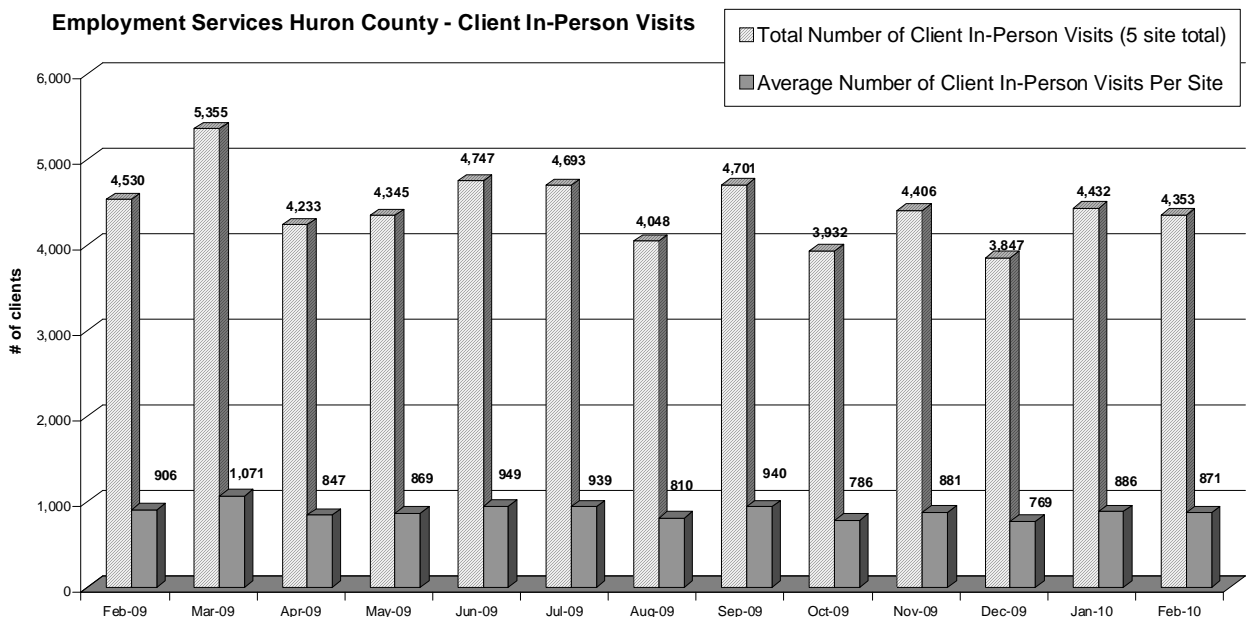


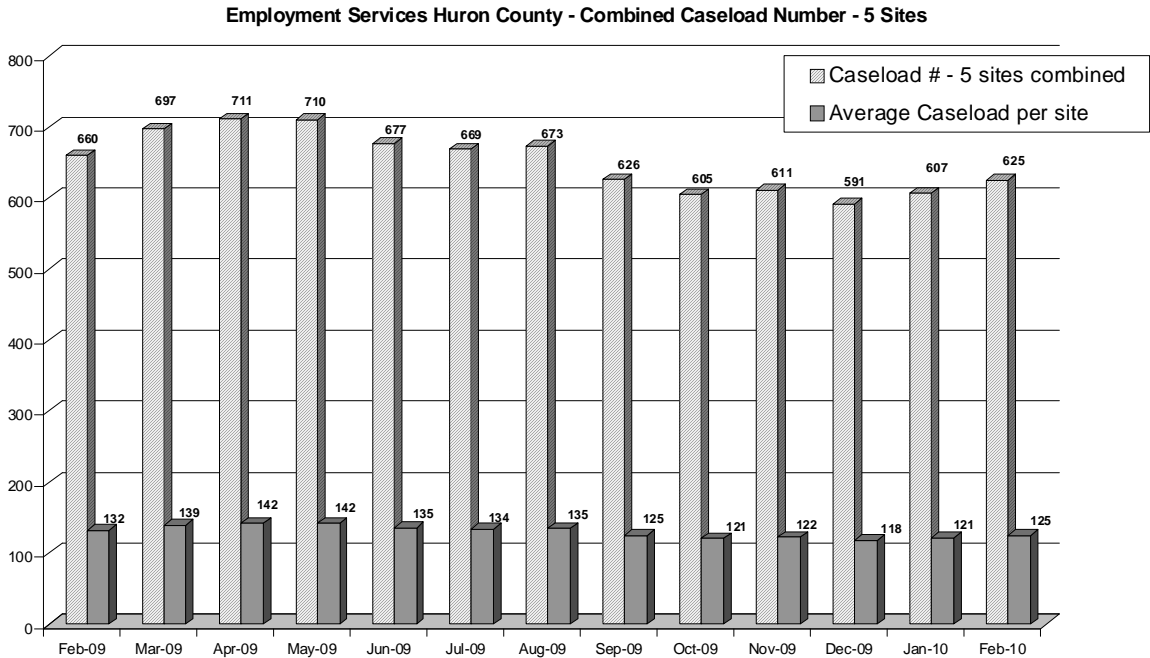
Chart 2



Employment Services Huron County *Continued from Page 4...*

- In Chart 3, the client caseload number across the five sites decreased when comparing year-over-year - 35, or 