

Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO)

## **Community Profile: Central Huron**

draft for discussion

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Appendix A. Businesses and Services Inventory for Central Huron

# 1. Introduction

This community profile has been prepared as part of the Municipality of Central Huron's participation in the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's (NWMO) *Learn More* program. This program is offered to communities interested in exploring their interest in the Adaptive Phased Management (APM) Project, the deep geological repository and centre of expertise that is required as part of Canada's plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel.

This document brings together information regarding Central Huron with respect to its history, aspirations, and current conditions. The information contained in this report is not an assessment of any kind; instead it is intended to paint a picture of the community as it stands today. Such a picture can be a helpful starting point for community discussions about how future projects might be implemented in the community, and the extent to which a project might contribute to the well-being of the community over the long term, including the APM Project. The APM Project will only be implemented in a community that has reflected upon whether the project will contribute to its community well-being, after a series of detailed studies have been completed to confirm the safety and appropriateness of a site, and after the community has expressed an informed willingness to host the project. Over time, communities in the surrounding area will also need to become involved in the learning process.

This profile is organized to describe the characteristics of the community through five different perspectives, or "lenses":

- **Human**: Skills, knowledge and essential services supporting the well-being of the community;
- **Economic**: Monetary or financial resources supporting the well-being of the community;
- **Infrastructure**: Basic physical infrastructure supporting the well-being of the community;
- **Social**: Social and community activities in which people participate, and the resources drawn upon to support well-being; and
- **Natural environment**: Nature and the natural environment important to well-being.

The characteristics of the community are referred to as "assets" throughout the report. This is intended to highlight their importance and pave the way for a broad and holistic discussion of how the community may be affected by the APM project, or other large project the community may consider. This discussion of the characteristics of the community that support life may also help the community identify other important aspects that should also be considered.

The information and data used to compile this profile was derived from a combination of sources, including:

- Publicly available documents and statistics;
- Data and information provided by the community; and
- Insights derived from discussion with community leaders, residents and others in the surrounding area.

Although this profile contains references to other communities within the region, these references are intended only as a means to round out the community profile and provide some context for discussion.

The NWMO *Learn More* program encourages collaboration and shared learning involving the NWMO and the community throughout all stages of reflection and decision-making. NWMO efforts to learn about and understand the community, its aspirations and current conditions will continue throughout the duration of the community's involvement in the *Learn More* program.

## 2. Community Profile – Central Huron

### 2.1 Overview

#### 2.1.1 Location

The Municipality of Central Huron (hereafter referred to as Central Huron) is located in Southwestern Ontario in Huron County. Central Huron is located mid County. To the north, the Townships of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, and North Huron and the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry bound it. The Municipality of Huron East borders it on the east and the Municipality of Bluewater lies to the south. The Town of Goderich and the Lake Huron shoreline form its western boundary. The Municipality of Central Huron was formed on January 1, 2001 when the Town of Clinton, the Township of Hullett and the Township of Goderich were amalgamated (Central Huron, 2014).

#### 2.1.2 Land Sizes and Uses

Central Huron covers a land area of roughly 450 km<sup>2</sup> (Statistics Canada, 2013a) and consists of prime agricultural areas interspersed with rural and recreational settlements including Clinton and a number of natural areas. (Central Huron Official Plan, 2014). Communities within Central Huron include Clinton and the hamlets/villages of: Auburn, Blue Water Beach, Harlock, Holmesville, Kinburn, Londesboro, Porter's Hill and Summerhill.

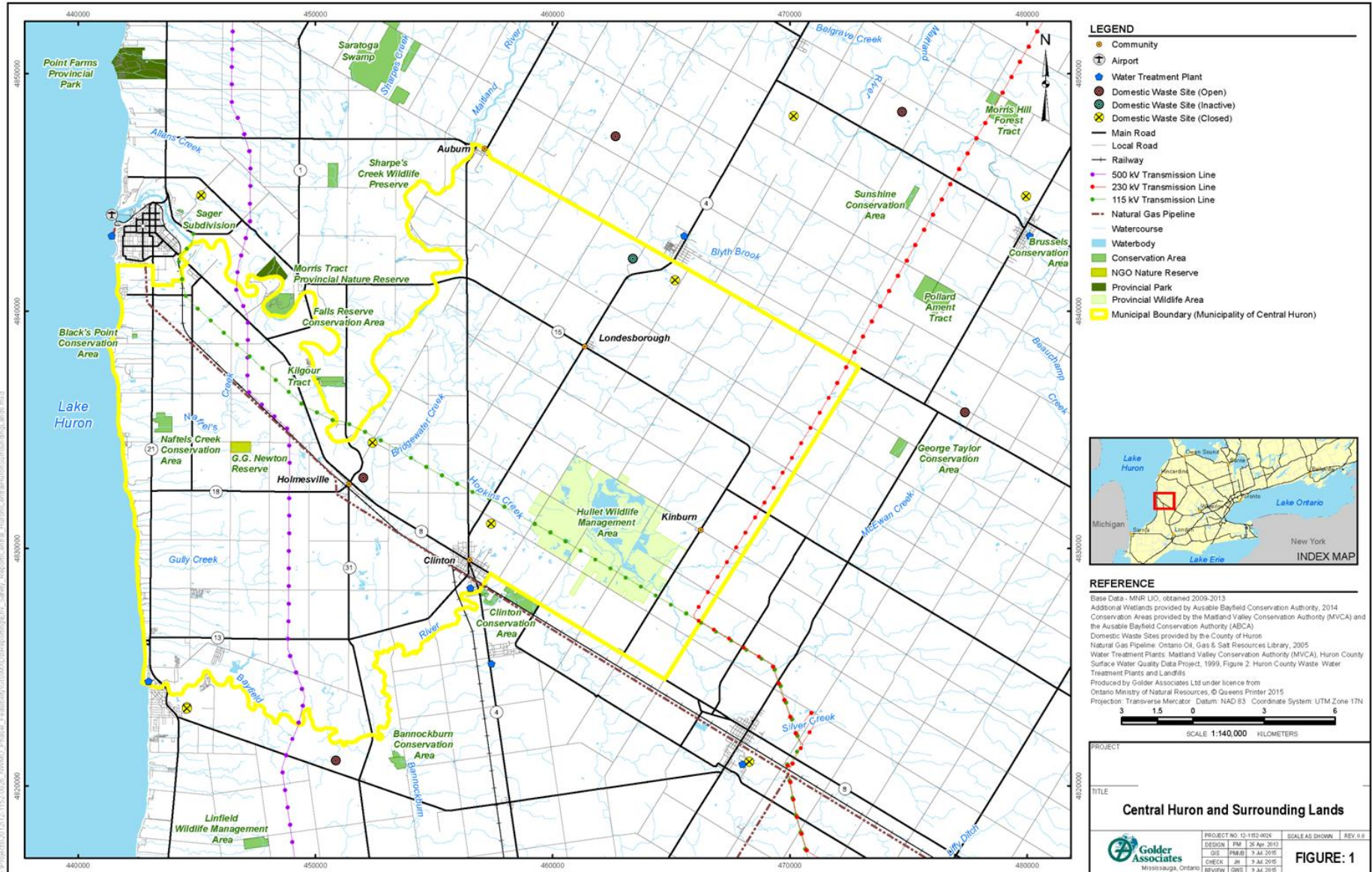
Within Central Huron there are five main land use forms. Agriculture is the most extensive land use and covers the majority of the Municipality. Amidst the agricultural fabric there is a set of settlement areas with Clinton being the largest of these. Along the Huron shoreline there is a strip of cottages with some campgrounds and trailer parks. Adjacent to Goderich there is a block of land that is occupied by commercial establishments including national retailers. Within the former Township of Hullett there is a large wildlife preserve. The dominant natural features are the Lake Huron shoreline and the Maitland River.

The settlement areas accommodate residential, commercial and institutional uses with some agro-industries. For the most part the commercial cores of all the settlement areas are facing challenges with businesses downsizing and closing. Along the shoreline while most of the cottages and recreational properties are seasonal in nature there is evidence that conversions are taking place with cottages being turned into full-time residences. In the countryside farm consolidation is taking place with smaller farms being bought up by larger operators. In the process of farmland consolidation the houses and buildings associated with small holdings are often removed following property acquisition. The result is a rural landscape where houses and buildings are becoming fewer and further between.

Clinton is home to five regional schools and also has a racetrack and OLG Slot facility. Clinton also hosts the Regional Equine Agricultural Centre (REACH) facility, which has linkages with Fanshawe College and the University of Guelph.



**Figure 1. Municipality of Central Huron**

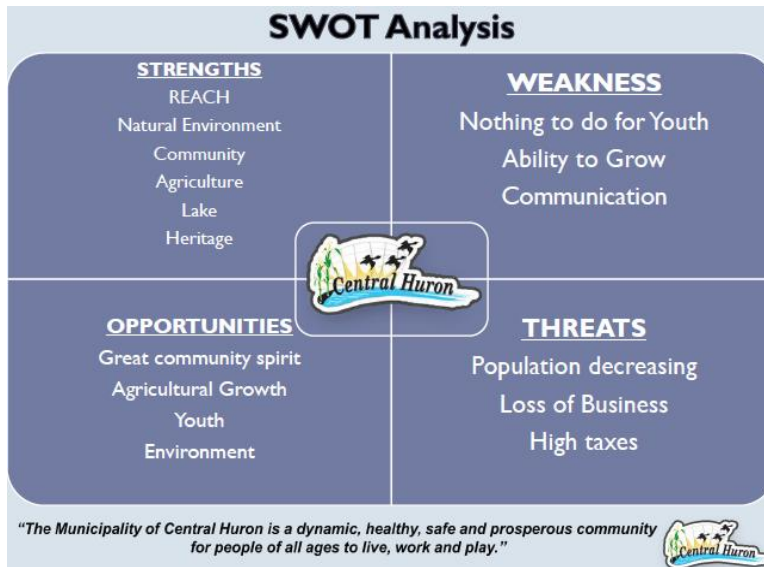


**2.1.3 Vision and Strategic Plan**

Central Huron’s Strategic (10 Year) Plan (Central Huron, n.d.) asserts the vision statement that “the Municipality of Central Huron is a dynamic, healthy, safe and prosperous community for people of all ages to live, work and play”. Its mission statement is “Central Huron Council and Staff will provide for a safe and sustainable community through excellence in the delivery of municipal services and strong innovative leadership”. The Municipality is in the process of creating a Terms of Reference to update its Strategic Plan for the community, expected to be completed by late 2015.

The community understands its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) going forward (Figure 2).

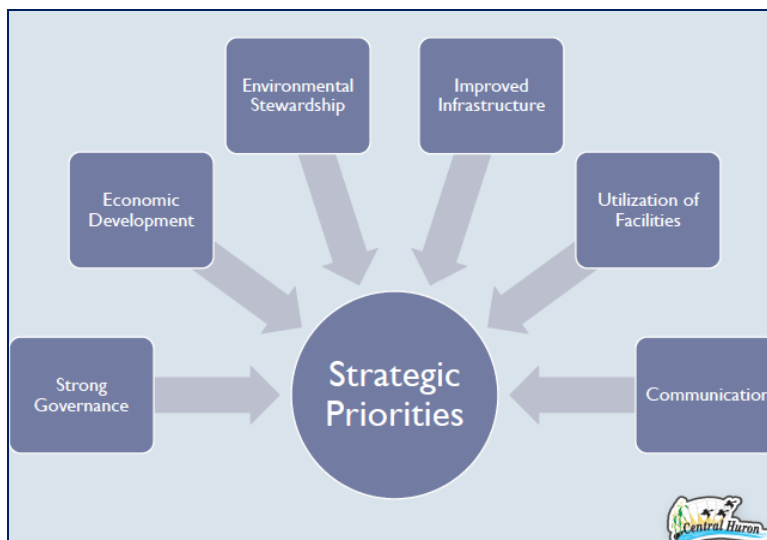
**Figure 2. Central Huron SWOT Analysis**



Source: Central Huron, Municipality of Central Huron Strategic Plan, n.d.

The community, in response to its previous SWOT analysis, identified several key strategic development priorities highlighted in Figure 3.

**Figure 3. Central Huron Strategic Priorities**



Source: Central Huron, Municipality of Central Huron Strategic Plan, n.d.

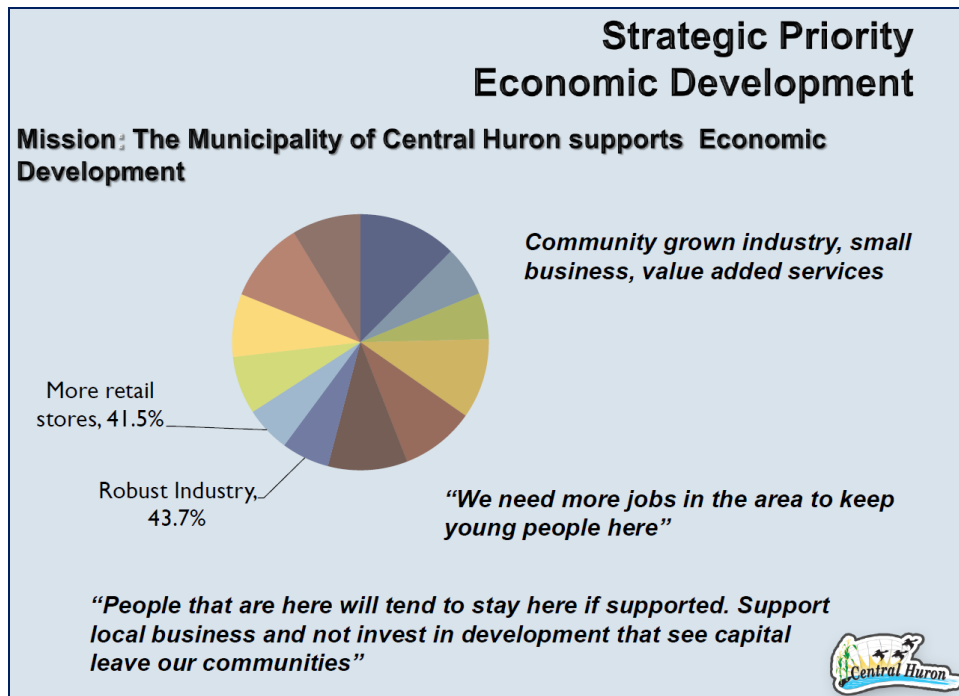
Based on interviews with a cross-section of community members, key issues and objectives facing the community include:

- Retention of youth,
- Creation of new employment opportunities in the local area,
- Provision of infrastructure services along the shoreline such as water and sewage,
- Management of erosion and agricultural runoff,
- Re-focusing the REACH facility into a sustainable entity with greater employment opportunities,
- Attraction of new compatible businesses to the agricultural base of the community, and
- Rejuvenation of small town main streets through retention and attraction of businesses.

These issues arise from the attrition of local employment opportunities and the out-migration of residents (particularly youth) to London and other job centres in the region where employment opportunities are more plentiful and/or fulfilling. Even the large agricultural operations are not labour intensive, having increased in size and generally becoming highly capital intensive with limited labour.

