## **COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR 2025**

The 3rd Annual Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) Saugeen Shores event will be held on February 22, 2025 in Southampton. The Rotary Club of Port Elgin partnered with the United Way Bruce Grey the past two years but requested that the Southampton Rotary Club continue the partnership. The intent going forward is to alternate between the two locations.

The event on February 22, 2025 will take place beginning at 5pm and ending at the Rotary Hall/Chantry Centre (39 Grey St. S., Southampton).

This event is under the auspices of the Blue Sea Foundation which partners with local charities to support people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness, all of which are becoming more evident in Saugeen Shores. Those of us who volunteer in the community through the foodbanks and other organizations have seen the needs double in the past couple of years. Over 600 people are on the waiting list for housing according to Bruce County and these are only those they know of.

We applaud the efforts of the Town of Saugeen Shores, the County of Bruce and local organizations to assist those in need of housing and food security and need to continue to pressure provincial and federal governments to provide funding for affordable housing.

In the meantime, we seek your help to raise over \$50,000 by the end of March, 2025. We are looking for 20 team captains who will recruit 7-8 team members each of whom can set a goal of finding 5 people to donate to their campaign. We are confident that members of council can form such a team.

After expenses, the proceeds will be split 50/50 between the United Way Bruce Grey and the Rotary Club of Southampton. Our local portion will support the foodbanks in Saugeen Shores as well as housing accommodations through the Family Y.

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It's cold out there...