5%. Conversely, the caseload number increased by 18, or 3% when comparing month-over-month.

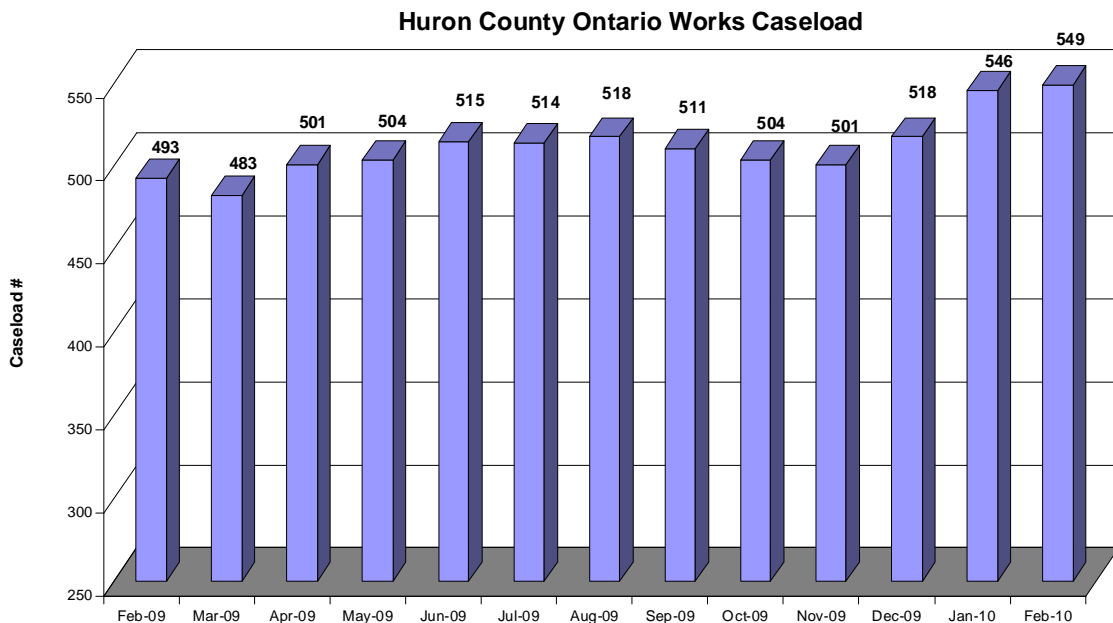
Chart 3



(Information contributed by: Wendy Cornish, Exeter Centre For Employment & Learning & Deb Williamson, HBDC Employment Services Assistant.)

