

## Hanover is Connected and Open for Business!

It may come as surprise to some that not all of Ontario is created equal when it comes to connectivity. As of 2018, many rural pockets of the province still lack high-speed Internet infrastructure, a matter some municipalities cite as a contributing factor to missed business opportunities. “It’s a disadvantage for business to not have reliable Internet,” says April Marshall, the Town of Hanover’s Economic Development Manager. She’s seen the importance of providing connection in a changing, digital world so all businesses can fully participate in the workforce.

“Together with Wightman Telecom, we are ensuring that Hanover is serviced by the fastest broadband speeds available,” Marshall said. In doing so, Hanover has earned itself a spot on a list of ‘Gig Communities,’ which encourages an environment that supports economic diversification and a broader range of attractive employment opportunities. High-speed Internet helps to attract new residents and businesses looking to grow or relocate to a charming rural town without giving up amenities.

Home to a celebrated craft brewery, Hanover is steadily and continually reinforcing the framework to provide an environment that supports a thriving economy and an enhanced quality of life. Hanover has already invested in a regional youth skill-development centre and is home to a state-of-the-art recreation facility, hospital, airport, theatre, casino and raceway, as well as one of the last remaining classic drive-in theatres in the province. As a attractive community, Hanover is situated under an hour’s drive from the sandy shores of both Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. Its geographic location has made it a hub community, connecting numerous rural villages and townships to important services.

Marshall says that more than anything, Hanover wants to connect with those who may not be familiar with everything it has to offer – whether it’s for a short visit, a move away from crowded cities, or a place to set up their own business.

*This story was created by Content Works, Post Media’s Content Division, on behalf of the Town of Hanover.*

## Editor’s Comments

2018 is looking to be an interesting year for economic development. The employment opportunities are high with employers working hard to fill workforce gaps. Real estate remains positive; however, attainable housing is still an issue for most areas. Most indicators are positive; however, the 2nd half of 2018 will show a much clearer picture.

### Positive 2018 Indicators



**Unemployment**  
Down



**New Motor Vehicle Sales**  
Up



**Building Permits**  
Up



**Real Estate Sales**  
Up

### Negative 2018 Indicator



**Social Assistance**  
Up



**Saugeen Economic Development Corporation**  
A Community Futures Development Corporation

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**NOTE:** The Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) shares best practices and develops opportunities for networking by acting as a liaison between business/industrial sectors, communities and the SEDC, thereby assisting with the foundation of collaborative partnerships. The committee is comprised of representatives from the municipalities covered by this newsletter, listed below.

The Saugeen Economy newsletter covers the Municipalities of: Arran-Elderslie, Brockton, Chatsworth, Grey Highlands, Minto, South Bruce, Southgate, Town of Hanover, Wellington North, and West Grey.



# The Saugeen Economy

## 2018 2nd Quarter



Front cover: Town of Hanover

**Saugeen Economic Development Corporation**  
in Partnership with the  
**Regional Advisory Committee**



A COMMUNITY FUTURES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## Unemployment Saugeen

2ND QUARTER 2018 IN GREAT SHAPE!

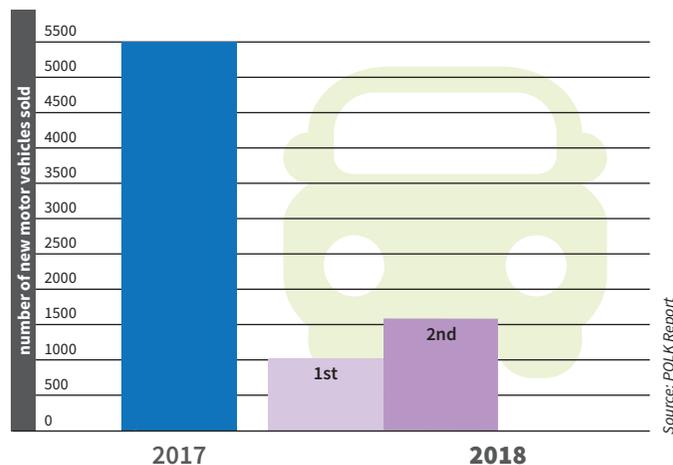
At the end of 2nd quarter of 2017, there were 2,570 claimants for employment insurance. At the end of the 2nd quarter of 2018, there were 1,930 claimants, which shows a decrease of 640 persons, or 33%, year-over-year. Ontario had a decrease of 17% over the same time last year. **Note:** Latest quarter is always subject to change.



