



# Brockton Buzz - November 2025 Newsletter

### Brockton Buzz Newsletter - November 2025 Issue

View this issue and past issues of the Brockton Buzz Monthly Newsletter on our website at Brockton.ca/Buzz.

#### **Leaf Collection**

Leaf Collection for Walkerton, Lake Rosalind, and Marl Lakes will occur on November 10, 2025. Leaves must be placed in biodegradable paper waste bags and placed at the curbside by 7:00 a.m. for collection. Garden clippings, compost, or small branches will not be picked up.

## **Winter Parking Restrictions**

In accordance with Section 8 of the Municipality of Brockton's Consolidated Traffic and Parking By-Law 2020-052, no person shall park on any highway between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. inclusive during the months of November, December, January, February, March and April.

## Municipal Office Front Counter Video Surveillance Proposal

The Municipality of Brockton is exploring the installation of a video surveillance camera at the front counter of the Municipal Office (100 Scott Street, Walkerton) to enhance **prompt and responsive customer service**. The proposed camera would display a live feed of the main entrance and lobby area to help staff quickly identify and assist any patrons waiting for service—particularly those who may not be visible to staff working in other areas of the office. At this stage, the camera would provide a live view only and would **not record or store footage**.

The Municipality welcomes public feedback on this proposal to support our commitment to providing courteous and efficient service to all residents and visitors. Public comments are invited until **Wednesday**, **November 19**, **2025 at 12:00 p.m. Noon**. Comments may be submitted in writing, by email to <a href="mailton@brockton.ca">fhamilton@brockton.ca</a>, or in person to Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk), Municipality of Brockton, 100 Scott Street, P.O. Box 68, Walkerton, ON NOG 2VO.

# **Hometown Christmas Market**

Get ready to kick off the holiday shopping season in downtown Walkerton! The Hometown Christmas Market returns on Thursday, November 20, 2025 from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m., bringing festive cheer to every corner of Durham Street. Local businesses will be open late, and you'll find more than 30 vendors offering unique gifts, tasty treats, and holiday treasures. Gather in the Market Garden at 5:30 p.m. for the tree lighting ceremony, then stay to enjoy live music, delicious food trucks, and a cozy licensed area hosted by the Walkerton District Hospital Foundation. Don't miss your chance to win big in the Hometown Holiday Hunt, with dozens of prizes waiting to be discovered! Visit Brockton.ca/ChristmasMarket for full details. Please note that Durham Street between Jackson and Victoria Streets in Walkerton will be closed to traffic starting at 2:00 p.m. for event setup and will reopen by 10:00 p.m.

# Notice of Public Meeting to Consider Changes to Building Permit Fees

Brockton Council will be considering the proposed changes to the Municipality's Building Permit Fees:

- Increasing the fees for Farm Building Permits for purposes of housing livestock to \$100 + \$0.33 per sq. ft.
- $\bullet \ \ Increasing the fees for Farm \ Building \ Permits for purposes other than housing \ livestock \ to \ \$100 + \$0.28 \ per \ sq. \ ft.$
- $\bullet \ \ Increasing the fees for Commercial/Industrial/Institutional \ Building \ Permits \ to \ \$100 + \$1.00 \ per \ sq. \ ft.$
- Creating a flat fee of \$250.00 for Solar Panel Building Permits

The rationale for increasing these fees and creating the new flat fee is due to a recent review of the Municipality's Building Permit Fees conducted in October 2025. The last review was completed in 2019. Due to a review of comparable permit fees and departmental expenditures over the next five years, Council is considering increasing the per square foot rate for new agricultural and commercial/industrial/institutional building permits. Council is also considering addressing a gap in Brockton's current fee structure by creating a new flat fee for solar panel building permits. A Public Meeting will be held prior to the Council Meeting on Tuesday, November 25, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bruce County Council Chambers (30 Park Street, Walkerton).

The proposal is made in accordance with Section 3 of the Municipality's Building By-Law 2008-02, Section 7 of the Building Code Act, 1992, S.O. 1992, c. 23, as amended and Section 1.9.1.2 of the 2024 Building Code Compendium. Once enacted by Council, the amending By-Law would increase the fees currently contained in Schedule "A" of the Municipality's Building Permit Fees By-Law 2019-147 and Schedule "C" of the Municipality's Fees and Charges By-Law. The proposed change is to take effect on January 1, 2026.