Huron County Ontario Works

- The total Ontario Works caseload number for February 2010 was 549. This is a 0.5% increase from the month of January (546).
- When comparing year-over-year we see an increase of 56 or 11%.



(Information contributed by: Janet Priebe, Huron County Ontario Works.)

Huron County Advertised Job Vacancies - February 2010

- In Chart 1, when comparing the number of advertised job vacancies month-over-month, we see six categories decrease, two increase, and two remaining the same. The most notable decrease happened in the Education/ Gov't/Social Science category - 100%, while the most notable increase happened in the Art/Culture/Rec/Sport category - 38%.
- In Chart 2, when comparing the number of advertised job vacancies year-over-year, we see three categories decrease, four increase and three remaining the same. The most notable decrease happened in the Education/ Gov't/Social Science category - 100%, while the most notable increase happened in the Natural & Applied Science category - 300%.

Advertised Job Vacancies in Huron County - January 2010 to February 2010

Chart 1

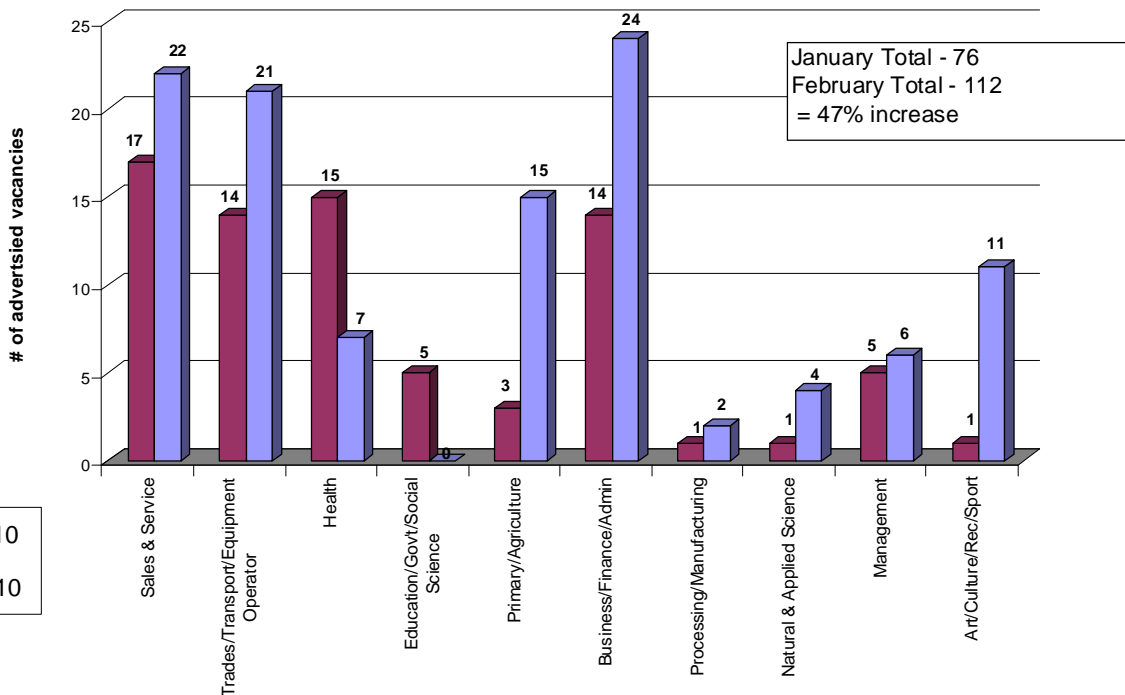
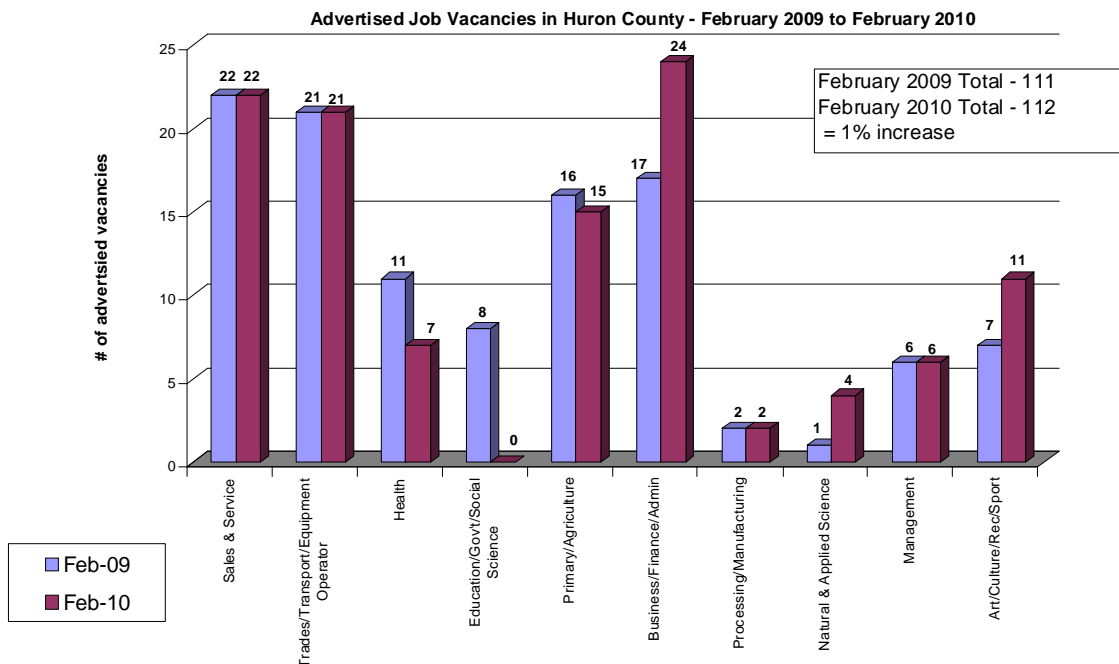