## New Motor Vehicle Sales Local Area

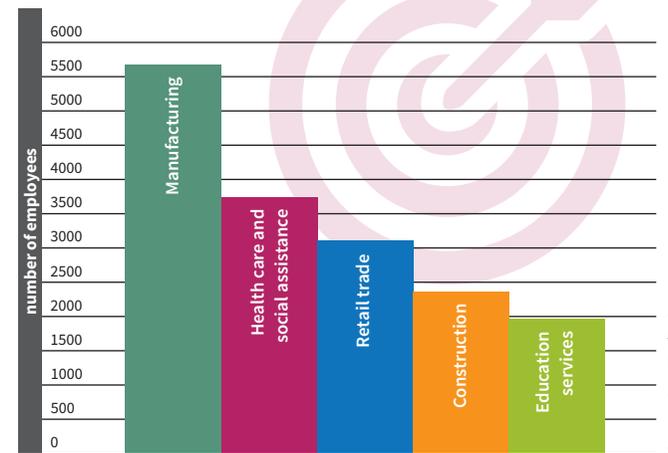
OUTPACING ONTARIO!

For the 1st quarter of 2018, local sales were 1,035 units. The 2nd quarter of 2018 had an increase of 35%, or 548 units. By comparison, Ontario-wide sales had an increase of 78,000 units, or 33%, over the same time last year.



## Top Five Employment Sectors Saugeen

TOP 5 EMPLOYMENT SECTORS IN 2016

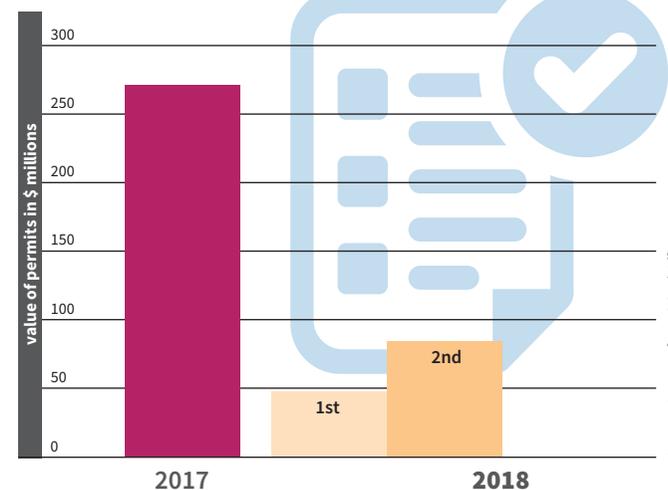


**NOTE:** The information in this newsletter was deemed accurate at the time of printing. We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the contents of this document, and accept no responsibility for errors or omissions.

## Building Permits Saugeen

POSITIVE GROWTH IN PERMITS ISSUED!

The value of building permits issued in the 2nd quarter of 2018 was \$83.8 million, an increase of \$36.4 million over the 1st quarter of 2018.

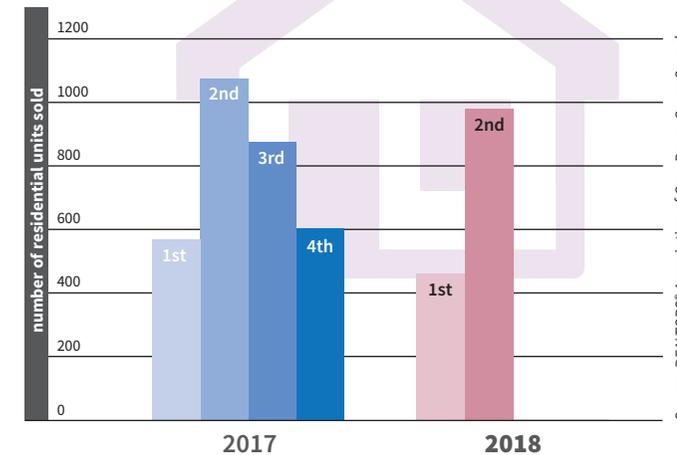


## Real Estate Sales Saugeen

AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL SALES PRICE INCREASING!

On the residential front, total sales for the 6-month period of January – June in 2017 were \$ 492 million, or 1,642 units. For the same period in 2018, total sales were \$493 million, or 1,437 units, which shows an increase in the average sale price of \$44,000.

Total value of all real estate sales in 2018 for the 6-month period of January – June is \$575 million – down \$19.5 million from the same period in 2017.



## Social Assistance Grey/Bruce/Owen Sound

SLIGHT INCREASE

In the 1st quarter of 2018, 1,941 caseloads were reported. In the 2nd quarter of 2018, 1,952 caseloads were reported. This represents an increase of 11 cases over the 1st quarter of 2018.