With respect to one element of the Strategic Plan – Economic Development, the Municipality of Central Huron is striving to see more job creation in the area to keep young people in the community (Figure 4). The community recognizes *“People that are here will tend to stay here if supported. Support local business and not invest in development that sees capital leave our communities”*.

**Figure 4. Strategic Priority – Economic Development**



Source: Central Huron, Municipality of Central Huron Strategic Plan, n.d.

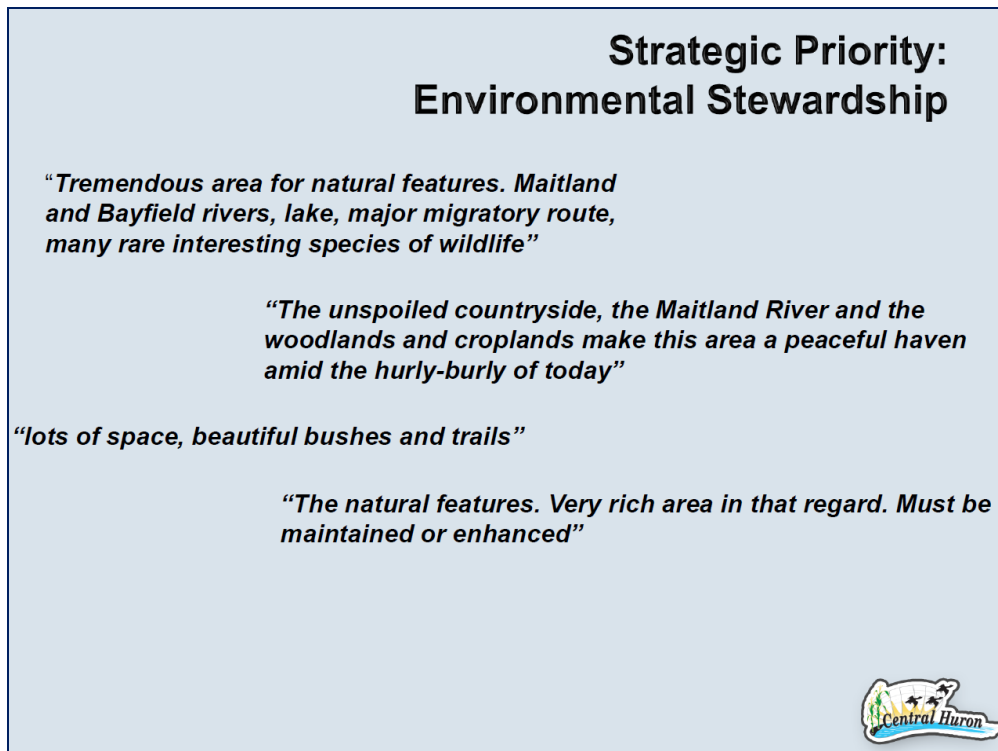
The current community strategic priorities with respect to economic development include the following:

- Develop clear performance measurement on economic development initiatives,
- Provide the gold standard of service investment prospects,

- Develop a strong web presence,
- Capitalize on educational assets such as REACH Huron, (described later in this profile)
- Strengthen Central Huron Business Community,
- Develop effective marketing and promotion of the Municipality,
- Capitalize on Central Huron health care sector,
- Develop plans to provide betterment to businesses,
- Support the agricultural industry and diversification of this industry, and
- Support the creation of new infrastructure and services associated with existing festivals and events that will encourage tourist and visitor spending in the local communities.

Another focus set out in the Strategic Plan is environmental stewardship (Figure 5).

**Figure 5. Strategic Priority - Environmental Stewardship**



Source: Central Huron, Municipality of Central Huron Strategic Plan, n.d.

Based on in-community interviews, it is well understood the community values environmental integrity and protection. Its mission in this regard sees the environment as an important entity and the municipality will assist in protecting it. Specific environmental stewardship actions identified in its current Strategic Plan include:

- Develop a Corporate policy for energy conservation,
- Work with partners to develop a community based action plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions community wide,
- Work with conservation authorities to protect and enhance our watersheds,
- Strengthen ties and develop new partnerships with local environmental committees,
- Demonstrate leadership by ensuring Municipal operations and services are carried out in a sustainable manner,

- Review waste management practices including compost site management,
- Develop Green policies for facility improvements, and
- Develop key events to showcase environmental stewardship.

The current strategic plan identifies other priorities and high-level actions for community involvement, effective use and management of community assets, and planning for improvements to existing infrastructure as well as plans for new infrastructure. With respect to the latter, the provision of water and sewer services along the shoreline is a key initiative.

In addition to the community Strategic Plan described above, the Municipality of Central Huron is also guided by the Huron County Official Plan (Central Huron, 2014). According to the County of Huron Official Plan the following basic guiding principles have been developed to establish appropriate direction for the Municipality of Central Huron including the following:

- Promote community development through economic stability and growth;
- Promote, protect and enhance the environment for overall community health;
- Foster a strong sense of community and neighbourhood;
- Facilitate public involvement in land use planning;
- Provide a basis for the Municipality’s Zoning By-law, community development programs and public works; and
- Promote agricultural development and support those land uses compatible with and supportive of agriculture (Central Huron, 2014).

In addition to the overall guiding principles listed above, Table 1 provides principles and goals described in the Official Plan for specific land uses (agriculture, natural environment, urban settlements, recreation and rural residential, open space and parkland, and mineral aggregates), heritage resources and economic development.

**Table 1. Principles and Goals in Central Huron Official Plan, Compiled by Huron County (2014)**

Component	Principles and Goals
<b>Agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect long-term future and flexibility of agriculture in rural areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Natural Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support protection, restoration and enhancement of the County’s ecosystems.</li> </ul>
<b>Urban Settlement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the development of urban places based on their level of servicing:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish programs to revitalize the downtown core of Clinton, and develop the commercial and industrial sectors of Central Huron</li> <li>- Develop in a manner that is consistent with the community’s present character as a commercial and social focal point for the surrounding agricultural community; and as a residential area for those people who wish to live in a rural environment</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Recognize existing urban development adjacent to the urban settlements of Goderich, Bayfield and Blyth.</li> <li>• Recognize the existing mobile home parks. Mobile homes are encouraged to locate in mobile home parks.</li> <li>• Encourage non-farm uses to locate in urban settlement areas, or land adjacent to these areas, to minimize land use conflicts with the agricultural area. The location of such uses will be based on the compatibility of the surrounding land uses.</li> </ul>
<b>Recreation and Rural Residential</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect natural heritage of the lakeshore and ensure that the air, water, land and natural areas are respected and enhanced.</li> <li>• Maintain and increase public access to the waterfront, including the consideration of view corridors and the possibility of placing height limits on development.</li> <li>• Develop a long-term servicing plan for water, sewer and stormwater management systems, and improve public understanding of servicing, and responsible septic and water system operation and maintenance.</li> <li>• Long-term servicing goals include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- extend public water and sewer from Bayfield and from Goderich</li> <li>- ensure development density respects the level of servicing</li> <li>- address water contamination and improve the operation of private septic systems</li> <li>- meet the need for affordable, effective and safe water, sewer and stormwater management services</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Table 1. Principles and Goals in Central Huron Official Plan, Compiled by Huron County (2014)**

Component	Principles and Goals
<b>Open Space and Parkland</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct and encourage the development of Open Space and Parkland to meet the needs of the community, provide diverse recreational opportunities promoting tourism and protecting unique or fragile natural landscapes and environments.</li> </ul>
<b>Mineral Aggregates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that sand and gravel deposits are protected for future use; developed in a manner that limits their impact on surrounding areas; and reclaimed for either agriculture or natural environment uses once the aggregate is removed.</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure and Servicing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a range of services and infrastructure such as water, sewage, roads, utility lines and waste management consistent with the needs and resources of the community.</li> </ul>
<b>Heritage Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase community awareness of the value of heritage resources, historic features and heritage conservation.</li> <li>• Promote the preservation and maintenance of historic buildings, structures and archaeological sites and prevent their defacement and/or demolition. The Municipality is encouraged to implement programs of heritage conservation through the use of the Ontario <i>Heritage Act</i>.</li> <li>• Ensure that present and future generations are able to appreciate and enjoy the Municipality's heritage resources.</li> <li>• Engage in and promote innovative and pro-active programs and approaches of heritage conservation throughout the Municipality.</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage communication, interaction and partnerships between all sectors - individuals, local community organizations, businesses and all levels of government, which will build the local economy and community identity at a municipal scale.</li> <li>• Support and encourage entrepreneurial activity. More jobs, training and educational opportunities will be supported to help keep job opportunities, job diversity and young people in Central Huron.</li> <li>• Strengthen, seek out and encourage development that will have a positive economic impact, and is in keeping with the character of the community.</li> <li>• Strike a balance between encouraging and supporting flexibility and innovative ideas, while maintaining a compatibility of land uses. The goal of the Municipality is to support and encourage entrepreneurial activity that promotes sustainable economic development.</li> <li>• Encourage and support all sectors of the economy. The agriculture, manufacturing, and tourism sectors hold great potential for growth and will be supported. The development of different sized enterprises in all sectors of the economy will be supported.</li> <li>• Revitalize, promote and beautify Central Huron's commercial areas.</li> <li>• Maintain and enhance physical infrastructure, such as municipal infrastructure and information, and communication technology (IT), and provide adequate community services and suitable housing that supports and encourages economic activities and initiatives.</li> <li>• Recognize, encourage and support the promotional initiative of the Business Improvement Area in the core area of Clinton.</li> </ul>

Source: Central Huron, 2014

## 2.2 Human Assets

### 2.2.1 Human Asset Indicators

The Human Assets within a community include the skills and knowledge inherent in a community, as well as the ability of a community to provide its residents with access to other skills, knowledge and essential services. These items are fundamental to maintaining community well-being, quality of life or a desired standard of living. In this analysis, the specific indicators examined include the following:

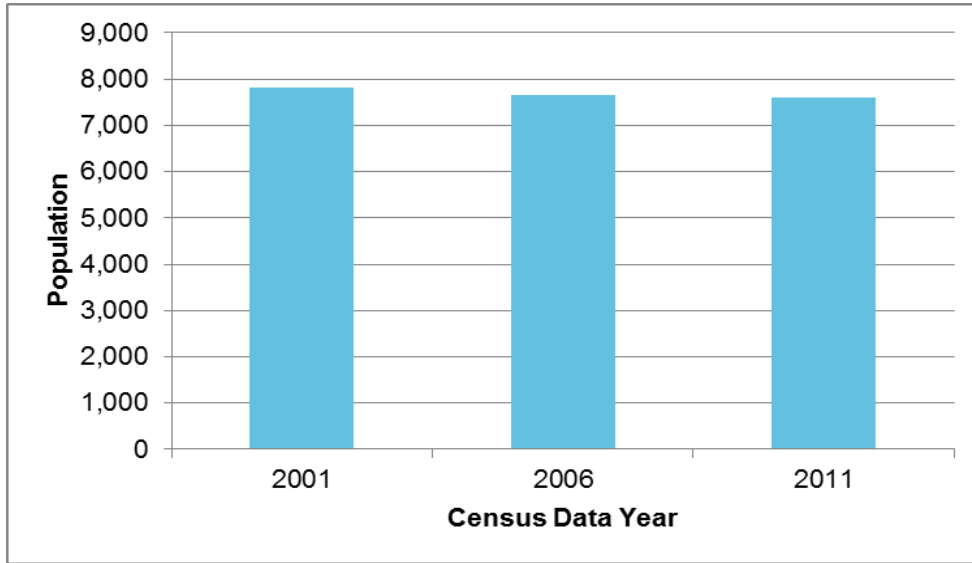
- Population Size and Demographics;
- Skills and Labour force;
- Education; and
- Health and Safety Facilities and Services.

These indicators are described in this section, within the context of the Human Well-Being of Central Huron.

**Population Size and Demographics**

Population is often a key indicator of the well-being of a community and is linked to a healthy economy. Many rural communities in Ontario are experiencing a decline in population as residents migrate to urban areas in search of employment opportunities. This trend is consistent with that observed in Central Huron today. Over the period of 2001 to 2011, Central Huron’s population decreased -2.8 % (Statistics Canada, 2002a; Statistics Canada, 2013a). Central Huron’s population for the census years 2001, 2006 and 2011 are presented and tabulated in Figure 6 and Table 2.

**Figure 6. Central Huron Population Trend (2001-2011)**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2002a; Statistics Canada, 2007a; Statistics Canada, 2013a

**Table 2. Central Huron Population Change from 2001 to 2011<sup>1</sup>**

Time Period	Population Change
2001-2006	-2.1%
2006-2011	-0.7%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2002a; Statistics Canada, 2007a; Statistics Canada, 2013a

Table 3 shows the total population by age cohort for the period 2001 to 2011. Table 4 shows the 2011 age cohorts as a percentage of the total population. In 2011, the largest segment of the population (31.8 %) was age 45 to 64 years (Statistics Canada, 2013a). According to the 2011 census data, the median age of the population was 47.5 years with a total male population of 3,760 and a female population of 3,830 (Statistics Canada, 2013a).

1. Note: All tables in this profile taken from Statistics Canada data may not total accordingly, due to rounding. Statistics Canada is committed to protect the privacy of all Canadians and the confidentiality of the data they provide to us. As part of this commitment, some population counts of geographic areas are adjusted in order to ensure confidentiality. Counts of the total population are rounded to a base of 5 for any dissemination block having a population of less than 15. Population counts for all standard geographic areas above the dissemination block level are derived by summing the adjusted dissemination block counts. The adjustment of dissemination block counts is controlled to ensure that the population counts for dissemination areas will always be within 5 of the actual values. The adjustment has no impact on the population counts of census divisions and large census subdivisions (Statistics Canada, 2015).

Between the 2001 and 2011 period, the largest population decline (18.2 %) was observed with the 25 to 44 year age cohort, while the largest increase (30.4 %) in population was the 85 years and over age cohort. This statistic is a barometer of an aging population. A focus of the strategic plan is creating circumstances that will reverse the aging trend.

**Table 3. Central Huron Population by Age Cohort (2001-2011)**

Age Cohort	2001	2006	2011	% Change 2001-2011
<b>Total Population</b>	7,805	7,640	7,590	-2.8%
<b>0 to 14 years</b>	1,430	1,275	1,185	-17.1%
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	1,060	1,025	910	-14.2%
<b>25 to 44 years</b>	1,785	1,620	1,460	-18.2%
<b>45 to 64 years</b>	2,180	2,345	2,415	10.8%
<b>65 to 84 years</b>	1,235	1,235	1,475	19.4%
<b>85 years and over</b>	115	135	150	30.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2002a; Statistics Canada, 2013a

**Table 4. Central Huron Population by Age Cohort as a Percentage of Total Population, 2011**

Age Cohort	Population	Percentage
<b>Total Population</b>	7,590	100.0%
<b>0 to 14 years</b>	1,185	15.6%
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	910	12.0%
<b>25 to 44 years</b>	1,460	19.2%
<b>45 to 64 years</b>	2,415	31.8%
<b>65 to 84 years</b>	1,475	19.4%
<b>85 years and over</b>	150	2.0%

Statistics Canada, 2002a; Statistics Canada, 2013a

Based on in-community discussions, the preceding statistics corroborate what we heard from community members about out-migration, an aging population, a weakening of community sustainability/vitality and an uncertainty about how to move forward.