Individuals interested in addressing Council, or making a submission on this item are encouraged to **register as a delegation** by contacting Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) at 519-881-2223 Ext. 124 or email **fhamilton@brockton.ca** by **Tuesday**, **November 18**, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.

Any person may request a copy of the report to be presented and/or may request an estimate of the cost of administering or enforcing the *Building Code Act*, the amount of the change of the existing fee, and the rationale for the change in the fees at no cost. If you would like to obtain a copy of the report, or have any questions about the By-Law, or its effect, please contact Dominic Paquette, Acting Chief Building Official at 519-881-2223 Ext. 130 or email <a href="mailto:dpaquette@brockton.ca">dpaquette@brockton.ca</a>.
\*This notice was originally published on October 27, 2025.

# Tax Installment Due Date - November 28, 2025

Any payment received in our office after the due date will be considered late and any outstanding taxes will be subject to penalty and interest charges as per the *Municipal Act, 2001*. Please allow 2 to 3 days for processing if you are paying through the online banking system of your financial institution. Residents can pay bills by debit, cheque or cash at the Municipal Office, drop off payments to the Municipal Office Drop Box, or sign up for online payments through their banking institution. Visit <a href="mailto:Brockton.ca/Payments">Brockton.ca/Payments</a> for further instructions on our online payment services.

# **Housing Needs Assessment Study**



Brockton has initiated a Housing Needs Assessment to examine types of development that will be the most beneficial for the community. The Housing Needs Study will help to gather critical housing data to guide decisions on the type and location of housing to build, as well as the infrastructure needed to support community growth. Visit <a href="mailto:Brockton.ca/HousingNeeds">Brockton.ca/HousingNeeds</a> to learn more.





## Disposition of Property in East Ridge Business Park

The Municipality of Brockton is transferring 1.5 acres of land legally located in the East Ridge Business Park, legally described as PART OF PT PARK LT 48 PLAN 162 & PT LT 32 CON 1 NDR BRANT EXCEPT PT 1 3R10502; MUNICIPALITY OF BROCKTON, being part of PIN 33196 - 0585 (LT) to Bruce County Housing Corporation. Requests for Expressions of Interest on the remaining parcel of land (approximately 8.1 acres) will later be accepted to support the Municipality of Brockton's Housing Action Plan and Housing Accelerator Fund Projects. For more information on this matter, please contact Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) at 519-881-2223 Ext. 124



or email fhamilton@brockton.ca. Both parcels will potentially be declared surplus at the November 25, 2025 Council Meeting.

### **Notice of Upcoming Recycling Changes**

Ontario municipalities will transition to a producer-led Blue Box program under the province's new Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) model. This means producers of recyclable materials will fully fund and operate the program. Starting **January 1, 2026**, blue box collection will be collected by a contractor managed by Circular Materials, a non-profit representing producers. More information can be found at **Brockton.ca/Recycling**. Staff continue to update this webpage as information becomes available and encourage everyone to check in before the transition on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Ineligible Sources will need to plan for pickup.

#### Dog Licencing Reminder

If you have had any changes to your dog licencing account (example: owning a new dog, loss of a dog, or change in address) please inform our Animal Control/By-Law Enforcement Officer by email <a href="https://form.brockton.ca/Municipal-Forms/Contact-By-Law">https://form.brockton.ca/Municipal-Forms/Contact-By-Law</a> or call 519-881-2223 Ext. 141. Dog Tag Invoices will be sent out in January. Due to the Canada Post strike, we encourage residents to consider signing up for online billing services by the end of the year - Staff are monitoring the postal strike and will later determine how invoices will be sent to residents. Please contact the Municipal Office if you are interested in signing up for online billing.

# Reminder: Pets Not Allowed in Cemeteries

In accordance with the Municipality's Operation of Cemeteries By-Law, dogs or other pets are not allowed in Brockton's Cemeteries (except for "working dogs" and/or "service pets"). We ask that you kindly refrain from bringing your pet for walks in the Cemeteries and remain respectful to staff working in the grounds.

#### **Career Opportunities**

If you are passionate about providing exceptional services in a municipal environment and are looking for a place to challenge yourself and grow, we want you on our team! The Municipality is currently hiring for a Seasonal/Part-Time Food Booth Attendant, and Early Childhood Education Teacher (8 Month Contract), a Supply/Casual Teacher at the Brockton Child Care Centre, and multiple Heavy Equipment Operator positions (full-time, winter seasonal, and weekend-only roles). Visit <a href="mailto:Brockton.ca/Jobs">Brockton.ca/Jobs</a> for more details on our career opportunities, including how to apply.

