



January 14, 2026

**Sent via Email**

Dear Clerks,

Thank you for your continued engagement with Bruce County's municipal initiatives. Following our previous correspondence and the presentation of the Investment in Local Services report, we are pleased to share the attached "What We Heard" report, which summarizes feedback and key themes gathered from local elected officials, County Councillors and senior staff of municipalities.

We invite your Council to review this report and consider its insights as we move forward together.

Additionally, please save the date for the upcoming Bruce County Municipal Forum, scheduled for **June 11, 2026**, in the Town of Saugeen Shores at the Plex. This event will provide an opportunity to discuss the findings of the 2025 Investment in Local Services Report, expected to be presented to Bruce County Council in May, 2026, as well as other items of key interest. Similarly a "What We Heard" report will be shared following the 2026 Municipal Forum.

Further details and an agenda will be provided closer to the event. We look forward to the participation and valuable input from elected officials and senior staff.

Christine MacDonald  
Chief Administrative Officer

cc: Sean Morphy, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Jeff Loney, Director, Government Relations



1st Annual

# MUNICIPAL FORUM

## WHAT WE HEARD

July 10, 2025

### Why We Gathered

To share County progress on key initiatives as well as to strengthen regional and local collaboration through roundtable discussions.

### Who Was in the Room



- Local elected officials
- Municipal CAOs
- County Councillors
- Bruce County senior staff

### How We Connected



- Presentations on County initiatives and strategic plan
- 3 roundtable discussions





1st Annual

# MUNICIPAL FORUM

## WHAT WE HEARD

July 10, 2025

### Key Themes and Insights



#### Investment in Local Services

- Strong interest in joint advocacy, consistent communication, and collaborative data sharing.
- Municipalities value coordinated delegations (e.g., ROMA/AMO), engagement of local council members, and easy to access County information and statistics.



#### Equity and Transparency in Funding

- Emphasis on equitable service distribution and transparent funding processes.
- Municipalities seek clarity on allocation of provincial/federal funding support for County delivered services, fulsome representation of in-kind services, and enhanced alignment on joint priorities.



#### Strategic Alignment and Shared Priorities

- Broad support for shared services in procurement, planning, and communications.
- Forums are seen as effective collaboration tools.
- Interest in service-sharing agreements to reduce costs.



#### Future Forums and Reporting

- Preference for interactive engagement formats.
- Request for County to provide regular reporting, detailed funding breakdowns, and support through expertise and networks.

### Next Steps for Bruce County

- Strengthen the approach for reporting on County investment
- Plan future municipal forums
- Explore enhanced collaboration opportunities
- Improve communication and data sharing