### **Skills and Labour Force**

Central Huron has a skill and labour force profile indicative of a rural community with some skilled trades and retail occupations. Sales and services in 2011 account for approximately 18.6% of the occupations, followed by management occupations (18.2%) and occupations in trades, transport and equipment operations (17.2%) (Statistics Canada, 2013). The distribution of labour force by skill/occupation in Central Huron over the period of 2001 to 2011 is provided in Table 5.

**Table 5. Central Huron Labour Force by Skill/Occupation (2001-2011)**

Total Labour Force by Occupation – Skills Profile	2001	2006	2011	% Change 2001-2011
<b>Total Experienced Labour Force 15 years and over</b>	4,195	4,210	4,130	-1.6%
<b>Occupation – Not Applicable</b>	n/a	n/a	70	
<b>Management Occupations</b>	350	335	750	114.3%
<b>Business, Finance and Administration Occupations</b>	505	535	485	-4.0%
<b>Natural and Applied Sciences and Related Occupations</b>	85	100	105	23.5%
<b>Health Occupations</b>	280	245	240	-14.3%
<b>Occupations in Social Science, Education, Government Service and Religion</b>	215	275	375	74.4%
<b>Occupations in Art, Culture, Recreation and Sport</b>	70	65	40	-42.9%
<b>Sales and Service Occupations</b>	955	865	770	-19.4%
<b>Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators and Related Occupations</b>	740	805	710	-4.1%
<b>Occupations Unique to Primary Industry</b>	765	705	335	-56.2%
<b>Occupations Unique to Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities</b>	230	280	255	10.9%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2013a



The distribution of labour force by industry for the year 2011 is provided in Table 6. Central Huron has an economy based primarily on agriculture and the service industry. The three largest industry sectors by labour force activity were agriculture; forestry; fishing and hunting (21.6%), retail trade (10.2%), and health care and social assistance (9.7%) (Statistics Canada, 2013a).

Agriculture accounts for the largest market share of the labour force in the community. Interviews with a cross-section of community members indicated a strong focus on agriculture and agro-industry now and going forward. Community prosperity, culture and pride are strongly intertwined with the Municipality's agricultural fabric.

Interviews with community members have shown strong concern about the loss of local jobs and need for residents to out-commute to jobs elsewhere, such as Exeter, London, the GTA, and, in some cases, the Bruce Nuclear Site in the Municipality of Kincardine. This reinforces the vision to create new and diverse sustainable economic development opportunities within the community as a means to reverse this trend. There is recognition that economic development outside of agriculture may be needed to counter the current situation around migration.

**Table 6. Central Huron Labour Force by Industry (2011)**

<b>Total Labour Force by Industry</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Total labour force population aged 15 years and over by industry</b>	4,130	100.0%
<b>Occupation – not applicable</b>	70	2%
<b>Agriculture; Forestry; Fishing and Hunting</b>	875	21%
<b>Mining; Quarrying; and Oil and Gas Extraction</b>	65	2%
<b>Utilities</b>	40	1%
<b>Construction</b>	255	6%
<b>Manufacturing</b>	300	7%
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	150	4%
<b>Retail Trade</b>	415	10%
<b>Transportation and Warehousing</b>	145	4%
<b>Information and Cultural Industries</b>	30	1%
<b>Finance and Insurance</b>	95	2%
<b>Real Estate and Rental and Leasing</b>	40	1%
<b>Professional; Scientific and Technical Services</b>	155	4%
<b>Management of Companies and Enterprises</b>	0	0%
<b>Administrative and Support; Waste Management and Remediation Services</b>	135	3%
<b>Educational Services</b>	280	7%
<b>Health Care and Social Assistance</b>	395	10%
<b>Arts; Entertainment and Recreation</b>	95	2%
<b>Accommodation and Food Services</b>	200	5%
<b>Other Services (except public administration)</b>	275	7%
<b>Public Administration</b>	115	3%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2013a.

## **Education**

Education levels by highest educational attainment of people aged 25 to 64 in Central Huron from 2006 to 2011 are provided in Table 7. Over the period, the number of residents without a certificate diploma or degree declined. At the same time, there was a strong increase in the number of residents attaining college or other non-university certificates or diplomas. The number of residents obtaining university certificates or diplomas below a bachelor level stayed constant over the period while the levels of attainment for high school certificates, apprenticeships and full university degrees were lower in 2011 than in 2006. Overall, the statistics reflect a more educated population albeit, one that is aging, as people move out of high school and onto more senior levels of education. They also show that a college level education is the most popular venue for post-secondary education.

**Table 7. Central Huron Education Levels (2006-2011)**

Highest Educational Attainment	2006	2011	% Change 2006-2011
<b>Total Population Aged 25 to 64</b>	3,955	3,880	-2%
<b>No Certificate, Diploma or Degree</b>	745	600	-24%
<b>High School Certificate or Equivalent</b>	1220	1,075	-13%
<b>Apprenticeship or Trades Certificate or Diploma</b>	525	450	-17%
<b>College, CEGEP or Other Non-university Certificate or Diploma</b>	830	1,135	27%
<b>University Certificate or Diploma below the Bachelor Level</b>	75	75	0%
<b>University Certificate, Diploma or Degree</b>	565	540	-5%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2007a; Statistics Canada 2013a

There are numerous educational facilities available to the community (five of seven are located in Clinton), which offer varying levels of education programs, ranging from child care/nursery to high school. Facilities managed by the Avon Maitland District School Board and Huron Perth Catholic District School Board are identified in Table 8.

**Table 8. Educational Facilities in Central Huron**

	Avon Maitland District School Board	Huron Perth Catholic District School Board	Separate School
<b>Primary Schools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinton Public School</li> <li>• Homesville Public School</li> <li>• Hullett Central Public School</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Joseph's School</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Huron Christian School</li> </ul>
<b>Secondary Schools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Huron Secondary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Anne's Catholic Secondary School</li> </ul>	

Source: Avon Maitland District School Board, 2015; Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board, n.d. Huron Christian School, 2015.

The Huron Christian School (private) located in Clinton offers Christian education to students in junior kindergarten to grade 8. The Huron Christian School is run by school board members elected by the school society members. The Huron Christian School is affiliated with the London District Christian Secondary School and associated with the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools and Christian Schools International (Huron Christian School, Website).

### Post-Secondary Education

With respect to post-secondary education, Central Huron is a relatively short distance (1½ to 2 hour drive) from several universities and colleges including: Fanshawe College (London), Western University (London), University of Waterloo; Conestoga College (Kitchener), Wilfred Laurier University (Kitchener), and University of Guelph.

Fanshawe College offers a limited selection of courses at the REACH facility in Clinton. Most of the students and many of the teachers are from outside Central Huron and in-commute on a daily basis.

### Lake Huron Learning Collaborative

Lake Huron Learning (LHL) is a non-profit organization that provides graduating students and adults with post-secondary studies and skills training. LHL works with regional universities and colleges including Fanshawe College, Georgian College and Western University to bring post-secondary courses and training to the communities of Huron and Bruce Counties. LHL also offers non-credit interest courses built around local needs and using local expertise. There are two offices, located in Goderich and Kincardine, respectively (Lake Huron Learning, 2013).

### Child Care Centres

There is one day care centre located in Central Huron, the Clinton-Co-Operative Childcare Centre. Programming for school-aged children is available in Londesboro at the Hullett Central Public School (Huron County, 2015d; YMCAs across Southwestern Ontario, 2015).

**Health and Safety Facilities and Services**

Hospitals

Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) was founded in July 2003 by four hospital corporations: Clinton Public Hospital, St. Mary’s Memorial Hospital, Seaforth Community Hospital, and Stratford General Hospital. Clinton Public Hospital is located directly in Central Huron. Clinical Programs offered by HPHA include the following:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardiorespiratory</li> <li>• Chemotherapy Unit</li> <li>• Clinical Nutrition</li> <li>• Community Stroke Rehabilitation Team</li> <li>• Complex Continuing Care and Rehabilitation</li> <li>• Critical Care and Telemetry Units</li> <li>• Diabetes Education</li> <li>• Dialysis</li> <li>• Discharge Planning</li> <li>• Emergency Services</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Imaging</li> <li>• Inpatient Mental Health Services</li> <li>• Laboratory Services</li> <li>• Maternal Child Unit</li> <li>• Medicine/Palliative Care Unit</li> <li>• Outpatient Mental Health Services</li> <li>• Pastoral Services</li> <li>• Pharmacy Services</li> <li>• Quality and Patient Safety</li> <li>• Surgical Service</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

Source: Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance, 2008

Clinton Family Health Team (CFHT)

The CFHT is an interdisciplinary team of health-care providers. The Team provides primary health care to patients and families in Clinton, Bayfield, Blyth, and Goderich area with patients coming from as far as Walkerton, London and Stratford. The CFHT is comprised of the following numbers of clinical staff:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Family Physicians</li> <li>• 2 Nurse Practitioners</li> <li>• 6 Registered Nurses</li> <li>• 5 Registered Practical Nurses</li> <li>• 1 Social Worker</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Mental Health Worker</li> <li>• 1 Dietitian</li> <li>• 1 Psychologist</li> <li>• 1 Child Psychiatrist</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

Source: Clinton Family Health Team, n.d.

During in-community interviews, a number of people pointed out they often take multi-purpose trips to London that combine medical appointments with shopping. London is regionally known for its specialty medical services, and on the shopping front, it offers a broad selection of stores with merchandise arrayed across a wide spectrum of price points.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

Huron County is responsible for the provision of emergency medical care and ambulance services to all residents and visitors of Huron County. Huron County’s Emergency Medical Services (EMS) provide 24-hour ambulance and paramedic services from four bases and six posts strategically located throughout the county:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Bases:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exeter</li> <li>• Goderich</li> <li>• Tuckersmith</li> <li>• Wingham</li> </ul> | <p><b>Posts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh</li> <li>• Bayfield</li> <li>• Blyth</li> <li>• Brussels</li> <li>• Howick</li> <li>• St. Joseph</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

Huron County’s EMS has 12 vehicles that cover an area of 3,402 km<sup>2</sup>, providing emergency medical response to a population base of approximately 59,100 people. Huron County EMS staff is legislated to leave the base within 90 seconds for emergency calls and in 3 minutes for non-emergency calls. Huron County’s Emergency Medical Services responds to approximately 10,000 requests for ambulance service per year (Huron County, 2015c).

### Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)

The OPP handles policing services in Central Huron. The municipality is serviced by the Huron County Detachment headquartered in Goderich, with supplementary offices in Exeter and Wingham.

### Fire Departments

Central Huron has one fire department located in Clinton, the Central Huron Fire Station. The municipality is also served by other stations located in the nearby municipalities of Goderich, North Huron, Bluewater, and East Huron.

## **2.2.2 Summary of Human Assets**

### **Priorities and Key Issues**

The community of Central Huron, like many rural communities in Ontario, is experiencing population decline and aging. Out-migration of youth is pronounced. This is a key source of concern and an issue the community wants to address (Central Huron, n.d.).

### **Community Aspirations**

Central Huron desires sustainable growth and wants to find a means for attracting and retaining its youth.

Large farm operations are capital intensive and operate with relatively few employees. The growth in large farm operations has resulted in a decline in rural populations. As a result, creation of new rural-based agricultural opportunities is an important objective for the Municipality.

Community businesses in the settlement areas also hope to increase employment opportunities for local residents and thereby retain youth and strengthen and develop current and future workforces.

### **Capabilities and Capacities within the Community**

Agriculture is the heart of the economic base in Central Huron. Loss of jobs in local manufacturing and institutions (i.e., the closure of the Volvo plant in Goderich, the downsizing of Wescast operations in Wingham, and the closure of the Bluewater Detention Centre in Central Huron) has accelerated the outmigration of labour to opportunities elsewhere. This has, in turn, eroded resident labour skills and capacities in industry sectors outside agriculture.

## **2.3 Economic Assets**

### **2.3.1 Economic Asset Indicators**

Economic Assets within a community include the monetary and financial resources that people use to achieve their livelihood objectives. It includes cash or equivalents to individuals and/or the community, and the availability of financial and economic resources that allow residents to manage their finances and wealth. In this perspective, the specific indicators examined include the following:

- Business Activity
- Employment;
- Income;
- Recreation;
- Economic Development Services;
- Employment Services;
- Financial Services;
- Business Interest Organizations; and
- Governance and Municipal Finances.

These indicators are described in this section, within the context of the economic well-being of Central Huron.

### **Business Activity**

The economy of Central Huron is largely based on agriculture and related services, and there has been an increasing number of consolidated farms replacing more traditional small farm operations. The Bluewater Youth Centre (a youth correctional centre) was a major employer (200 staff) in the community that closed in May 2012. The municipality still feels the fall-out from this closure according to in-community interviews. Table 9 summarizes major area employers in Central Huron.

**Table 9. Major Employers in Central Huron**

Business Name	Product/Service	Employees (approximate)
Fleming Feed Mill	Feed	35 - 40
Hensall Co-operative (Londesboro Facility)	Feed and Grain Storage	24
OLG (Slots)	Entertainment	88
Clinton Raceway	Entertainment	15 Full Time / 55 Seasonal
School Boards	Education	Unknown
Government Administration	Municipal Administration	71
Sparling Propane	Energy	50
Clinton Roof Truss	Construction Material	Unknown
Miller Group	Mutli-faceted infrastructure Services Firm	Unknown

Source: Personal Communications

There are some 283 local businesses and services listed in Central Huron (Central Huron, 2011).

### **Agricultural Businesses**

Agriculture dominates the Central Huron economy. During the period of 2001 to 2011, the number of farms and operators in Central Huron decreased by 3.2% and 3.5% respectively (Table 10). Farms less than 400 acres (approximately 162 ha) decreased by 7.4%, while farms between 400 to 1,599 acres and farms larger than 1,600 acres increased by 26.8% and 100%, respectively. Farms with small capital decreased over the same period, while those with more than \$1,000,000 of capital increased. This trend suggests that larger farms are becoming the norm for Central Huron and the region (Statistics Canada, 2002b; Statistics Canada 2007b; Statistics Canada 2012b).

**Table 10. Number of Farms in Central Huron**

Agricultural Activity	2001	2006	2011	Percentage (%) Change 2001-2011
<b>Total Number of Farms</b>	411	395	398	-3.2%
<b>Total Number of Operators</b>	565	565	545	-3.5%
<b>Total Farm Area</b>	• < 400 acres	367	341	-7.4%
	• 400-1,599 acres	41	51	26.8%
	• 1,600+ acres	3	3	100.0%
<b>Total Farm Capital</b>	• < \$350,000	95	52	-67.4%
	• \$350,000-\$999,999	178	178	-23.6%
	• \$1,000,000+	138	165	67.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2002b; Statistics Canada, 2007b; Statistics Canada, 2012b

### **Employment**

Central Huron's labour force activity between the years 2001 and 2011 is provided in Table 11. During the period 2001 to 2011, the total population 15 years old and over increased very slightly by 0.3%. The participation rate and employment rate for Central Huron decreased over the same period by 2.8% and 2.7% respectively while the estimated unemployment rate across the decade remained virtually unchanged, with the exception of a small dip in 2006 (Statistics Canada, 2002a; Statistics Canada, 2007a; Statistics Canada 2013a).