# 2026 Council Meeting Calendar

The dates for the 2026 Brockton Council Meetings have been posted to our website <u>Brockton.ca/Council</u> and our Community Calendar. Council meetings will be held on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) and will be held via hybrid meeting inperson at the Bruce County Council Chambers and electronically on Zoom/livestreamed on eSCRIBE. Residents will be notified of any change in meeting location.

- Monday, January 12, 2026 (Budget Meeting at 6:00 p.m.)
- Tuesday, January 13, 2026
- Tuesday, January 27, 2026 (Budget Meeting at 6:00 p.m. and Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.)
- Tuesday, February 10, 2026
- Tuesday, February 24, 2026
- Tuesday, March 10, 2026
- Tuesday, March 24, 2026
- Tuesday, April 14, 2026
- Tuesday, April 28, 2026
- Tuesday, May 12, 2026Tuesday, May 26, 2026
- Tuesday, June 9, 2026

- Tuesday, June 23, 2026 (Cargill Community Centre)
- Tuesday, July 14, 2026
- Tuesday, August 11, 2026
- Tuesday, August 25, 2026
- Tuesday, September 8, 2026
- Tuesday, September 29, 2026
- Tuesday, October 13, 2026
- Tuesday, November 3, 2026
- Tuesday, November 17, 2026 (Inaugural Council Meeting for 2026-2030 Council Members)
- Tuesday, December 8, 2026
- Tuesday, December 16, 2026 (2027 Budget Meeting at 10:00 a.m.)

## Brockton Community Services (Parks and Recreation) Department Updates:

**Fall Recreation and Fitness Programs -** Find programs like Tai Chi, Zumba, Gentle Fitness, Chair Yoga, Total Body Fitness, and more at **Brockton.ca/Programs** 

**Fall PD Day Camps** - Need child care this school year? Fall PD Day Camps are now available at <u>Brockton.ca/Camps</u> - Register early as spots fill fast! March Break Camp planning is in full swing - stay tuned!

Public Skating is open at the Walkerton Community Centre - Visit <u>Brockton.ca/Skating</u> for schedules and updates.

**Sponsorship Opportunities -** Support your community! Email <u>recreation@brockton.ca</u> to learn about sponsorship options in Brockton. Come Home to Community!

Be sure to follow the Municipality of Brockton on Facebook and Instagram, for all future updates!

# Carbon Monoxide Alarm Reminder

The new Fire Code requirements coming into effect on January 1, 2026 will expand Carbon Monoxide (CO) alarm installation in:

- Existing Homes: Alarms will now be required on every storey, not just near sleeping areas:
- Multi-Unit Residential Buildings: CO alarms must be installed in all suites meeting certain conditions, service rooms, and, in some cases, public corridors.







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# Subscribe to Brockton News/Alerts, Follow Our Social Media, and Download our App

Visit Brockton.ca/Subscribe to sign up and receive Brockton News, Calendar Events, and Emergency Alerts sent directly to your email. You can also download the Municipal App "Municipality of Brockton" created by Apptic Studios Inc. from Android or Apple app stores! The App features our top searched content divided into categories: Community, Contact Us, Council, E-Services, News, Waste, readily available on your cellphone! We also encourage residents to follow us on social media for regular updates!

Facebook – <u>BrocktonON</u> **Brockton** 

Instagram – municipalitybrockton LinkedIn – Municipality of Brockton

YouTube – Municipality of

#### **Community Events**

Brockton is where generations of people come together to play, celebrate and enjoy life. Visit **Brockton.ca/Events** to learn more about events happening in our community!

#### Saugeen Artists Guild Christmas Pop-Up Gallery

The Saugeen Artists Guild Christmas Pop Up Gallery is located in Walkerton at 12 Jackson St South for the months of November and December. Shop a wide variety of unique and diverse mediums from talented local artists. Visit our website or follow us on social media to learn more! November Hours: Wednesday to Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sundays 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; December Hours: Monday to Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sundays 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



### • Walkerton Curling Club - Learn to Curl Program

Learn to Curl! This program is offered at the Walkerton Golf and Curling Club and is open to children and adults wishing to learn how to curl. It takes place on Sundays (1:30 to 3:00pm) beginning on November 9th and includes 5 sessions. Equipment is provided or you can bring your own. You just need a pair of clean, indoor running shoes. The cost is \$78.00 per person. Register at the Pro Shop at the Walkerton Golf and Curling Club or call 519-881-0709. Curling is a great way to stay active during the winter months and socialize with other members of our community.