Chart 2



Business News and Notes *Continued from Page 3...*

- The Clinton United Church was the venue for a recent **Huron County Federation of Agriculture luncheon** which included such guest speakers as the current Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Carol Mitchell, and MP Ben Lobb. Top priorities that came out this meeting included the need for a renewed commitment to the Risk Management Program by the province and a first time opt in by the federal government, as well as a better organized insurance program to aid ailing sectors like the hog industry. Local speaker Ron Versteeg stated that agriculture pumps \$8 billion in to Ontario's economy, and that there are also thousands of jobs, including those in the retail sector, that rely on agriculture for survival.
- **The Lake Huron Learning Collaborative** recently received a financial boost from the Ontario Power Generation (OPG) to set up a site and programming in Kincardine. OPG has committed \$500,000 over a four-year period to provide post secondary opportunities and assist in the creation of a learning centre in Kincardine in the former Westario hydro building for the residents of Huron Bruce. At the Goderich centre, students have earned over 160 credits since 2004 and the first students will graduate with a degree in June 2010.
- On March 9, 2010 residents, landowners, politicians and interested professionals attended a meeting at the Lucknow Community Centre to have their say in a proposed **wind project from Capital Power**. Information was provided as to the environmental approval of the project, however that was still notable concern from the public about the unknown. Project Manager from Capital Power, Glen Hubber, stated that this is the first of two public meetings that will take place for Kingsbridge II - its intention was to inform and gather input from the public as part of the Renewable Energy Approval process. A second meeting public meeting is hoped to be held in September of this year.
- Located in the former CNR Railway Station in Goderich, the **East Street Station** has opened its doors. Director of East Street Station, Katrina Bos has stated that station will be offering many workshops and courses including yoga, belly dancing, line dance and pilates to name a few. An open house will be held on Saturday, April 3, 2010 from 10:00am to 4:00pm.
- Andersen Corporation has entered into an agreement finalizing Bruce Agra's purchase of the Andersen owned **Dashwood Industries Ltd.** facilities located in the Municipality of South Huron. This 330,000 square foot complex will initially accommodate Bruce Agra's subsidiary Canadian Blo-Cube Ltd. The south portion of the complex will continue to serve the needs of Andersen Corporation's Dashwood Industries Ltd. and the north portion will serve as the central packaging and direct global marketing complex for locally grown value added agricultural products. By establishing this complex Bruce Agra Inc. completes the circle as guided by Canadian Agra's "Integrated Agricultural Concept".