**Table 11. Central Huron Labour Force Activity (2001-2011)**

Labour Force Activity	2001 (Census)	2006 (Census)	2011 (NHS)	Percentage (%) Change 2001-2011
<b>Total Population 15 years and over</b>	6,375	6,335	6,395	0.3%
<b>Participation Rate</b>	67.4%	66.9%	64.6%	-2.8%
<b>Employment Rate</b>	63.9%	64.4%	61.2%	-2.7%
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	5.2%	3.7%	5.2%	0.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2002a; Statistics Canada, 2007a; Statistics Canada, 2013a

These statistics are consistent with the declining population base, the aging population base, and the out-migration of labour. This means overall unemployment remains unchanged. This situation challenges the ability to ensure economic prosperity in the long-term.

### Income

Table 12 shows estimated Central Huron income statistics based on Financial Post data. The estimated per capita income of Central Huron in 2012 was 6% less than the national average and 21.8% of households generated income over \$100,000 (Financial Post, 2011).

**Table 12. Central Huron Income Statistics (2012)**

Income Statistics	2012 (Estimated)
<b>% Above/Below National Average (per Capita)</b>	- 6%
<b>2012 Average Household Income</b>	\$80,740
<b>2012 per Capita Income</b>	\$32,358
<b>% 2012 Households with Income of \$100,000+</b>	21.8%

Source: Financial Post, 2011

Based on in-community interviews, a large number of the 2012 household incomes greater than \$100,000 are associated with large commercial farm operations, which are capital intensive and often cover large acreages.

### Recreation

Recreation is a component of the local economy of Central Huron. Table 13 summarizes recreational activities within Central Huron. Recreational activities in the Municipality are largely oriented around natural assets. In addition to the activities listed below, Central Huron also offers cycling, fishing and paddling opportunities.

**Table 13. Recreational Activities Within Central Huron**

Category	Name	Description
<b>Art</b>	Laithwaite Apple Park	This farm features unique and diverse sculptures on three acres of lawn fashioned from cement, metal, fieldstone and found materials by George Laithwaite (1873-1956). Several sculptures were created as satirical or political commentary on world events, while others were based on comic strip characters.
<b>Art</b>	Holmesville Church Galleries	A renovated 125-year-old former Holmesville United Church converted into a unique gallery, featuring artwork, collectibles, furniture, and antiques.
<b>Beach</b>	Black's Point Road Beach	This public beach area is located just south of the Town of Goderich on the shore of Lake Huron. It is well known for its sandy beaches. Several cottage rentals serve this area.
<b>Indoor Recreation</b>	Central Huron Community Centre	Facility includes ice hockey arena, a walking track, and a section that is operated by the YMCA/YWCA including a fitness centre
<b>Museums</b>	School on Wheels Railcar Museum	CNR School on Wheels Railcar Museum rests on its specially-built rail bed in south Clinton's Sloman Park. Over 100 years old, the railcar was used to educate children living in remote areas of Northern Ontario. Knowledgeable curators take visitors on informative tours from the May long weekend to the end of September. Historical video footage, children's activities, and picnics are part of this rare restoration.
<b>Other</b>	Ball's Bridge	Built in 1885, Ball's Bridge has been part of the Maitland River landscape for over 125 years. As a two span structure, Ball's Bridge is exceptionally rare, and stands out as a significant example among Ontario's remaining pin connected truss bridges.

Category	Name	Description
<b>Outdoor Recreation</b>	Woodlands Arboretum & Nature Centre	Woodlands Arboretum & Nature Centre consists of an arboretum, a nut grove and many nature trails.
<b>Outdoor Recreation</b>	Hullett Provincial Wildlife Management Area	Hullett Provincial Wildlife Management Area is a 2,200 hectare site along the South Maitland River. The forests, fields and wetlands present at Hullett Marsh provide habitat for a wide diversity of wildlife species. The Friends of Hullett, partnered with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ducks Unlimited, manage Hullett as a multi-use facility for hikers, canoeists, hunters, horseback riders and birders.
<b>Outdoor Recreation</b>	Home on the Range - Frontier Town	Horseback riding and sleigh rides
<b>Outdoor Recreation</b>	Central Huron Public Pool	Outdoor swimming pool for local residents
<b>Outdoor Sports</b>	Woodlands Links	Golf Course
<b>Outdoor Sports</b>	Bluewater Golf Course and Campground	Golf Course
<b>Racetrack</b>	Clinton Racetrack	Live harness racing from May through September. The raceway also features swimming pool, skateboard park, gaming facility, and live entertainment.

Source: County of Huron and Huron Tourism Association, 2014; Bluewater Golf Course and Campground, 2013

Through in-community interviews, a number of people described potential for expanding the economic opportunities through the growth of recreation and tourism and associated infrastructure and services. For example, the racetrack is a regional tourist attraction, but limited accommodation in Clinton means that visitors and horse owners cannot always stay in the community. The same is true in the case of the Hullett Provincial Wildlife Management Area. The latter attracts international dog trials with many participants from around North America; yet there are little or no ancillary accommodations on-site or nearby to enable overnight stays. Infrastructure needed to enable growth and development in the tourism and recreation sector is recognized as a matter that needs to be addressed.

### **Economic Development Services**

There are some regional economic development support services available to the community to leverage. Central Huron and Bluewater have just recently collaborated to hire an economic development officer who will provide services to both municipalities.

A new strategy (REACHing into the Future) has just been formulated for the REACH facility by Strategic Equine Inc. to enable new economic opportunities and employment.

Some of the regional economic development support services include the following:

- **Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDCs)**

The Municipality of Central Huron is served by the Huron Business Development Corporation (HBDC), which is supported under the Federal Government’s Community Futures Program. CFDCs are community-based, not-for-profit organizations staffed by professionals and governed by local volunteer boards of directors familiar with their community’s needs, concerns and future development priorities. CFDCs offer a wide variety of programs and services supporting community economic development and small business growth (Ontario Association of Community Futures Development Corporations Inc., 2014).

- **Small Business Enterprise Centres (SBECs)**

SBECs are offered by the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Employment. The HSBECC provides free business information to those contemplating or already operating a small business. This small business support initiative aims to improve the success rate of new business ventures through support services such as personal consultations, a Better Business Workshop Series and a resource library (County of Huron, 2013). The SBEC nearest to Central Huron is located in Seaforth (Queens Printer for Ontario, 2014).

- ***Clinton and Central Huron Business Improvement Association (BIA)***

The Clinton and Central Huron BIA (CCHBIA) is a non-profit business improvement association that services the businesses within the Municipality of Central Huron. The CCHBIA offers support to the local business community through networking, events, social media and communication. Its mission is to build and maintain a prosperous community through partnerships and community initiatives (Clinton and Central Huron BIA, 2014).

The Central Huron BIA is looking into a downtown improvement strategy for all settlement areas in the community. At the present time, each of the community settlement areas has witnessed business closures with few replacements. Many small, local businesses have found it challenging to compete with large retail outlets found in bigger, nearby communities.

- ***County of Huron Economic Development Board***

The mandate of County of Huron Economic Development Services (EDS) is to strengthen, build, support, promote and diversify the Huron County economy to retain and attract business investment, employment opportunities and assessment. EDS core services are as follows (Huron County, 2013a):

1. Marketing and Communication;
2. Investment Attraction and Economic Diversification;
3. Business Retention and Expansion (BR+E);
4. Research and Analysis; and
5. Small Business Development.

- ***Huron Chamber of Commerce***

Huron Chamber of Commerce—Goderich, Central and North Huron is the voice of business dedicated to the promotion of economic development and prosperity for the enrichment of the community. The Chamber is a member-driven organization representing small and large businesses with training, leadership, advocacy and continual economic revitalization of the area (Huron Chamber of Commerce, n.d.).

- ***Huron Manufacturing Association***

The Huron Manufacturing Association is an inclusive partnership of industry and related businesses that drives economic growth and promotes manufacturing excellence in Huron County. Volunteers from the Huron manufacturing community form the Board of Directors of the HMA, which meets monthly to plan activities such as business-to-business networking events and manufacturing bus tours for students. Working in conjunction with the Manufacturing Co-ordinator, the Board directs strategic initiatives (Huron Manufacturing Association, n.d.).

Currently there is limited manufacturing in Central Huron. Based on in-community interviews, it is understood the once-vibrant small manufacturing component in the local the economy has now been severely eroded.

- ***Huron Tourism Association***

The mandate of the Huron Tourism Association is to develop and target cost-effective and result-oriented tourism strategies designed to market the Huron County tourism industry. The Huron Tourism Association is a membership-based organization dedicated to further developing the Huron County tourism industry to foster new businesses and employment opportunities, economic and community development, as well as a stronger business environment within the County (County of Huron and Huron Tourism Association and Huron Tourism, 2010).



**Employment Services**

- **Centre for Employment & Learning**

The Centre for Employment & Learning (CEL) is a County-led program that provides learning opportunities with a focus on employment. The mission of the CEL is to invite adult learners to maximize their potential in a learning environment that is supportive, informal and positive. The CEL’s learning and employment programs and services are accessed by adult learners in pursuit of goal achievement. Most of the learning is self-paced, individualized and self-directed with the support of CEL staff (The Centre for Employment & Learning, 2014).

**Governance and Municipal Finances**

The Municipality of Central Huron is governed by an elected Council, consisting of a Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and six Councillors. Municipal elected officials serve a four year term. Council administers the business affairs of the Municipality through the Chief Administrative Officer and management staff (Central Huron, 2014a). Central Huron provides a good complement of community services including: administration; water and waste water treatment; public works; planning; and recreational services (Central Huron, 2014a).

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected “at large”, meaning all residents of Central Huron vote for these positions. Regarding Council members, 2 are elected in each of the former municipalities (i.e., Hullett Township, Goderich Township, and Town of Clinton). Each of these former municipalities is a ward in Central Huron.

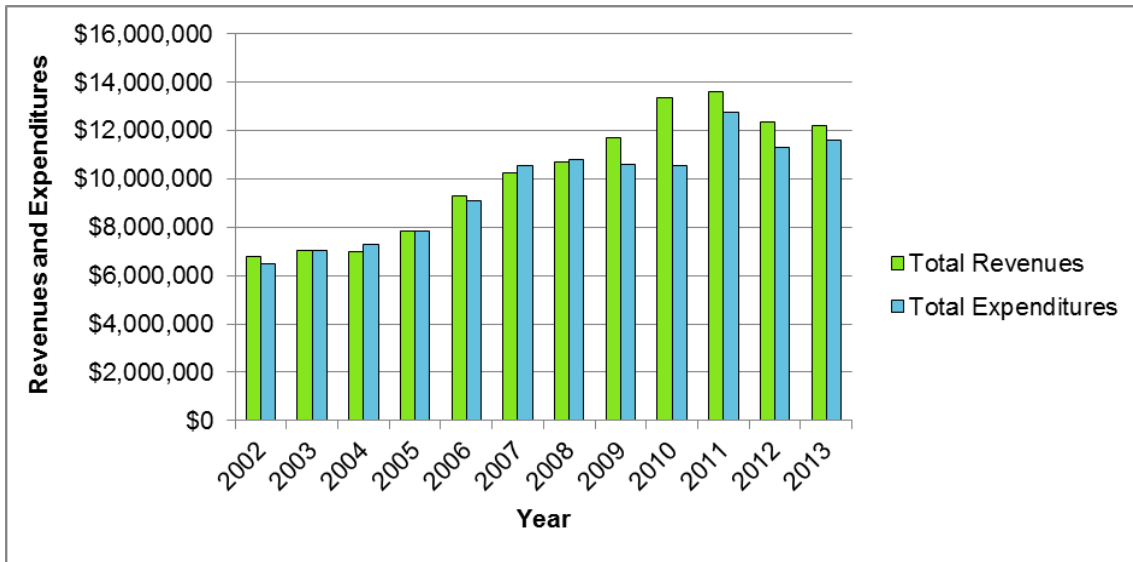
Revenues and expenditures statistics derived from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) Financial Information Return (FIR) documents for Central Huron over the period of 2002 to 2013 are shown in Table 14 and Figure 7.

**Table 14. Revenues and Expenditures of Central Huron (2002-2013)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>Total Expenditures</b>
<b>2002</b>	\$6,783,973	\$6,482,028
<b>2003</b>	\$7,019,086	\$7,021,334
<b>2004</b>	\$7,013,019	\$7,297,028
<b>2005</b>	\$7,825,207	\$7,826,511
<b>2006</b>	\$9,300,402	\$9,098,337
<b>2007</b>	\$10,271,886	\$10,559,629
<b>2008</b>	\$10,680,664	\$10,827,372
<b>2009</b>	\$11,728,914	\$10,585,295
<b>2010</b>	\$13,366,550	\$10,534,368
<b>2011</b>	\$13,615,999	\$12,759,057
<b>2012</b>	\$12,360,971	\$11,295,239
<b>2013</b>	\$12,206,743	\$11,622,413

Source: MMAH, 2002-2013 FIR by Municipality

**Figure 7. Revenues and Expenditures of Central Huron (2002-2013)**



Source: MMAH, 2002-2013 FIR by Municipality

During the period 2002 to 2013, revenue has grown 80% and expenditures have increased by 79%. In 2002, revenues for the Municipality were \$6.8 million and expenditures were \$6.5 million. By 2013, revenues and expenditures for the Municipality were \$12.2 and \$11.6 million, respectively (MMAH, 2002-2013 FIR by Municipality). Part of increases in total revenues for years 2009 to 2013 can be accounted for as a result of changes in accounting and reporting standards introduced by the Public Sector Accounting Board and reflected in the Municipality’s financial information return (FIR). Effective 2009, all Ontario municipalities were required to report tangible capital assets in their statement of financial position. Prior to 2009, tangible capital assets were not reported.

Central Huron’s revenue was notably less for reporting years 2012 and 2013 compared with 2011 and 2010 as a consequence of a significant reduction in Canada and Ontario grants for tangible capital assets (MMAH, 2002-2013 FIR by Municipality).

The property tax base of Central Huron has risen from \$7.2 million in 2002 to \$11.9 million in 2013 (MMAH, 2002-2013 FIR by Municipality). Table 15 and Figure 8 show property tax revenues for the Municipality. Figure 8 indicates the increase in the residential property tax base has been relatively steady and consistent.

