



# Stronger Together

MIC impact report  
2022

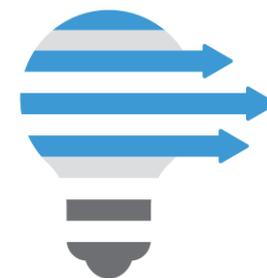
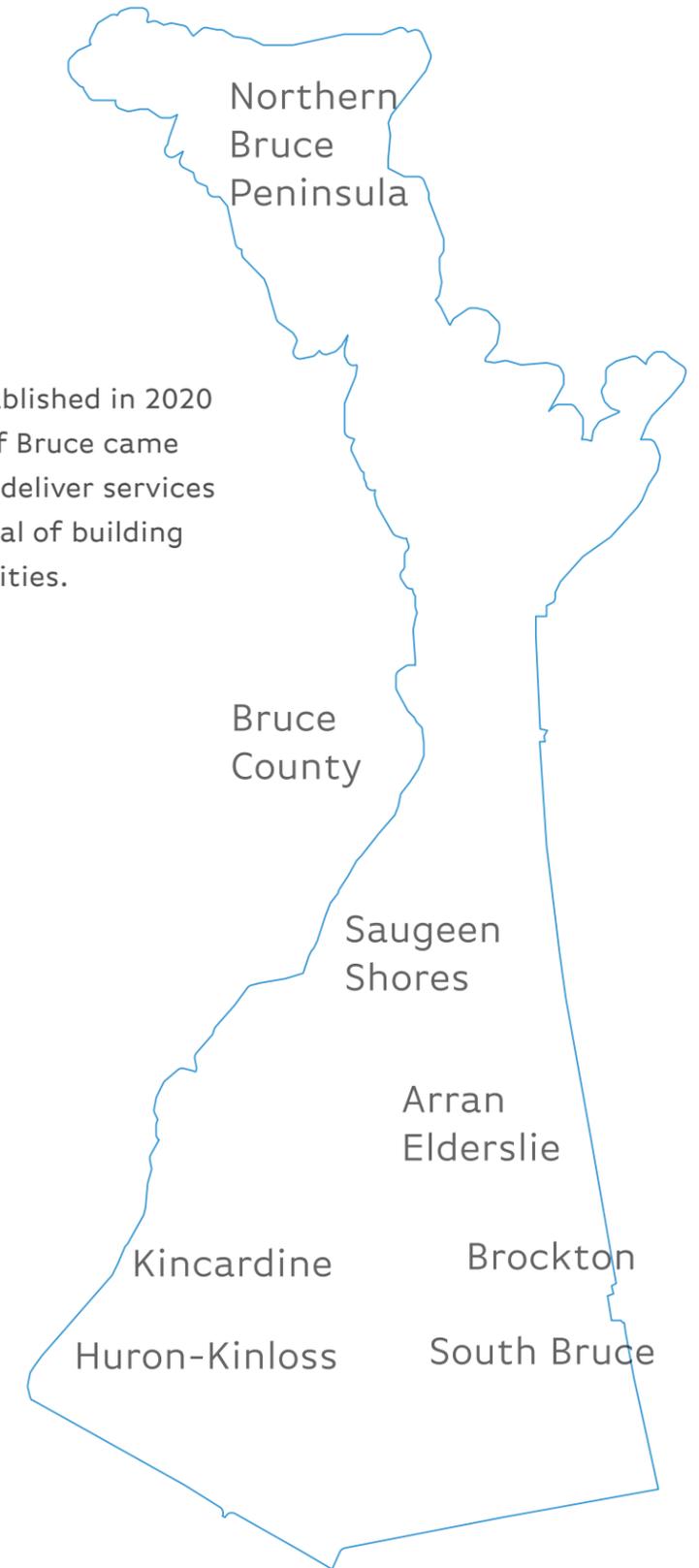


**MIC**  
municipal  
innovation  
council

# overview

smarter  
stronger  
more resilient

The Municipal Innovation Council was established in 2020 when eight municipalities in the County of Bruce came together to find savings, efficiencies and deliver services better to their residents — all with the goal of building smarter, stronger, more resilient communities.



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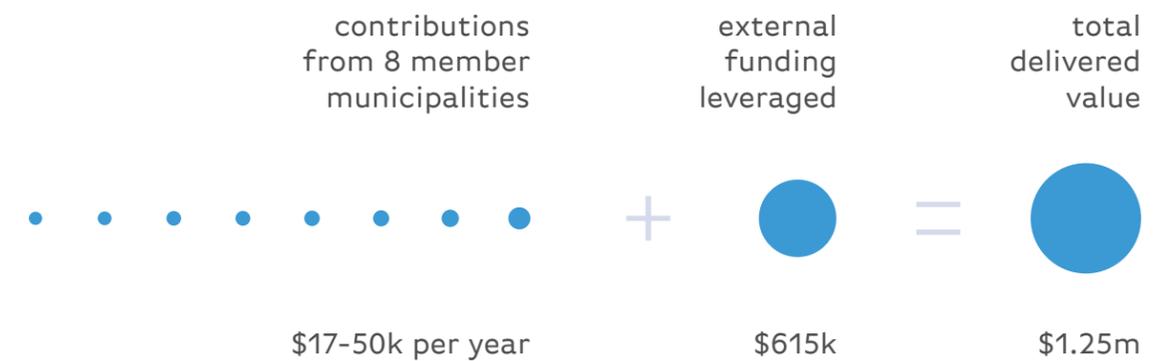
## proven success

