



# Business Information

This electronic communication is a resource providing businesses and interested parties with relevant information about funding sources, events, resources, and other local municipal information.

## Grants, Funding and Opportunities

### [Enabling Accessibility Fund](#): \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 in funding for accessibility upgrades

- Application period is **open** until March 12, 2026

### [Rural Ontario Development Program](#): 35% of eligible costs, up to \$10,000 in funding

- Application period is **open** until February 26, 2026

### [Ontario Trillium Foundation Capital Grants](#): \$10,000 to \$200,000 in funding

- Application period is from February 4, 2026, to March 4, 2026

### [Community Foundation Grants](#): Funding available for charitable organizations

- Application period is from February 2, 2026 to March 20, 2026

### [Market Diversification & Trade Resiliency](#): Funding for ag-producers and processors

- Applications open February 17, 2026 to March 17, 2026

## Consumer Price Index: 2025 Annual Review

The cost of living for the average Canadian increased by 2.1 percent in 2025. Statistics Canada says while this is the lowest annual average Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase since 2020, prices have increased by 19.9% over the past five years. The price of groceries increased by 3.5% in 2025 with items like coffee (+20.3%), frozen beef (+13.5%), and confectionary seeing the largest increases. Prices for food purchased from restaurants increased by 2.6% on average. The national statistics agency also notes that rent prices across Canada increased by 5 percent (compared to 8.2% in 2024), however the trend has still seen rental costs increase by 28.5% since 2020.

[Read 2025 Annual CPI Review](#)

## Upcoming Business Webinars & Events

# Upcoming Webinars



- **January 27 | 10-11 AM: [From Idea Overload to Business Clarity](#)**
- **February 11 | 10-11:30 AM: [HST Remittance for Business](#)**
- **February 19 | 10-12:00 PM: [CRA Corporate Tax Preparation](#)**
- **February 28 & March 1: [Ottawa Franchise Expo](#)**
- **March 6 | 11:30AM-1:30 PM: [2026 International Women's Day Luncheon](#)**

Register for events with Enterprise Renfrew County (FREE)

## Sponsorship Opportunities for Women's Day Event

The Chamber of Commerce is proud to host International Women's Day 2026 lunch under the theme Give to Gain, celebrating generosity, collaboration, and women's entrepreneurship.

The business luncheon is Friday, March 6th, from 11:30am to 1:30pm with tickets on sale now.

Sponsorship opportunities include Table Sponsorships and a Vendor Corner for women-led businesses. Sponsorships range from \$50 to \$100.

Join us in supporting and celebrating local entrepreneurial women.

UPPER OTTAWA VALLEY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
**WOMEN'S DAY EVENT**  
**FRIDAY MARCH 6**



Get tickets and see sponsorship opportunities

## Summer Company Opens 2026 Applications



Summer Company Program is now open for applications! Summer Company supports young entrepreneurs (ages 15–29) in turning their business ideas into real, summer-run ventures.

### Participants receive:

- Business training and mentorship
- Support with marketing, budgeting, and planning
- Up to \$3,000 in grant funding (\$1,500 to start and \$1,500 upon successful completion)

## Cabin Fever Returns February 4-8, 2025



Cabin Fever will bring the community together for a full week of winter fun with activities for all ages.

The event will feature a mix of events, including free family skates, crokicurl drop-ins, trivia nights, creative workshops, glow skate, comedy night, and community dances.

Programs will be hosted at a variety of community venues and local businesses.

Thank you to all sponsors for supporting this event!

[See Full Schedule](#)

## Free Membership to OVTA for Local Businesses

The Ottawa Valley Tourist Association (OVTA) offers free membership to businesses in the City of Pembroke, Renfrew County and nearby Indigenous-owned businesses, giving you access to powerful promotional opportunities.

Members benefit from:

- exclusive advertising rates
- free promotion through listings on OttawaValley.travel
- regular industry updates

Get started and join today!

[Join OVTA Today](#)

**Town of Petawawa**  
Petawawa Business Advisory Network  
1111 Victoria St. Petawawa, Ontario  
Phone 1-613-687-5536

Petawawa Businesses be sure to use **Shop Petawawa** to drive additional sales to your businesses' shopping and social platforms. Need help using this FREE resource? Want to advertise your business event or celebration?

Contact **Christine**



Local Business Resources Social Feeds

- [Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Renfrew County Community Futures Development Corporation](#)
- [Enterprise Renfrew County](#)
- [Invest Renfrew County](#)
- [Ottawa Valley Tourist Association](#)
- [Ontario Highlands Tourism Organization](#)
- [Petawawa Employment Services](#)
- [Labour Market Group Renfrew County and Lanark](#)



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