On Wednesday, April 7, 2010, "Green Jobs of the Future" presentations will take place at the Goderich District Collegiate Institute/High School (260 South Street) from 6:00pm - 7:30pm. Representatives from Envria North, WindTrans, Sun-North, K-W Power Logic and the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program will all be attending. For more information, call Kati Wade, 519.955.0830.

Huron Business Centre Coming Events - April 2010

Title of Seminar/Workshop	Date and Time	Place
Social Marketing Essentials	April 1, 2010 7:00pm - 9:30pm	REACH Centre, Clinton (169 Beech Street)
Resume Workshop	April 7, 2010 9:00am - 4:00pm	Huron Business Centre
Starting Point	April 9, 2010 9:30am - 1:00pm	Huron Business Centre
Too Close For Comfort: Harmonized Sales Tax (HST)	April 13, 2010 7:00pm - 9:30pm	REACH Centre, Clinton (169 Beech Street)
Interview Workshop	April 14, 2010 9:00am - 4:00pm	Huron Business Centre
Entrepreneurial Skills Workshop	Day I - April 16, 2010 9:30am - 12:00pm Day II - April 20, 2010 9:30am - 4:00pm Day III - April 21, 2010 9:30am - 4:00pm Day IV - April 22, 2010 9:30am - 4:00pm Day V - April 23, 2010 9:30am - 4:00pm	Huron Business Centre
The Fundamentals of Using Quickbooks	April 20, 2010 7:00pm - 9:30pm	REACH Centre, Clinton (169 Beech Street)
Warming Up to Media Relations	April 28, 2010 10:00am - 3:30pm	REACH Centre, Clinton (169 Beech Street)
Huron Women in Networking (HWIN) Dinner	April 29, 2010 6:00pm - 9:00pm	White Carnation Hall, Holmesville (150 Parr Line)
HBDC's "Business By Design" Workshop	April 30, 2010 10:00am - 3:30pm	REACH Centre, Clinton (169 Beech Street)

Huron County Cultural Volunteer Forum - April 22, 2010

The Reuben R. Sallows Gallery is inviting all current or interested volunteers in the arts, culture and heritage sector of Huron County to attend a free volunteer forum on **Thursday, April 22, 2010 at the REACH Centre in Clinton** as part of Volunteer Appreciation Week. Sallows Gallery has partnered with The Blyth Festival, Heritage and Culture Partnership and Huron Small Business Enterprise Centre to deliver an interactive and lively program that brings together volunteers and organizations from the cultural sector to discuss; what are the volunteer opportunities that exist in Huron County, and how organizations can provide a rewarding experience for its dedicated volunteers.

The **Cultural Volunteer Forum on April 22 is divided into two sessions from 1:00 - 3:30 PM and again from 6:00 - 8:30 PM.** Each session will include a facilitated discussion between volunteers; why people volunteer, what keeps them engaged, what they are looking to get out of the experience and the organizations; how are you recruiting your volunteers, how you recognize volunteer contributions, how you match a volunteers skills to specific duties in your organization. There will also be representatives present and displays from a number of cultural organizations highlighting the many exciting and challenging volunteer positions and opportunities that exists for the public to explore.

Light refreshments will be served and you can enter to win one of several door prizes. The Sallows Gallery is thankful for funding support from the New Horizons program of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. For more information about this event please contact: Alison Lobb, Phone: 519-527-0305 or Email: alobb@huroncounty.ca

Questions or comments? Please contact us:

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