The Municipal Innovation Council has had remarkable success over the three-year pilot and has proven to be a model every community across Canada could benefit from. The MIC has allowed us to tackle problems collectively that couldn't otherwise be done independently.



## added value

- The MIC has been tremendously successful at securing external funding for almost every project it has undertaken.
- **For every MIC dollar invested, we have been able to double that through external funding sources.**
- The MIC has obtained over \$600,000 in additional funding through programs like the Municipal Modernization Program, the National Disaster Mitigation Program, Mitacs Accelerate and more.
- **This brings the total value delivered by the MIC to over \$1.25 million.**





## the smart beach project

- **The first of its kind in North America:** innovative technology combined with public education and awareness will provide a unique service to residents, visitors and newcomers to our beaches that will help save lives.
- The Smart Beach project is a prime example of the Municipal Innovation Council at work on an innovative solution that can be adapted to and applied across our member municipalities and the Great Lakes.
- This project will also help keep our first responders safer if they're called out to the scene—by ensuring they have access to real-time information on water conditions.



“This will be the most innovative beach safety program in the Great Lakes region and across North America.”

Dr. Chris Houser  
University of Windsor



# mapping risk

## The MIC's mapping project

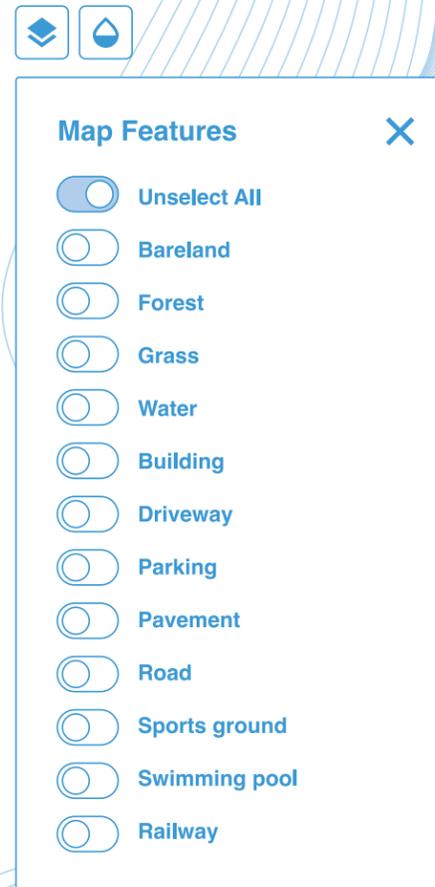
- A digital mapping solution using artificial intelligence and state-of-the-art machine learning that delivered 21st century GIS data to support a wide range of municipal and conservation authority activities.
- Tremendous example of how the MIC utilized innovative technology to deliver significant value of money.
- We saved close to 14,000 hours of in-house Geographical Information Systems (GIS) work.

This project was completed for ~\$11,000 per municipality and saved each member close to \$70,000 (\$500,000 in collective savings!)

## This will help the conservation authorities:

- Improve the accuracy of products like Regulation Mapping and Natural Hazard information.
- Improve the efficiency of development, planning and permitting.
- Feed into the watershed report cards that help provide a focus for local efforts to improve general watershed health.

## Partnerships built through this project:



## Example of landcover maps



"This new data will provide better information, help to streamline building permit approval and provide more accurate information for residents during the building process."

**Phil Van Hardeveld**  
Chief Building Official  
Municipality of South Bruce

"As we continue to support sustainable growth in the County, monitoring environmental conditions and changes over time will require innovative thinking and new tools. Some of our current flood maps haven't been updated since the 1970s—this new solution will give residents and planners more clarity and help us prepare for the realities of climate change."

**Luke Charbonneau**  
Mayor  
Town of Saugeen Shores



## Best practices

# waste management & information technology

The MIC has completed two comprehensive services reviews at no cost to its members!

This work has provided the member municipalities with valuable information, insights and opportunities for efficiencies and best practices as we advance discussions on waste management.

We have begun executing a 5-year roadmap for Information Technology & Digital Enhancements focused on economies of scale and ensuring our municipalities are putting cybersecurity front and centre.