#### Walkerton Remembrance Day Ceremony - November 11, 2025

Join the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 102 (Walkerton) in gathering at the Walkerton Cenotaph (Jane Street) for Remembrance Day ceremonies beginning at 10:50 a.m. on November 11, 2025. A reminder that the Municipal Office will be closed in recognition of Remembrance Day and our office will reopen on Wednesday, November 12, 2025.



#### • Sing! This Christmas - November 20-23, 2025

Join Sing! Show Chorus' 60+ singers and 7 person band for two hours of musical fun as we celebrate the reason for the season! Two evening shows at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, and two matinee shows at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, November 23rd all at Victoria Jubilee Hall, 111 Jackson Street S., Walkerton. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for students. Visit www.singshowchorus.ca for more details.

### Walkerton and District Optimist Club Holiday House Tour – November 21st and 22, 2025

The Walkerton and District Optimist Club are hosting their annual Holiday House Tour on Friday, November 21st from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 22nd from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. featuring a self-guided tour of eight festive homes! Tickets are \$20 and available at each of the homes on the dates of the tour, or in advance from Holst Office Pro, Pellow Pharmasave, and Brown's Guardian Pharmacy.

## Bruce County Public Library Walkerton Branch Monthly Movie – November 26, 2025

Come view the movie, Leave No Trace, at the Walkerton Branch of the Bruce County Public Library (253 Durham Street) on Wednesday, November 26, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. The movie is rated PG and is 109 minutes.



## Visit with Santa and Santa Claus Parade - November 29, 2025

The Kinette Club of Walkerton invite you to visit with Santa at the basement of the Bruce County Public Library Walkerton branch (253 Durham St.) on Saturday, November 29, 2025 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. before the Santa Claus Parade! The Walkerton Kinsmen Club will be hosting the annual Walkerton Santa Claus Parade at 7:00 p.m. on Durham St.

## • Elmwood Christmas in the Park - November 30, 2025

Join the Elmwood Community Service Association on Sunday, November 30, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. at the Lions' Park for pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, and crafts, popcorn, hot chocolate and coffee in the park. The Christmas Tree will be lit up at 5:00 p.m.



# Bruce County Media Release: Relief Centres Ready to Support Residents During Harsh Weather

Residents in Bruce County know extreme weather conditions. Temperatures can plunge below -30°C in the winter, often with biting windchill and blinding snow that closes roads. In the summer, temperatures can soar past 30°C, with humidity pushing the discomfort even higher.

When the weather turns severe, it's not just uncomfortable, it can be dangerous. Power outages may happen during these events, leaving residents without heating, cooling or a way to stay connected. That's why municipalities across Bruce County are prepared to activate Cooling and Warming Centres — safe, short-term spaces where residents can find relief from extreme temperatures. These Centres offer:

- Temporary relief from heat or cold
- A place to charge cell phones and stay connected

Each municipality is responsible for deciding whether to open a Centre based on local needs and circumstances. Once a decision is made, the municipality will communicate directly with residents through its established channels, such as websites, social media, or community newsletters, to provide updates and relevant information.

Centres are opened, guided by extreme cold or heat warnings issued by Environment and Climate Change Canada and Grey Bruce Public Health:

- Cold Warning: When temperatures or wind chill reach -30°C or lower for at least two hours.
- Heat Warning: When two or more consecutive days hit 31°C+ during the day and 20°C+ at night, or when humidex values reach 40 or higher.

To find a designated Cooling or Warming Centre near you, call or text 211, or visit https://211ontario.ca

Please note: These Centres operate during regular hours and are not meant for overnight stays or extended shelter. There are limitations to the amenities from what the facility normally provides.

"Establishing Warming or Cooling Centres is one way a municipality can support residents impacted by an extreme weather event and need some relief. In the event of an extended power outage, they can also act as a charging facility, helping people to remain connected," says Ray Lux, Bruce County's emergency management coordinator.

For more information, contact your local municipality or visit the resources listed above.