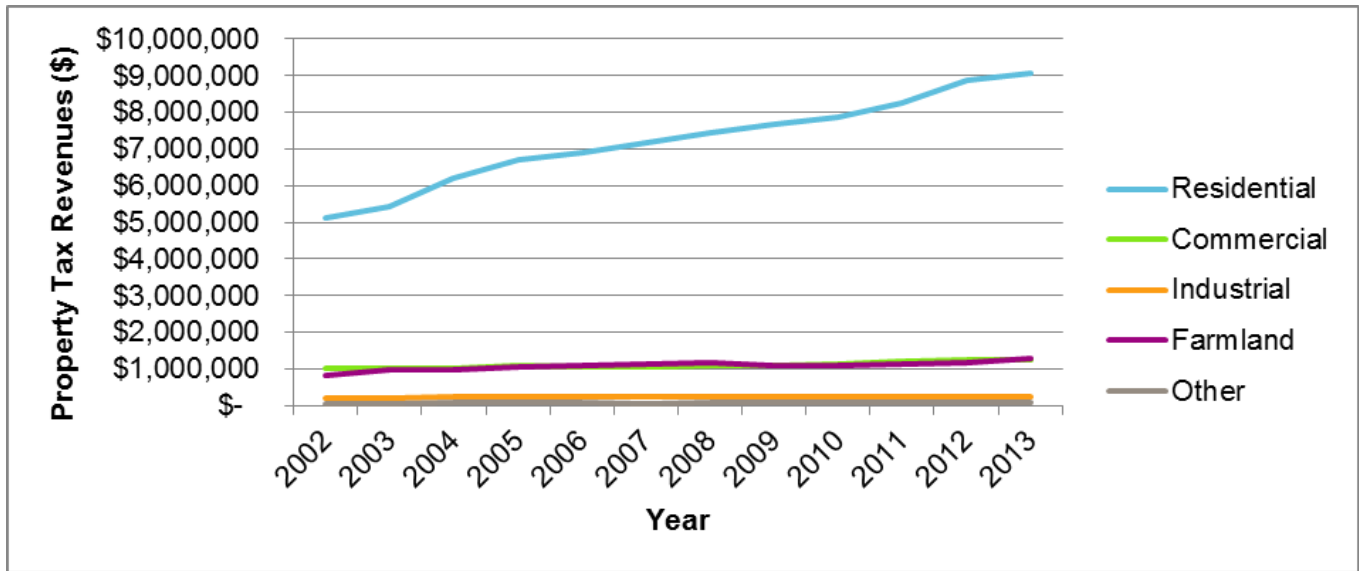
These figures indicate that Central Huron’s municipal, county and education taxation is comprised primarily of residential taxes (76%) followed by farmland (11%) and commercial (10%) tax base.

**Table 15. Central Huron Property Tax Revenues (2002-2013)**

Year	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Farmland	Other	Total
2002	\$5,122,854	\$1,026,893	\$190,679	\$813,268	\$67,820	\$7,221,514
2003	\$5,425,693	\$1,015,684	\$195,232	\$992,675	\$68,793	\$7,698,077
2004	\$6,219,329	\$1,022,679	\$226,882	\$979,823	\$73,316	\$8,522,029
2005	\$6,722,910	\$1,080,914	\$238,414	\$1,070,668	\$78,868	\$9,191,774
2006	\$6,911,434	\$1,040,094	\$244,543	\$1,109,001	\$74,689	\$9,379,761
2007	\$7,183,715	\$1,053,355	\$245,151	\$1,123,235	\$52,578	\$9,658,034
2008	\$7,436,201	\$1,104,001	\$255,066	\$1,173,259	\$79,163	\$10,047,690
2009	\$7,683,722	\$1,093,351	\$251,467	\$1,104,669	\$78,080	\$10,211,289
2010	\$7,850,949	\$1,152,384	\$248,446	\$1,108,908	\$90,312	\$10,450,999
2011	\$8,256,575	\$1,197,749	\$249,818	\$1,117,774	\$93,667	\$10,915,583
2012	\$8,867,567	\$1,254,643	\$250,475	\$1,157,816	\$97,512	\$11,628,013
2013	\$9,075,175	\$1,236,754	\$229,013	\$1,307,914	\$99,030	\$11,947,886

\*Note property taxation includes taxes collected for Municipality of Central Huron, Huron County and education  
Source: MMAH, 2002-2013 FIR by Municipality

**Figure 8. Central Huron Property Tax Revenues (2002-2013)**



*\*Note property taxation includes taxes collected for the Municipality of Central Huron, Huron County and education  
Source: MMAH, 2002-2013 FIR by Municipality*

Based on the 2013 FIR, net long term liabilities for the Municipality totalled approximately \$5.4 million. This sum is well within the carrying capacity of the Municipality’s annual debt repayment threshold calculated at approximately \$1.7 million (MMAH, 2013 FIR by Municipality).

Currently, the OLG Slots funding formula contributes about \$600,000 annually to the Municipality. This is acknowledged by the Municipality to be a vital component of their ongoing revenue base.

In 2013, the residential portion of the municipal tax base was about 76% of the total. This means private properties shoulder the majority of infrastructure and other service costs. The geographic distribution of taxes is 52% Goderich Township, 26% Town of Clinton, and 21% the Township of Hullett. Within Goderich Township, the majority of taxes are derived from shoreline properties.

**2.3.2 Summary of Economic Assets**

**Priorities and Key Issues**

Central Huron is a financially stable community. Municipal tax revenues are derived from a mix of property types including permanent and seasonal residents, agricultural holdings and associated businesses, as well as commercial retail businesses. The OLG facility in Clinton is a strong source of annual non-tax revenue. The community has lost key economic contributors in manufacturing, retail and services. Thus, the need to diversify the economy to enable it to grow and prosper is widely recognized. The community also recognizes the need for new businesses to attract and retain youth, to revitalize urban centres, pay capital debt associated with community facilities (i.e., REACH and the local arena), and to fund infrastructure development particularly in the shoreline area.

The racetrack has long been a presence in the community. The OLG Slots facility is a more recent addition. Since the government ended the slots at race track funding program in 2012 there has been considerable concern about the viability of horse racing in Ontario. The funding cutback precipitated closures and downsizing in the horse racing industry around breeding, rearing and training. The track located in Clinton, like many other tracks across the province, has been forced to trim its operations and this has further reduced economic activity in the area.

The transition of small farms to large consolidated farming operations has caused further attrition in jobs. It has also diminished the rural tax base through a reduction of rural residences.

Central Huron is seeking ways and means to grow tourism and recreation and retain visitor spending. Growth in this sector and associated expenditure retention will help established businesses and also attract new businesses to the Municipality.

### **Community Aspirations**

Through discussions with community leaders and residents, Central Huron wants to increase its prosperity by the following means:

- By retaining, growing and attracting new businesses;
- By finding and growing downstream agri-businesses;
- By developing and growing tourism and recreational opportunities;
- By maintaining existing infrastructure and building new infrastructure (particularly in water and sewer in the shoreline area); and
- By partnering, where appropriate, with neighbouring municipalities to enable infrastructure development.

It is understood the community is interested in economic growth that involves actively attracting businesses, improving the local business climate, and encouraging the expansion of existing businesses. Business diversification is also considered an important part of supplying the community with a higher variety of employment opportunities

The Municipality also aspires to revitalize its community business areas, retain expenditures from locals and visitors, and provide employment opportunities for local residents.

### **Capabilities and Capacity within the Community**

The community is beginning to chart a path forward to address its economic issues. The community is stable but not growing. It benefits from having an exceptionally strong agricultural sector and an attractive setting that draws seasonal residents and visitors to the area. However, its aging and declining population, both exacerbated by the out-migration of youth in search of career opportunities, pose a challenge to ensuring a sustainable community over the long term.

## **2.4 Infrastructure**

### **2.4.1 Physical Asset Indicators**

The Physical Assets within a community include the basic infrastructure needed to support livelihoods and the facilities and equipment that people use to function more productively. Infrastructure is a public good and improved access to it increases community well-being, human health and quality of life. In this analysis, the specific indicators examined include the following:

- Land Use;
- Housing;
- Municipal Infrastructure and Services; and
- Transportation Infrastructure.

These indicators are described in this section, within the context of the Physical well-being of Central Huron.

## Land Use

Central Huron covers a land area of approximately 450 km<sup>2</sup> (Statistics Canada, 2013c) and consists of prime agricultural areas interspersed with rural and recreational settlements including Clinton and a number of natural areas. (Central Huron, 2014). Communities within Central Huron include Clinton and the hamlets/villages of: Auburn, Blue Water Beach, Harlock, Holmesville, Kinburn, Londesboro, Porter's Hill and Summerhill.

## Housing

2011 Census data for Central Huron report the total number of private dwellings occupied by permanent residents was 3,210 and 71.5% of dwellings were constructed before 1986 (Statistics Canada, 2012d).

Table 16 provides census data regarding dwellings by type for 2006 and 2011. Census data indicates the number of occupied private dwellings increased 8.4% from 2006 to 2011 (Statistics Canada, 2007a; Statistics Canada, 2012a). Housing is predominately low density, with some multi-residential units and no high rise apartment-style dwellings. From 2006 to 2011 row houses as a per cent of total occupied private dwellings increased by 0.6%. Over the same period "single detached houses", "apartment duplexes," and "apartments with fewer than five storeys" declined as a per cent of total occupied private dwellings, while "other dwellings" increased 6.7% (Statistics Canada, 2007a; Statistics Canada, 2012a).

**Table 16. Central Huron Dwellings by Type (2006 and 2011)**

Illustrative Indicators	2006	2011	% Difference 2006-2011
<b>Total Private Dwellings Occupied by Usual Residents</b>	2,960	3,210	8.4%
<b>Single-detached Houses – as a % of total occupied private dwellings</b>	88.3%	81.8%	-6.5%
<b>Semi-detached Houses – as a % of total occupied private dwellings</b>	1.5%	1.7%	0.2%
<b>Row Houses – as a % of total occupied private dwellings</b>	0%	0.6%	0.6%
<b>Apartments, Duplex – as a % of total occupied private dwellings</b>	1%	0.2%	-0.8%
<b>Apartments in Buildings with Fewer than Five Storeys – as a % of total occupied private dwellings</b>	8.6%	8.4%	-0.2%
<b>Apartments in Buildings with Five or More Storeys – as a % of total occupied private dwellings</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Other Dwellings – as a % of total occupied private dwellings</b>	0.5%	7.2%	6.7%

Source: Statistics Canada 2002a, Statistics Canada 2013a

The proportion of dwellings owned versus rented increased from 79% to 83% over the period 2001 to 2006 and then plateaued at 83% for the period 2006 to 2011. (Table 17).

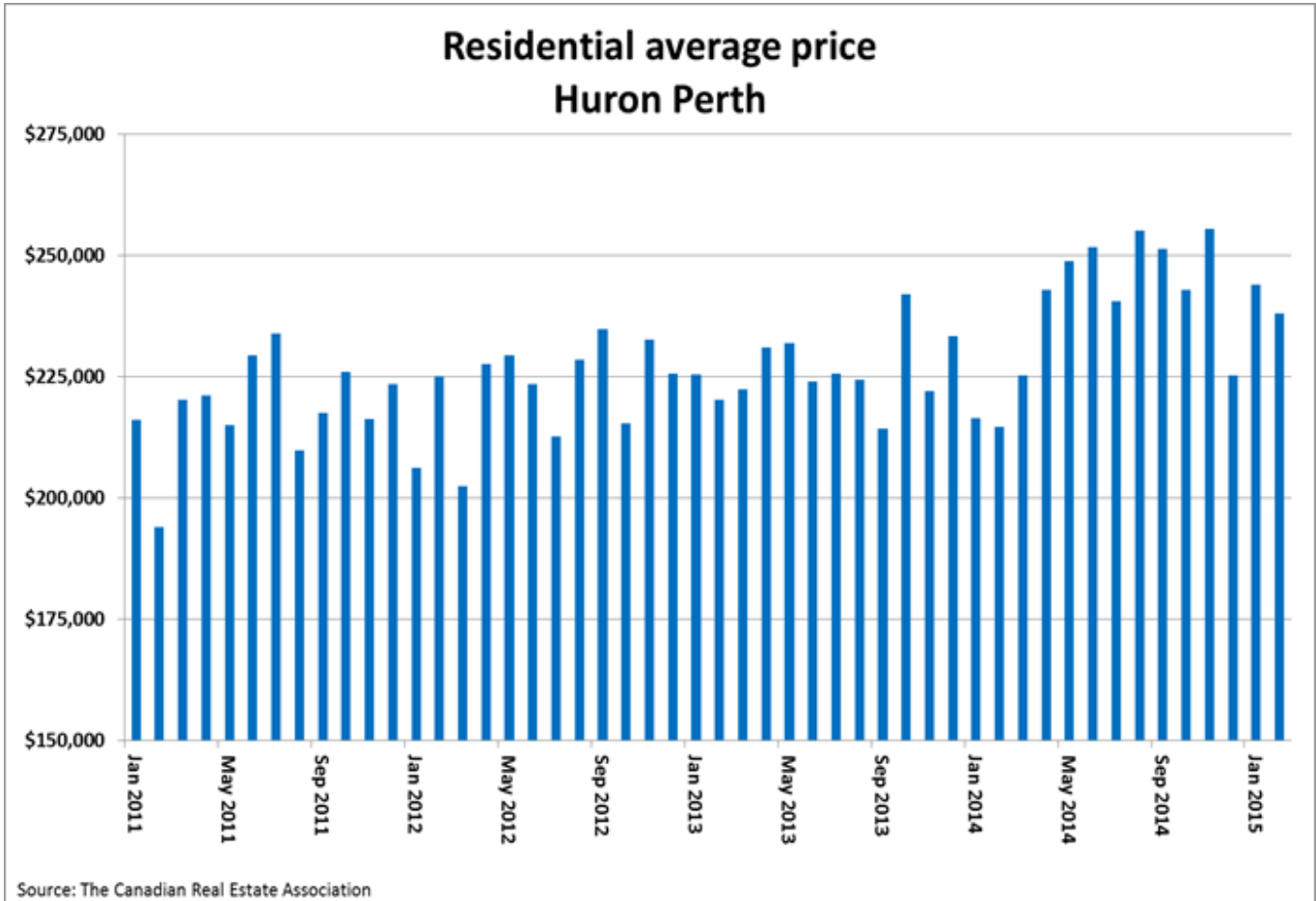
**Table 17. Central Huron Dwellings by Tenure (2001-2011)**

Number of Dwellings by Tenure	2001		2006		2011	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>Number of Owned Dwellings</b>	2,305	78.8%	2,460	83.0%	2,660	82.9%
<b>Number of Rented Dwellings</b>	620	21.2%	505	17.0%	550	17.1%
<b>Total</b>	2,925	100%	2,965	100%	3,210	100%

Source: Statistics Canada 2002a, Statistics Canada 2013a

Average housing prices in the Huron-Perth Real Estate region since 2011 are shown in Figure 9 below. Year on year, house prices have fluctuated but there has been a slight upward trend.

**Figure 9. Average House Prices in Huron-Perth Since 2011 to 2015**



Source: Canadian Real Estate Association, 2014

Central Huron has three Plans of Subdivision. The largest of these lies adjacent to the Town of Goderich. For this plan to move forward servicing is required and Central Huron is exploring an agreement with Goderich to provide for water and sewage treatment services. Furthermore, realizing new development along the shoreline will require provision of water and sewage services. Central Huron is again looking to forge further partnership agreements with Goderich and Bayfield to potentially use their pumping stations and treatment facilities. Without these agreements, future residential development in the shoreline area will remain constrained.

