

#### June 25, 2025

Our Municipal Services

#### **Dutton Dunwich Economic Development**

"Strengthening our Municipality through Creation, Partnership and Community"
"We believe investing in business builds communities"



#### Prim Peony - An amazing host and great for our community! Cultivating Success - 2025 Resilient and Ready Event!

The second *Cultivating Success* business event for community businesses was a tremendous success. This free gathering was fully booked within days, welcoming 125 participants who enjoyed live music by *Connor Wilson*, a lively business social, insightful talks from business experts, and delicious oven-baked pizza.

The event was a collaborative effort between the Elgin County Economic Development Council, the Municipality of Southwold, the Municipality of Dutton Dunwich, and the Municipality of West Elgin. Five speakers shared strategies on building resilience in business and offering practical insights for local entrepreneurs.

Following last fall's event at **Nature's Oasis in Southwold**, this spring's edition was hosted at **Prim Peony/Shirley's/The In-Home Chef** in Dutton Dunwich. The next installment is set to take place in West Elgin.

The goal of Cultivating Success is to bring businesses together to network, share ideas, meet new faces, and gain valuable guidance on navigating today's business landscape.

A big thank-you to our Contributing Sponsors—your support truly made our event unforgettable!

## Businesses helping business! Farm Credit Canada & Business Development Canada



Connor Wilson, Senior Relationship Manager with Farm Credit Canada, shared invaluable insights on financing farm diversification—an essential topic that resonates deeply within our rural business community. His expertise not only sheds light on the financial pathways available for diversifying agricultural operations but also inspires our local farmers and ag. entrepreneurs to explore innovative strategies that can enhance our community.



Alice Watson, a Small Business Account Manager with BDC, has spent the past 14 years helping businesses across Elgin and Southwestern Ontario access financing and growth with confidence. She spoke about what it takes to succeed in our local business environment. Alice contributed to our event by speaking about the services offered by BDC including finance, business planning and consulting.

#### **Significant Contributors**

Recognizing Local Business
Couldn't do it without you! Committee Members Contributions



A luxurious bed & breakfast, it is a rustic yet modern touch to the home.

26 acres of bush with trails throughout is a great added touch to those who love to hike! A perfect space for photography, weddings, engagement sessions or for hosting any outdoor event!

(learn more click below)

#### Bed & Breakfast & Wedding Venue - London



#### **Dogwood Creek Lifestyles**

Your Style Your Health Our Store

click here

Dogwood Creek Lifestyles | Home Page

#### Eagleview Farm

Fresh cut flowers for all events.

(learn more click below)

Fresh Cut Flowers | Eagleview Farm | West Lorne



### Special Thanks to Connor Wilson for Live Music - (3) Facebook An amazing talent from Dutton Dunwich contributing to the Country Music scene



#### **Door Prize Appreciation**

The strength of our communities is rooted in your valued support.

#### **DD EDC Encourages you to Support Local.**

We're grateful to the following local businesses from our communities who generously contributed to making this event a success. Each one of these businesses will receive a feature in an upcoming newsletter.

#### **EDC Committee Member Donors**

Nature's Oasis
Dogwood Creek Designs
Natterjack Brewing
Delightfully Pure Candle Co.
Pottery & Strawberries from Ashley Ross – Blue Forest Realty
Group Tours by Darlene Ford/Seniors Wallacetown

#### **Business Contributors**

Prim Peony/In Home Chef Alterna Savings (Dutton) Mel's Accounting & Tax Service Dark Horse Designs (Website) Titan Landscaping Erie View Clamping Life in Elgin Magazine 174 Currie (Dutton) Barking Garage Grooming Thistle Street Pottery West Elgin Women in Business Fingal Farm Supply Tranquil Earth Soso's Breakfast Taco Apex Sailing Field of Greens Highland IDA Pharmacy Carmichaels Fundraising Co-Trac Ford **Dutton Variety & Gas** Paul's Barbershop & Clocks Mancari's Pizza & Restaurant McNeil Insurance Brokers Goal Post Restaurant & Bar **Dutton Farm & Auto** Tall Tales Restaurant **Dutton Foodland Dutton Agris Co-op** Ever After Consignment West Elgin Accounting Inc. **Employment Services Elgin** Willow and Ben Jewelry

# The Municipality of Dutton Dunwich is pleased to announce the appointment of Tony Houad as its new Chief Administrative Officer, effective August 18, 2025.

With over 28 years of progressive experience in municipal leadership and public administration, Mr. Houad brings a wealth of knowledge, strategic insight, and a strong commitment to community service. He joins Dutton Dunwich following his successful tenure as Director of Corporate Services/CFO with Transit Windsor, where he was instrumental in transforming the Human Resources Department by improving business efficiencies in reducing recruitment time leading to financial savings.

"We are excited to welcome Tony to our municipality," said Mayor Mike Hentz. "His leadership style, collaborative approach, and dedication to innovation and excellence make him a strong fit for our community as we look ahead to a future of sustainable growth and continued service to our residents."

As CAO, Mr. Houad will be responsible for the overall administration of municipal operations, providing strategic guidance to Council, and supporting the implementation of Council's vision and priorities. He will work closely with staff, community stakeholders, and regional partners to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of programs and services.

"I am honoured to join the Municipality of Dutton Dunwich as CAO," said Mr. Houad. "I look forward to working with Council, staff, and the community to build on the municipality's many strengths and to help shape a vibrant and resilient future." Mr. Houad has Chartered Professional Accountant designation and Master of Business Administration from Laurentian University.