**2 service reviews completed**

cost to MIC members:

**\$0**

**IT service review collective cost**

savings identified:

**\$585k**

**Waste management service review**

cost if each municipality did this work on their own:

**\$80k-\$150k**



## attainable housing

In February 2020, the MIC partnered with the University of Waterloo's School of Planning to complete valuable work that contributed to the Saugeen Shores Attainable Housing Task Force Final Report and Recommendations. **This work was valued at over \$100,000 and was completed at no cost to the MIC.**

value  
\$100k



UNIVERSITY OF  
**WATERLOO**

SCHOOL OF  
PLANNING



“ The MIC work was instrumental in helping shape the work the University was able to accomplish. The MIC contributions helped focus research to meet the needs of Saugeen Shores within a short time frame. ”

Jay Pausner  
Supervisor of Development Services  
Town of Saugeen Shores



# better workplaces

In 2022 the MIC offered shared training opportunities around emerging issues in the workplace.

- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Mental health in the workplace
- Local Indigenous culture and history (Fall 2022)

**The MIC has leveraged over \$12,000 in external funding to help deliver this training.**

We will continue to support employee development to create more productive workplaces.



# raising our profile

The MIC continues to raise its profile both with local audience across Canada. As projects come to fruition, others are taking notice of the MIC's work and looking for opportunities to learn from and model the MIC as they seek to tackle similar problems.

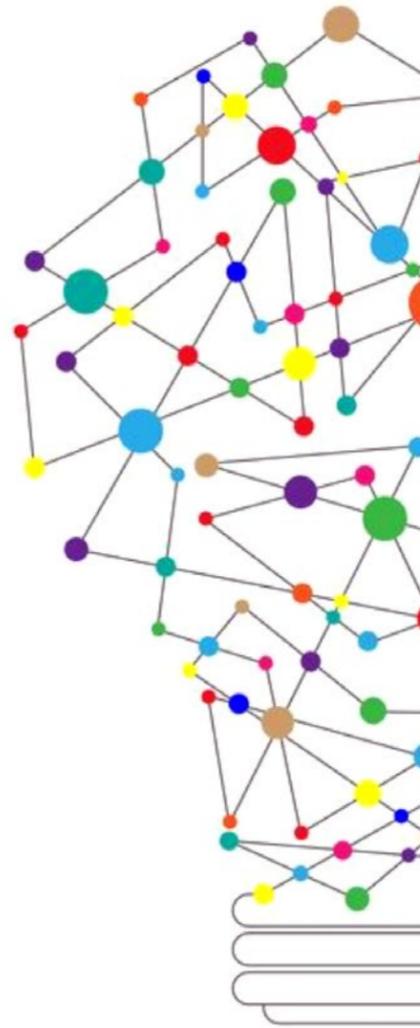
### Conference opportunities:

- Ontario Municipal Administration Association conference on the power of partnership to bring about innovation
- "Be Spatial'22" Conference to highlight the MIC's Map the Future project which included GIS professionals from across Canada.
- MISA Conference (2022) invited to share outcomes from Joint IT Business Analysis review.

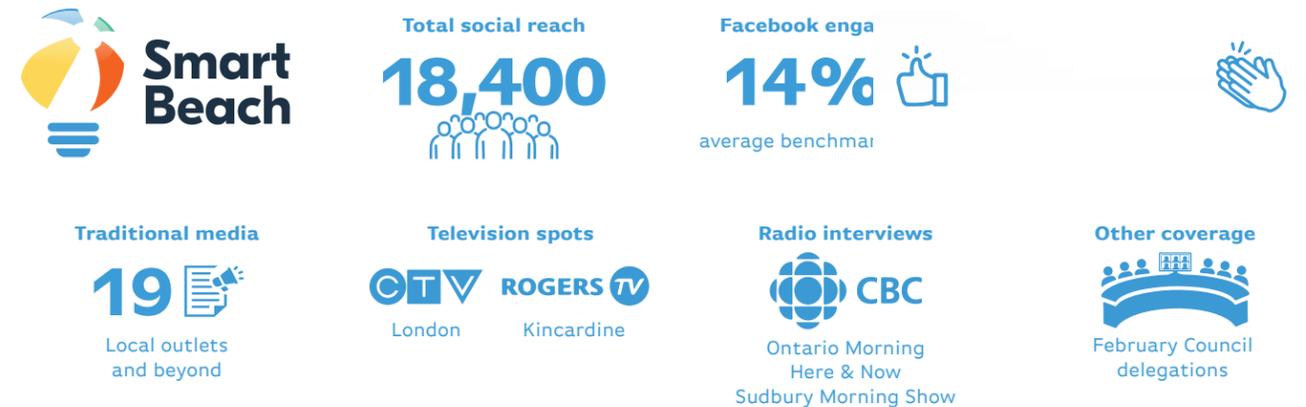
### Traditional media and social media:

With strategic communications support from the Nuclear Institute, the MIC continues to extend its reach with a wide range of audiences.

- In the first half of 2022, MIC posts have reached more than 18,400 social media users.



### metrics from smart beach launch





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