**Property Assessment**

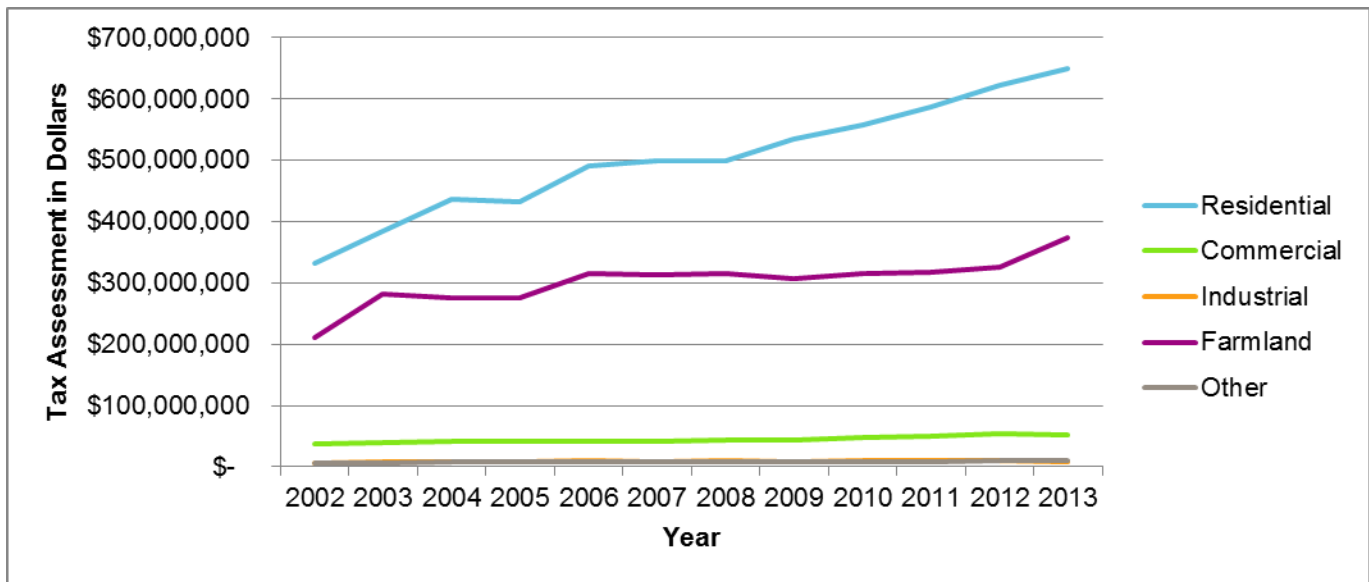
Table 18 and Figure 11 provide property assessment values from 2002 to 2013. Over the period 2002 to 2013, property assessment in Central Huron rose 84% from \$593.9 million to \$1.095 billion (MMAH, 2002 & 2013 FIR by Municipality). Based on 2013 FIR data, the municipal assessment base is dominated by residential uses (59%) followed by farmland (34%). Commercial, industry and other uses represent 7% of the total property assessment (MMAH, 2013 FIR by Municipality).

**Table 18. Central Huron Property Value Assessment (2002-2013)**

Year	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Farmland	Other	Total
2002	\$331,959,747	\$38,147,251	\$6,587,657	\$210,987,914	\$6,243,100	\$593,925,669
2003	\$383,805,610	\$39,987,170	\$7,364,080	\$281,096,910	\$6,878,910	\$719,132,680
2004	\$436,314,926	\$40,852,025	\$8,283,575	\$275,142,480	\$7,188,169	\$767,781,175
2005	\$433,355,981	\$40,922,580	\$8,289,695	\$276,253,555	\$7,287,379	\$766,109,190
2006	\$491,388,130	\$42,069,050	\$9,198,325	\$315,618,950	\$7,343,915	\$865,618,370
2007	\$499,178,605	\$42,369,660	\$9,096,535	\$312,429,060	\$7,361,135	\$870,434,995
2008	\$499,584,835	\$43,123,765	\$9,277,635	\$315,520,960	\$7,551,635	\$875,058,830
2009	\$533,755,514	\$44,106,789	\$9,067,815	\$307,155,373	\$7,579,740	\$901,665,231
2010	\$556,707,353	\$47,840,949	\$9,258,700	\$314,742,060	\$8,680,421	\$937,229,483
2011	\$586,178,955	\$50,524,376	\$9,652,981	\$317,641,450	\$9,085,607	\$973,083,369
2012	\$623,299,195	\$53,321,925	\$9,841,600	\$325,768,280	\$9,431,000	\$1,021,662,000
2013	\$648,901,151	\$52,548,305	\$9,079,826	\$374,367,694	\$9,924,875	\$1,094,821,851

Source: MMAH, 2002-2013 FIR by Municipality

**Figure 10. Central Huron Assessment (2002-2013)**



Source: MMAH, 2002-2013 FIR by Municipality

**Building Permits**

Table 19 summarizes building permit data in Central Huron according to 2013 FIR data. In 2013, there were 141 building permits for the Municipality with an aggregate value of approximately \$15.0 million. Residential properties accounted for 39.7% of this total value, multi-residential properties 0%, and all other property classes represented 60.3% (MMAH, 2013 FIR by Municipality).

**Table 19. Central Huron Building Permits (2013)**

Permit Type	Number of Building Permits	Value of Building Permits	Percentage of Total Value
<b>Residential Properties</b>	58	\$ 5,952,320	39.7%
<b>Multi-Residential Properties</b>	0	\$ -	0.0%
<b>All Other Property Classes</b>	83	\$ 9,030,897	60.3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	141	\$ 14,983,217	100.0%

Source: MMAH, 2013 FIR by Municipality

**Municipal Infrastructure and Services**

Water Treatment and Wastewater Treatment Infrastructure:

The Municipality of Central Huron is the owner of six Municipal Well Supply Systems. The Drinking Water Quality Management Standard for all six of the Municipal Wells is documented in the Central Huron Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (Central Huron, 2011b). This Quality Management Standard will be reviewed and updated every few years to ensure all regulatory requirements are met, and consumers can be confident that their drinking water is safe and meets all requirements.

Clinton has a full complement of services including water, wastewater and piped services. Some of the older infrastructure is in the process of being replaced.

Electricity and Gas:

The Municipality of Central Huron is largely served by Hydro One for local electricity transmission and distribution services. Erie Thames Powerlines is the local power distributor for Clinton.

Union Gas provides natural gas to Clinton and other parts of the Municipality.

Garbage & Industrial Waste Removal

The Bluewater Recycling Association conducts recycling and waste collection services on behalf of Central Huron using an automated curbside collection system (Bluewater Recycling Association, n.d.). The automated collection program consists of a special collection vehicle equipped with a mechanical arm that collects waste and recyclable materials set out by customers in a specially designed bin. Collection service varies by settlement area though both curbside waste and recycling collection are provided. Users pay an annual fee billed through the tax bill based on the size of container used. The annual container fee options are \$80, \$160 or \$240 per year. The respective bin sizes available are 120 Litres (L), 240 L and 360 L. There is no scheduled curbside collection service for source separate organic materials and leaf and yard waste collection in Central Huron.

Landfill services are provided by Mid-Huron Landfill Site located in Holmesville. This facility is now very close to full capacity. Thus, the Municipality is confronted with the priority need to find replacement capacity within its own borders or to transfer waste to a disposal facility beyond its borders. Developing a transfer station appears to be the preferred option.

The County of Huron operates a Household Hazardous Waste depot at the Mid-Huron Landfill Site located in Holmesville.



## **Transportation Infrastructure**

Central Huron has transportation infrastructure to meet the needs of some businesses. However, it lacks proximity to a 400 series highway. This constrains convenient/efficient transport of goods to manufacturers and markets. Area highways, particularly Highway 8 and 21, can be shut down on many occasions during winter months.

The Goderich Harbour is a key deep-water port on the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Seaway. Local wharfage is 1,400 m (4,600 feet) and harbour depth is 8 m (26 feet) - Seaway depth. It is the only industrial seaway depth harbour on the east shore of Lake Huron and it is open approximately 9 months of the year depending on winter ice conditions. There are plans to expand the harbour and construction will be initiated in the near term. The expansion will enable larger shipments of salt and grains from the region.

Air transport is enabled by a facility in Goderich. Air transport for larger air shipments and personal travel is available in London.

Freight service in Central Huron is served by the Goderich-Exeter Railway Company Ltd. (GEXR), which is Canada's first short line railway. The GEXR is headquartered in Goderich and runs through Central Huron.

### **2.4.2 Summary of Physical Assets**

#### **Priorities and Key Issues**

Central Huron has the necessary infrastructure to meet its current inland needs. However, along the shoreline area there is an immediate need for water and sewage services to enable growth and development, and in the case of sewage, to help address water quality issues along the shoreline. To address agricultural run-off issues and bank erosion along the shoreline, there is also a need for earthworks along Highway 21 through the Municipality.

The municipal landfill is near capacity and will soon need to be properly closed. In light of these circumstances a new waste disposal site will need to be developed within the Municipality or a transfer facility built to move waste materials outside the Municipality to another disposal site. As indicated earlier the preferred option appears to be development of a transfer facility.

#### **Community Aspirations**

In order to provide water and sewage services to the shoreline residential areas of the community, servicing agreements and partnerships will need to be formed with the neighbouring Municipalities of Goderich and Bluewater. There is also a need for landscaping (i.e., berming) along Highway 21 to control runoff and erosion along the shoreline. Further public and private infrastructure development may be required inland to enable visitor stays at area attractions such as the Hullett Wildlife Centre, as well as for events and functions in Clinton. Finally, maintaining and replacing existing infrastructure throughout the Municipality is an ongoing priority.

#### **Capabilities and Capacities within the Community**

The Municipality is not independently able to supply the needed infrastructure along the shoreline. It recognizes that servicing arrangements may be required with neighbouring municipalities to achieve implementation.

## 2.5 Social Assets

### 2.5.1 Social Asset Indicators

The Social Assets within a community include the social and community activities in which people participate and the resources they draw upon to pursue their livelihood objectives. These activities and resources create networks within and between communities, enhance cohesion, and generate trusting relationships and community pride. In this perspective, the specific indicators examined include the following:

- Diversity of Population Composition;
- Cultural Heritage Resources;
- Community Facilities and Programs; and
- Social Services and Organizations.

These indicators are described in this section, within the context of the social well-being of Central Huron.

#### Diversity of Population Composition

Table 20 provides Central Huron aboriginal identity, non-aboriginal identity population, immigrant, and non-immigrant population for the period 2001 to 2011. From 2001 to 2011 the aboriginal identity population decreased 25% from 60 individuals in 2001 to 45 individuals in 2011. The immigrant population decreased 12% from 785 individuals in 2001 to 690 individuals in 2011.

**Table 20. Central Huron Aboriginal and Immigrant Population (2001-2011)**

	2001	2006	2011	% Change 2001-2011
<b>Aboriginal Identity Population</b>	60	25	45	-25.0%
<b>Non-Aboriginal Identity Population</b>	7,690	7,585	7,530	-2.1%
<b>Immigrant Population</b>	785	740	690	-12.1%
<b>Non-immigrant Population</b>	6,935	7,585	6,880	-0.8%

Source: Statistics Canada 2002a; Statistics Canada 2007a; Statistics Canada 2013a

Data from the 2011 Census indicate the vast majority of the population in Central Huron do not consider themselves to be a visible minority (only 45 of 7,575 or less than 1%) (Statistics Canada, 2007a). According to the 2011 Census, approximately 6.8% (515) of the population in Central Huron reported having a mother tongue other than English or French (Statistics Canada, 2012a).

There are a number of First Nation and Métis communities and organizations in the vicinity of Central Huron.

#### Cultural Heritage Resources

There are 16 known archaeological sites in the Municipality of Central Huron (AECOM, 2013). Of the 16 archaeological sites, 15 are of Aboriginal cultural affiliation. Of these 15, six are of undetermined cultural affiliation but are distinguished as campsites. The sixteenth site is a multi-component site containing an Aboriginal component consisting of a campsite of unknown cultural affiliation and a Euro-Canadian house dating to the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century located near Sharpes Creek line (AECOM 2013).

There are 15 Provincially designated heritage properties within the Municipality; these are located within the settlement area of Clinton and along County Road 8. There are no National Historic Sites in the Area (AECOM 2013).

## Community Facilities and Programs

The community facilities and programs available to the community of Central Huron are a source of pride, and, in many cases, are the social hubs of the community for all age groups. Youth recreational programs are integral avenues for social activity for many families in the area. These facilities provide a social focal point not only for the local community, but they also help to foster relationships and ties with the surrounding communities. Recreational tournaments are supported by the availability of recreational facilities that are vital to the social fabric of the community.

Key community facilities and programs available to the community of Central Huron are provided in Table 21. Examples of community special events are also presented in Table 22.

**Table 21. Central Huron Community Facilities**

Facility	Description	Address
<b>YMCA of Goderich-Huron-Maitland Recreation Centre</b>	Full service health, recreation, entertainment and community centre. Five lane 25 metre lap pool with free form leisure play and therapy area, an NHL size ice rink, gymnasium, wellness area consisting of cardio and strength training equipment, aerobic studio, community meeting space. Full range of adult, youth and children's programs. Mon. to Fri., 5:45 a.m.-10:00 p.m.; Sat., 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.; Sun., 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; holidays, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	190 Suncoast Drive East Goderich, ON
<b>Vanastra Recreation Centre</b>	25 metre indoor swimming pool, slide, diving board, Tarzan rope, sauna. Fitness room, treadmill, elliptical bikes, weight training machines, Children's programs, aqua aerobics, public swimming, adult swimming, and arthritic programs. Open 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.	26 Toronto Blvd. Vanastra, ON N0M 1L0
<b>Regional Equine &amp; Agricultural Centre of Huron Inc. (REACH HURON)</b>	State -of-the-art rental, education and event facility. The centre hosts entertainment including, rodeos, horse shows, and performances and operates community programs including ride nights, culinary and equine classes, children's camps and more! Regular hours 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. REACH aims to be a provincially recognized centre of excellence for the education, presentation and celebration of the equine and agricultural industries while acting as a powerful advocate for the preservation and sustainability of farming in rural Ontario.	169 Beech Street Box 248 Clinton, ON
<b>Central Huron Community Centre</b>	Facility includes ice hockey arena, a walking track, and a section that is operated by the YMCA/YWCA including a fitness a centre	139 Bill Fleming Dr., Clinton ON.