The Municipality also wishes to thank Holly Hurley, Elgin County Director of People and Culture and Don Shropshire for assisting in the CAO recruitment.

#### Don't forget Canada Day in the Park!

**Everyone is Invited** 

#### CANADA DAY

Cycle Ride with Councilor Dryfhout. Experience Dutton Dunwich by bike. Meet at the Community Centre 7:30am adult ride, 20km 10:30am kids ride 5km

Fire Department Breakfast. \$15/adult, \$8/children 8am-11am

Good Minds Book Sale 10am-1pm

Inflatables 10am-3pm

Free Open Swim Sponsored by Ashley Ross real Estate Agent 10:30am-12:30pm 3pm-5pm 6:30-8pm

Lion's Food Booth 11am-Dusk



#### **JULY 1ST**

Crafts with Dutton Library Inside Community Centre

11am-1pm

The Bubble Zone and Foam Pit

11am-3pm

Dunk Tank

1-1:30pm

174 Currie's Sasha Bailey

1:30-2pm Grit-Fit's

Charles 2-3:30pm

> Fair Ambassador & head Lifeguard Lillian Taylor

3:30-4pm

Volunteer extraordinaire and retired teacher Mrs. Tufford

4-4:30pm

Mystery guest

Full line up at www.duttondunwich.on.ca

#### Donations appreciated



#### 1 SCOTLAND ST

Slip 'N Slide North end of Park 1pm-3pm



Inside the Community Centre 1pm Adult Bingo (14+) 2:30pm Kids Bingo

Dutton Royals Minor Baseball 3:30pm U7's 5:30pm U9/U11 girls fastball 7:00pm U9 hardball

Opening Ceremonies Awards, dignitaries and cake 5:00pm

West Elgin Soccer Open to everyone, join a game. 6pm 4-6yrs 7pm 7-10yrs

8pm all ages

Fireworks Dusk rain date July 2nd



Lets have breakfast together on Canada Day



Adults \$15

Children (6-12): \$8

**Under 5: Free** 

# July 1st

You're Invited to the

**Dutton Dunwich** 

# Firefighters Breakfast

DUTTON DUNWICH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Sam-Ilam

1 SCOTLAND STREET, DUTTON



ECCC - BACON - CAUCACE

#### Lots of activities for everyone!





#### **Small Business Help starts Here!**



#### **Elgin Business Resource Center**

Serving all of Elgin County
The Resource Centre has someone that can help your business reach its full potential.

Contact Felicia Brice <a href="mailto:fbrice@elgincfdc.ca">fbrice@elgincfdc.ca</a>
<a href="mailto:Elgin Business Resource Centre">Elgin Business Resource Centre</a> | Free Business</a>
<a href="mailto:Free Business">Free Business</a>
<a href="mailto:Counselling & Loans in St. Thomas (elgincfdc.ca)">Free Business</a>



Fanshawe Career & Employment Services St Thomas Looking for employees, apprentices, employment grants opportunities, employment workshops. They can help with employment placement and funding. Click below to learn more:

<u>Career and Employment Services - St.</u> <u>Thomas/Aylmer | Fanshawe College</u>

Click here to like us on Facebook - Dutton Dunwich Economic Development

### **Tourism, Culture & Community**

## **Community Calendar**

# CRINAN COMMUNITY SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

Saturday, July 5, 2025

**Dinner & Local Entertainment** 



Cash Bar

\$30 per person



13658 Dunborough Road, Dutton

Pie Auction

Bring Your Lawn Chair

Cocktails & Social Hour: 5:00 pm

Roast Beef

**Baked Potato** 

Beans, Coleslaw, Roll

Dessert

Dinner 6:15 pm

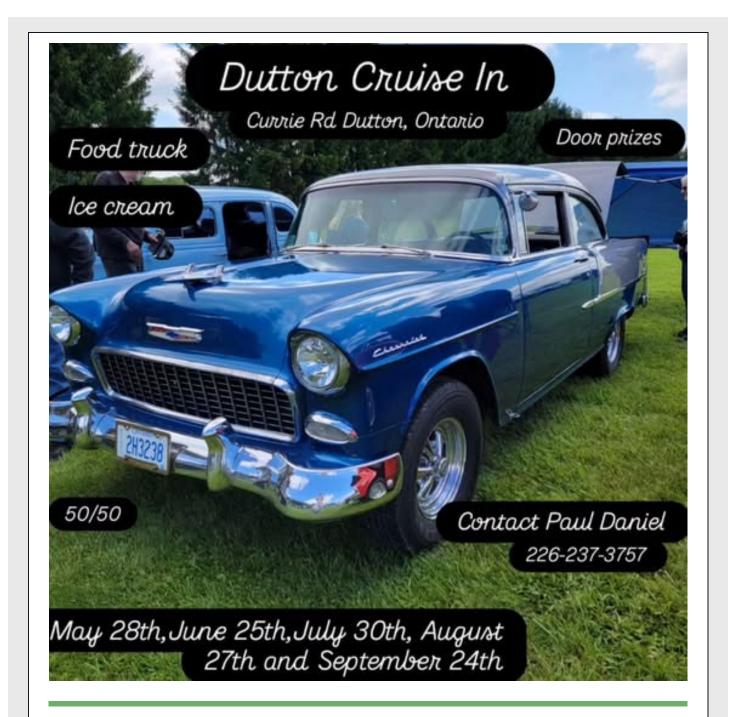
Limited Tickets Available

Get yours before July 1

Barb (519)878-9736

Alan (519768-2759

Proceeds to support
Crinan Community Centre Improvements



Follow our EDC Facebook Page Join Here