Source: Central Huron, *Facilities Within Central Huron, n.d.*

**Table 22. Huron County Special Events**

Event	When	Description from Websites
<b>Amazing Race</b>	Annually	Over this 2 day race, participants participate in different events in the area to raise funds for the United Way Perth Huron.
<b>BIA Awards</b>	Annually	Local businesses are nominated and voted upon by a panel of judges and by the public. Awards are for a variety of categories and include an online poll.
<b>Clinton Spring Fair</b>	Annually in June	Featuring a variety of activities for all ages and families including agricultural events, parades, midway and talent show.
<b>Clinton PlucKinFest</b>	Annually in the Summer	Clinton Kinsmen and Kinette's family festival and agricultural activities
<b>48hr Amazing Race Central Huron</b>	Annually in the Fall	Fundraiser that takes teams through a variety of challenges and destinations in Central Huron.
<b>Festival of Lights Celebration</b>	Annually from November to January	Let Goderich brighten your mood and delight your heart with yuletide joy, glittering lights, magical displays and special events during this annual salute to the festive holiday season. Catch the spirit with all Goderich has to offer.
<b>Goderich Winterfest</b>	Annually in February	We celebrate the Diamond Jubilee & beat the "winter blahs" with various great events – candlelight walk, chili cook-off, snow-pitch tournament, children's theatre, etc. & featuring Tim Holland, The Puppet Tamer. "Don't Hibernate ~ Celebrate!" Annual Event
<b>Grand Bend Winter Carnival</b>	Annually in February	Winter fun for the whole family including: fireworks, snow sculpture and parade.
<b>Young Canada Week</b>	Annually in March	Maitland Recreation Centre and the Goderich Memorial Arena. All Divisions AAA to D.
<b>Second Heritage Quilt Exhibit</b>	Annually in April	The exhibit will display completely different quilts than were in the 2011 show and will feature the collection of Jane Egan of Goderich. We are hoping that each item exhibited will have a story with it. There will be quilts from the mid to late 1800s.
<b>Annual Field of Dreams Car Show</b>	Annually in September	Day of fun for families and car enthusiasts with a variety of cars, music, goodie bags, prize draws and food and drink. Proceeds from the event go to charity.
<b>Various Fall Fairs</b>	Annually in the Fall	Various communities host fall fairs with family activities, agricultural displays and festivals.

Source: Central Huron, *Events, n.d.*

**Service Clubs and Organizations**

Central Huron has social services and organizations that serve various interests in the community. These serve to bolster the social fabric within the community and help to foster a sense of closeness and community support. There are several service clubs available to the community of Central Huron. These service clubs are listed in Table 23.

**Table 23. Service Clubs in Central Huron**

<b>Organization:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinton Kinsman</li> <li>• Clinton Lions Club</li> <li>• Londesborough Lions Club</li> <li>• Auburn Lions Club</li> <li>• Rotary Club of Clinton</li> <li>• Bluewater Beach Association</li> <li>• Clinton YMCA</li> <li>• Masons Group</li> </ul>
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*Source: Central Huron, Service and Sports Clubs, n.d.*

In addition, there are numerous religious organizations in the community that also provide a wide variety of social gatherings and services to the community (Table 24).

**Table 24. Religious Organizations in Central Huron**

Church Name	Address
<b>St. Paul's Anglican Church</b>	49 Ontario Street, Clinton, ON
<b>Londesborough United Church</b>	338 Main Street, Londesboro, ON
<b>Clinton United Church</b>	105 Ontario Street, Clinton, ON
<b>First Baptist Church</b>	85 Huron Street, Clinton, ON
<b>Heartland Community Church</b>	52 Victoria Street, P.O. Box 1462, Clinton, ON
<b>Clinton Christian Reformed Church</b>	243 Princess Street East, Clinton, ON
<b>Fellowship Bible Chapel</b>	220 King Street, Londesboro, ON
<b>Joseph Street Gospel Hall</b>	143 Joseph Street, Clinton, ON
<b>Grace Orthodox Reformed Church</b>	49 Ontario Street, Clinton, ON
<b>Jehovah's Witnesses</b>	Erie Street, North, Clinton, ON
<b>St. James Anglican Church</b>	77397 Tipperary Line, Box 23, Clinton, ON
<b>Holmesville United Church</b>	500 Holmesville, ON
<b>Huron Chapel</b>	119 John's Ave., Auburn, ON
<b>First Spiritualist Church of Huron</b>	Betty Cardno Centre, 317 Huron Street, Clinton, ON

*Source: Central Huron, Churches, n.d.*

**2.5.2 Summary of Social Assets**

**Priorities and Key Issues**

The current municipal ward system has some residual frictions and tensions. The most pronounced friction involves the former Goderich Township where there is an ongoing proposal among some residents to de-amalgamate from Central Huron. A petition with local signatures has been put forward to the Provincial government for this action.

Through a variety of engagement activities within the community, it is apparent there is a strong desire to maintain rural lifestyles and character throughout the Municipality. The Municipality is working proactively with the communities of interest to resolve issues and to create a sustainable community that balances the needs and aspirations of all constituents in a cooperative manner.

**Community Aspirations**

Central Huron aspires to be a sustainable community with a balanced mix of demographic cohorts (age and employment status), business diversity, and strong incomes to support infrastructure and service needs going forward. The community is in the process of refining its strategic vision and plan. Notwithstanding all of the above, Central Huron residents are proud of their agricultural roots and lifestyle and desire to maintain this connection and heritage going forward.

**Capabilities and Capacities within the Community**

There are essentially three major community groups within Central Huron. Although they share many common needs, they also have their own unique views and aspirations. The shoreline community is primarily focused on recreation and water quality matters. The farm community is primarily focused on sustainable agricultural production and processing opportunities. The residents of settlement areas are primarily focused on reinvigorating their communities with population and economic growth.

**2.6 Natural Environment**

The Natural Environment within a community includes the stock of natural resources from which livelihoods are derived. There is potentially a wide range of such resources from intangible public goods (e.g., air quality and biodiversity) to resources that are “used” by people (e.g., water, trees, land and wildlife). In this analysis, the specific indicators examined include the following:

- Parks and Protected Areas; and
- Natural Areas/Features of Significance.

These indicators are described in this section, within the context of the Natural Environment of Central Huron.

**2.6.1 Natural Environment Indicators**

**Parks and Protected Areas**

Central Huron has a beautiful natural setting, which draws both local and international visitors to it. The shoreline and the Hullett Provincial Wildlife Management Area are key attractions. As discussed in earlier sections of this Community Profile, the natural setting provides many opportunities for outdoor recreation. Table 25 provides a brief overview of the protected areas and reserves within and near Central Huron.

Portions of Central Huron are overseen by the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority.

**Table 25. Protected Areas and Reserves Within and Near Central Huron**

Area	Description
<b>Hullett Provincial Wildlife Management Area</b>	The Hullett Provincial Wildlife Management Area, located northeast of Clinton, was acquired by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) in the 1970s for the purposes of conserving and expanding wetlands in southwestern Ontario. It also provides day use for recreation such as hiking and bird watching.
<b>George G. Newton Reserve</b>	The nature reserve is roughly 32 hectares in size and consists of a forested ravine with a stream, lake and old farm fields that have been replanted. The reserve is home to a variety of birds and the Huron Fringe Field Naturalists are the official stewards of the property.
<b>Point Farms Provincial Park</b>	Point Farms Provincial Park is 3 km <sup>2</sup> in size; it is classed as a recreation park and is located 6 km north of the Municipality of Central Huron along the shore of Lake Huron. The park offers day use and overnight camping.

Area	Description
<b>Naftel's Creek Conservation Area</b>	This Conservation Area is a scenic retreat that features terrific walking trails through a variety of habitats. Explore plantations, mixed deciduous forests, and cedar lowlands. In winter the site is used extensively for cross country skiing. Naftel's Creek is a renowned fishing spot supporting speckled and rainbow trout as well as chinook salmon in the fall.
<b>Black's Point Conservation Area</b>	Located just to the southeast of Goderich and is managed by the Maitland Valley CA.
<b>Falls Reserve Conservation Area</b>	Set along the scenic Maitland River, just minutes from Goderich, Falls Reserve Conservation Area offers a terrific camping holiday: the perfect combination of great family camping in a beautiful natural setting. The natural beauty of Falls Reserve makes it truly exceptional. The park's 230 acres are nearly enclosed by the winding Maitland River. Over thousands of years the River has carved its way through rock, leaving behind a rugged river valley. Wide and shallow, the River cascades over a series of low waterfalls as it flows around the park creating a unique and exciting swimming area for visitors.
<b>Morris Tract Provincial Nature Reserve</b>	The Morris Tract Provincial Nature Reserve, located east of Goderich is 0.6 km <sup>2</sup> in size and has trails for hiking.
<b>Clinton Conservation Area</b>	The Clinton Conservation Area is made up of two properties: the Clinton Conservation Area and the Van Gastel property. The land was purchased from five landowners over three years starting in 1973. These owners were the Corrie, Mayer, Christensen, Hough, and Van Gastel families. The Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority owns 250 acres for recreation and nature appreciation in the Clinton Conservation Area, and for reforestation and wildlife habitat on the Van Gastel property.  The trails in the Clinton Conservation Area take about 45 minutes to walk, and this time will be extended slightly by using the fitness equipment or by stops to appreciate your surroundings. The trails themselves are grass, and they are maintained throughout the non-winter months. The walk is pleasant and peaceful, although there are a few hills.

Source: Conservation Ontario, 2012; Ontario Parks, 2014b; Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority, n.d.; Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, 2015a; Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, 2015b; Ontario Nature 2015.

**Natural Areas/Features of Significance**

As previously mentioned, there is one Provincial Wildlife Management Area, two conservation areas, and one nature reserve within the Municipality of Central Huron. The Municipality of Central Huron also contains five Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), two Earth Science sites and three Life Science sites, three International Biological Program sites, and 25 wetlands, three of which are Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs).

Based on discussions with community members, the Maitland River is considered one of the most important river systems in southern Ontario with many unique assets including flora, fauna, physiography, and hydrology. The Town of Goderich is situated at the mouth of the river. Along the river throughout Huron County numerous settlements and environmentally sensitive areas can be found. Common activities on the river are canoeing/kayaking and fishing. There is also an extensive trail network along the river.

**2.6.2 Summary of Natural Environment**

**Priorities and Key Issues**

The natural environment is an important issue in the community including the control of agricultural runoff and stress from shoreline development. After heavy rains, the shoreline and nearshore waters experience heavy nutrient loading and may be deemed unsafe for swimming for a period of time. More investments in residential infrastructure (water and sewer) in the shoreline area may also help mitigate this issue. The shoreline of Central Huron is characterized by steep banks that are vulnerable to extensive erosion. Studies by the Maitland Conservation Authority suggest that over the next 30 to 50 years, approximately 430 acres of land with buildings could be lost to erosion. This puts some \$275 million of property value at risk.

Through a variety of in-community discussions, it is understood the rise of large commercial farms and the rise in value of agricultural lands have contributed to forest clearing and wetland draining. These actions put pressure on the natural ecology of the area and exacerbate storm water runoff and associated water quality issues in streams, rivers and the lake.

## **Community Aspirations**

Central Huron seeks to have a sustainable environment that protects its water resources and other natural areas while enabling continued business, residential and tourism growth.

## **Capabilities and Capacities within the Community**

There is opportunity to enhance the environment by preserving forests and wetlands and reducing runoff and erosion. However, these initiatives require innovation and investments the community may find challenging to implement and afford at the present time.

## **2.7 Unique Characteristics of Central Huron**

### **2.7.1 Community Character**

Central Huron is characterized by three constituent communities that have shaped the Municipality. The first is located along the Lake Huron shoreline, and is a waterfront community oriented toward family recreation and cottaging. The second group is the farming community located inland, east of Highway 21. The third community is formed by the residents of inland settlement areas of which Clinton is the largest.

Central Huron has a strong relationship with agriculture, which has dominated the community for much of its existence. Much of the culture, spirit and economy of the community centres on agriculture.

The rural areas of the Municipality have been transitioning away from small farms to large-scale commercial operations. This trend has contributed to depopulation of the rural areas and has had a subsequent ripple effect into the smaller towns as their hinterland market populations are no longer there to sustain them.

The shoreline community is not particularly uniform at the moment. Much of the development along the shoreline is small seasonal cottages on small lots. There are some trailer park developments along with some larger homes converted from small cottages. This is an area in transition but the pace of change is constrained until water and sewage infrastructure are in place. Many residents along the shoreline come from other areas of southern Ontario and Michigan. From their cottages, shoreline residents tend to shop along Highway 21, and infrequently venture inland to other area centres.

The residents in the inland settlement areas are confronted with declining and aging populations. The numbers of local businesses are declining as well and storefront vacancies are apparent in all of these communities.

### **2.7.2 Environmental Values**

The rise of large farms and the rise in value of agricultural lands have contributed to wetland draining and some clearing of marginal woodlands. Both of these activities put pressure on the natural ecology of the area and exacerbate stormwater runoff and associated water quality issues in rivers and along the Lake Huron shoreline. Central Huron is striving to address these issues and is very cognisant of the need to balance the requirements of its prosperous agricultural community with the aspirations and needs of the shoreline community and other residents.

### **2.7.3 Community Goals**

Central Huron recognizes the need for the community to increase its economic resilience through business diversification and youth retention. The rural communities seek to grow in a sustainable manner, preserving and growing agricultural activities, revitalizing businesses, retaining youth and diversifying the economy. The communities near the shoreline seek to preserve the environment and increase recreational and leisure opportunities.

### 3. Huron County Profile

#### 3.1 Overview

The definition of the regional context of a community is subjective. The regional boundaries of an area can be defined differently by various entities. For the purposes of this Community Profile, the regional context is left undefined, as further dialogue with community members and members in surrounding communities is required to best understand the broader regional context. Established regional areas that have been used in this report for comparative purposes include the County of Huron.

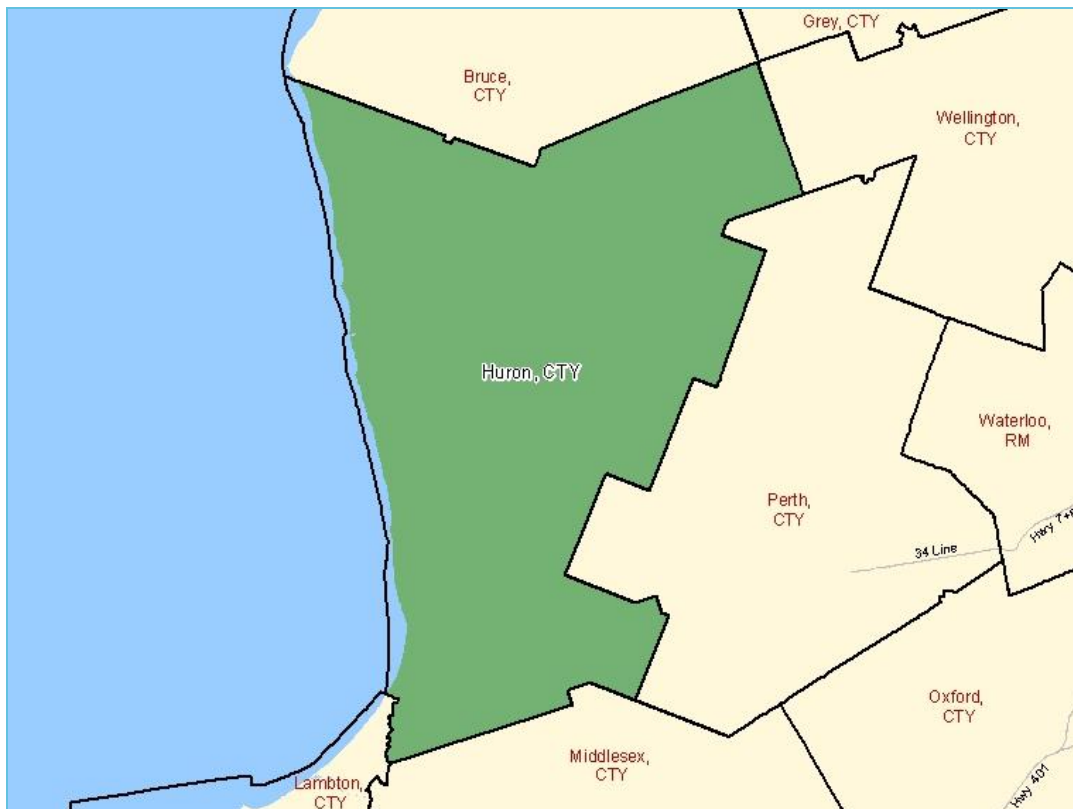
##### 3.1.1 Location – List of Communities

Statistics Canada defines Huron County as being situated in the Huron County Census Division. This section of the Community Profile provides an overview of Huron County, so that in the subsequent section (Section 4.0), a comparison of Central Huron, Huron County, and the Province of Ontario can be made to understand Central Huron within a larger context.

##### 3.1.2 Land Size and Uses

Located in Southwestern Ontario, Huron County has a land area of 3,400 km<sup>2</sup> within the Province of Ontario (Statistics Canada, 2013d). Figure 11 provides an outline of the County as provided by Statistics Canada.

**Figure 11. Huron County Map (Census Division)**



Source: Statistics Canada 2013d



## 3.2 Communities

According to the breakdown provided by Statistics Canada, Huron County includes the communities of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh (Township), Bluewater (Municipality), Central Huron (Municipality), Goderich (Town), Howick (Township), Huron East (Municipality), Morris-Turnberry (Municipality), North Huron (Township) and South Huron (Municipality),

### 3.2.1 Community Names and Locations

Huron County is located in Southwestern Ontario and a map is provided in Figure 12. A brief introduction is provided below for each of the Huron County municipalities, towns and townships.

**Figure 12. Location of Central Huron within Huron County**



Source: Huron County, n.d. Aggregates Strategy

#### **Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh**

The Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh is a community located in the northwest corner of the County of Huron, along the shores of Lake Huron. The Township was formed through an amalgamation of the former Ashfield, Colborne and West Wawanosh Townships in 2001. It is a productive agricultural area, and along the shoreline, has cottage and recreation development (Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh 2014).

#### **Municipality of Bluewater**

The Municipality of Bluewater was formed in 2001 with the amalgamation of the Villages of Bayfield, Hensall and Zurich and the Townships of Hay and Stanley. Bluewater’s western boundary is Lake Huron, with the Municipality of Central Huron to the north, the Municipality of Huron East to the east and the Municipality of South Huron to the south. While Bluewater’s economy is influenced by the broader regional economy in terms of jobs and overall economic activity, agriculture, agri-business, tourism and lakeshore development are strong components of the community’s economic base and help shape its heritage and culture.

### **Municipality of Central Huron**

The Municipality of Central Huron is located in Southwestern Ontario in Huron County. Central Huron is located along Lake Huron between the Maitland River and the Bayfield River. The Municipality of Central Huron was formed on January 1, 2001 when the Town of Clinton, the Township of Hullett and the Township of Goderich were amalgamated (Central Huron, 2014). It is an important agricultural area.

### **Town of Goderich**

The Town of Goderich was incorporated in 1850. Located at the mouth of the Maitland River, its founding roots were intertwined with the Canada Company in which Tiger Dunlop and John Galt were major figures. The Town has an area of approximately 8 km<sup>2</sup> and currently accommodates a population of roughly 7,500. The Town is noteworthy for its design around a central square. A major industry in the community is the Sifto Salt Mine. To date approximately 150 million tonnes of salt have been mined and shipped from the community. Plans are currently underway to expand both the salt mine and the harbour.

### **Township of Howick**

The Township of Howick is located in the northwest corner of Huron County near the Bruce County border. The current population is approximately 3,900 with a significant and growing Mennonite population. The major villages in the Township are Fordwich and Gorrie. Agriculture is the dominant land use.

### **Municipality of Huron East**

The Municipality of Huron East came into being in 2001 with the amalgamation of the former Grey, McKillop and Tuckersmith Townships along with the Town of Seaforth and Village of Brussels. The current population is approximately 9,300 and the economy is agrarian based.

### **Municipality of Morris-Turnberry**

The Municipality of Morris-Turnberry is located in the northern portion of Huron County near the Bruce County border southeast of Wingham. The Municipality came into being in 2001 with the amalgamation of Morris and Turnberry Townships. The current population is in the order of 3,400 and the primary economic activity is agriculture. The main settlement area in the Municipality is the small community of Bluevale just to the east of Wingham at the junction of Highways 86 and 87.

### **Township of North Huron**

In 2001 the Township of North Huron was formed with the amalgamation of the former Township of East Wanawash, the Village of Blyth and the Town of Wingham. The current population stands at approximately 4,900. Wingham is home to Royal Homes and Westcast Industries. It also accommodates a large regional secondary school (F.E. Madill). The village of Blyth hosts a very successful summer festival and it is also seeing an in-migration of retirees. The rural lands in the Municipality are predominately devoted to agriculture.

### **Municipality of South Huron**

South Huron forms the southern part of Huron County. The Municipality was formed in 2001 with the amalgamation of the Townships of Stephen and Osborne and the Town of Exeter. The current resident population is approximately 10,000 but there is also a sizeable seasonal population with residences along the shoreline. The municipality enjoys close proximity to London in the south and Stratford to the west. Agriculture is the primary land use in the rural area.

### 3.2.2 Historical Context

'Huron' was the name early French explorers bestowed on the Wyandot First Nations people who lived in the upper end of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. The land that is now known to be Huron County was part of what was then referred to as the Huron Tract. Etienne Brule, an emissary and translator for Samuel de Champlain was the first recorded European to reach the Huron Tract (County of Huron, 2012). Settlement in what became Huron County began slowly starting in 1827 since earlier settlement occurred elsewhere in Upper Canada (later Ontario) in areas with greater access to the lower Great Lakes and supply routes.

The two ports of Goderich and Bayfield, and the Lake Huron shoreline, were major contributors to the marine history of Huron County heritage, while the development of salt mining, carriage works, early radio, piano and automobile manufacturing, flour and woolen mills and fur tanning mark the significance of Huron County's industrial history. Huron County has also witnessed an interesting military history in both the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. In 1837, an American raid on the Huron County shoreline led to the capture of the invading vessel by the steamboat *Patriot*. The Commonwealth Air Training Base at Goderich also played a fundamental role in training radar operators and fighter and bomber pilots for WW II (Huron County GenWeb, 2004).

The County of Huron became an official county in 1841; its borders extend along the central portion of the eastern shore of Lake Huron for approximately 95 km and its inland boundaries run eastward between approximately 25 km and 65 km (Huron County GenWeb, 2004).

### 3.2.3 Huron County Today

Goderich is the County Seat for Huron County. It is located on the Eastern shore of Lake Huron at the mouth of the Maitland River. It is a strong community with many public institutions and a complement of retail and services establishments that have business reach beyond County boundaries. The municipality serves as a point destination for tourists and recreationists. It also has an industrial component founded around salt mining and port activities. It is the largest salt mining centre in Canada.

Other communities of note along the shoreline include Grand Bend and Bayfield. Both lie south of Goderich and both are communities that are major tourism and recreation destination points. Grand Bend is well known for its sandy beach. Bayfield is known for its high-end boutique shops, restaurants, and marina. Bayfield has also become a retirement destination in a similar fashion witnessed by other shoreline communities along Lake Huron.

Inland, there are many communities, the largest of which is Wingham, located at the north edge of the County. This settlement has a strong commercial institutional presence and provides central place functions for residents living in and around it, including into the southern municipalities of Bruce County. The Town has a compliment of manufacturing businesses that help diversify its economy.

Smaller inland communities within Huron County aspire to remain vital in the face of business competition from larger centres in and outside the County. Blyth has been able to niche itself and become a summer tourist destination point through the development of local theatre. It has also attracted some retirement settlement. Other communities with the attrition of central place markets and functions have evolved more into dormitory communities with residents out-commuting to jobs in larger cities such as London, Stratford and Kitchener-Waterloo.

Huron County is one of the leading agricultural areas in Ontario. In each of the lower tier municipalities, with the exception of Goderich, agriculture is the dominant land use. Based on the 2011 census there are 2,467 farmers and the average size farm holding is 119 ha. The predominant types of agriculture are oilseed and grain farming, cattle ranching and farming, and other animal production. Since 2006, the number of farmers has declined by approximately 10% while the average farm size has gone up by 11% (Statistics Canada, 2012b). Approximately 86% of the County's land base is used for agriculture. With the exception of Goderich, agriculture is the most expansive land use.

### 3.3 Aboriginal Communities and Organizations

#### 3.3.1 Aboriginal Overview

Aboriginal communities and organizations will be identified through discussions with First Nations and Métis in the area and included in future iterations of this document.

### 3.4 Population Dynamics

#### 3.4.1 Trend Over Time

Over the period from 2001 to 2011 the population of Huron County has roughly held steady with only a slight decline of 1% over this time period (Table 26).

**Table 26. Population Trend (2001-2011) – Communities in Huron County**

Huron County Municipality	Population		# Growth	% Growth
	2001	2011	2001-2011	2001-2011
Ashfield-Colborne-Wanawash	5,411	5,582	171	3.2%
Bluewater	6,919	7,044	125	1.8%
Central Huron	7,806	7,591	(215)	-2.8%
Goderich	7,604	7,521	(83)	-1.1%
Howick	3,779	3,856	77	2.0%
Huron East	9,680	9,264	(416)	-4.3%
Morris-Turnberry	3,499	3,413	(86)	-2.5%
North Huron	4,984	4,884	(100)	-2.0%
South Huron	10,019	9,945	(74)	-0.7%
<b>Sum of Huron County</b>	<b>59,701</b>	<b>59,100</b>	<b>(601)</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada, 2002d, Statistics Canada 2007d, 2013d

Of the nine municipal communities that comprise Huron County, only three experienced population increases, namely: Ashfield-Colborne-Wanawash (3.2%), Bluewater (1.8%) and Howick (2.0%). The rest experienced population declines in the order of 4.3% (Huron East) to less than 1% (South Huron). Much of the population decline throughout the County can be related to the following:

- The Large Scale Agriculture Operations**

Agriculture has undergone a dramatic transformation including rapid consolidation of small farms into large capital intensive operations. Many residents who sold farms to larger operations have moved out of agricultural areas thereby contributing to the de-population of rural in-land communities.

- The Closure of Major Area Employers**

The closure and/or downsizing of several major employers in the County (such as Volvo, the Bluewater Youth detention Centre and Westcast Industries) have also contributed to the population decline across the County.

- Out – Migration of Youth**

The lack of local jobs has forced many youth to leave the area in search of careers elsewhere. This out migration has contributed to both population decline and a rise in median age structure.

**3.4.2 Age Profile**

Huron County also has an aging population but tends to be somewhat younger than the population of Bruce County just to its north. Howick is by far the youngest community in the County and the Region with a median age of 34.7 years. The oldest population in the County is located in Bluewater, where the median age of the population is 47.9 years. Howick also has a large Mennonite community with many young families and this is one likely reason for the low median age profile here. Mennonite communities are also located in Morris-Turnberry and North Huron. The older age profiles in the municipalities that front onto Lake Huron are likely influenced by the presence of retirees living along the shoreline (Table 27), much like other shoreline communities along Lake Huron.

**Table 27. Median Age Profile (2001-2011) – Communities in Huron County**

Huron County Municipality	Median Age		
	2001	2006	2011
Ashfield-Colborne-Wanawash	39.3	42.0	45.3
Bluewater	41.7	44.6	47.9
Central Huron	41.8	44.0	47.5
Goderich	42.6	45.6	48.5
Howick	32.8	33.3	34.7
Huron East	37.1	39.3	41.2
Morris-Turnberry	27.6	40.2	40.1
North Huron	39.3	40.6	42.3
South Huron	40.9	43.9	47.4
Sum of Huron County	39.8	42.3	45.1

Source: Statistics Canada, 2002d; 2007d; 2013d

**3.5 Regional Labour Force**

Labour force activity in Huron County is presented in Table 28 and Table 29 including a comparison of the participation, employment and unemployment rates according to the 2006 census and 2011 estimates from Statistics Canada. The statistics in Table 28 show a 2% decline in the labour force and a 3% decline in the number of people employed. Over the same period the number of people registering as unemployed has climbed almost 27%.

**Table 28. Labour Force Activity (2006–2011) – Huron County**

Labour Force Activity	2006	2011
Total Population – Individuals 15 years and over	47,580	47,815
In Labour Force	32,105	31,525
Employed	30,685	29,740
Unemployed	1,415	1,790

Source: Statistics Canada, 2002d; 2007d; 2013d

The trends shown in Table 29 for the years 2001, 2006 and 2011 reveal a steadily declining labour force participation rate and employment rate and a rising unemployment rate

**Table 29. Labour Force Activity (2001-2011) – Huron County**

Labour Force Activity	2001	2006	2011
Participation Rate (%)	68.1%	67.5%	65.9%
Employment Rate (%)	65.3%	64.5%	62.2%
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.0%	4.4%	5.7%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2002d; 2007d; 2013d

### 3.5.1 Income

In Huron County the range of median family incomes among constituent municipalities has a narrow range from about \$52,000 in Central Huron to about \$64,000 in Morris-Turnberry. Goderich falls in the middle of the range at about \$57,000 and, although it is a service centre with a strong portfolio of retail and service jobs, it also has industry and institutional jobs (Table 30).

**Table 30. Median Family Income in Huron County by Constituent Municipality (2010)**

Huron County Municipality	Median Household Income (2010)
Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh	\$62,288
Bluewater	\$57,894
Central Huron	\$51,954
Goderich	\$56,573
Howick	\$63,225
Huron East	\$60,124
Morris-Turnberry	\$64,417
North Huron	\$57,763
South Huron	\$56,447

Source: Statistics Canada, 2013d

### 3.5.2 Population by Education/Training Attainment

Table 31 provides an 2011 estimate of maximum educational attainment for those age 25 years and over residing in Huron County. Roughly one quarter of the population has no high school certificate diploma or degree. Another quarter of the population has a high school certificate or equivalent. Approximately 35 percent of the population has education beyond high school but below a university degree. About 11 percent of the population have obtained a university degree or certificate.

**Table 31. Population by Education/Training Attainment – Huron County (2011)**

Education/Training Attainment (25 Years and Over)	2011	Percentage (%) of Total Population 25 Years and Over
Total population aged 25 to 64 years by highest certificate, diploma or degree	29,505	/
No certificate, diploma or degree	5,120	17.35%
High school diploma or equivalent	8,455	28.66%
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	3,505	11.88%
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	8,135	27.57%
University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	660	2.24%
University certificate, diploma or degree	3,630	12.30%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2002b; 2007b; 2013d

### 3.5.3 Employment by Activity and Sector in 2011

**Table 32. Employment by Industry Sector (2011) – Huron County**

2011 Huron County Industries	Total	Male	Female
Total labour Force Population Aged 15 years and Over by Industry – North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 2007	31,520	16,770	14,755
Industry – not applicable	525	320	210
All Industries	31,000	16,450	14,545
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	4,230	2,965	1,265
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	445	395	50
Utilities	550	495	60

2011 Huron County Industries	Total	Male	Female
<b>Construction</b>	2,930	2,585	340
<b>Manufacturing</b>	3,705	2,750	955
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	1,280	935	340
<b>Retail Trade</b>	2,900	1,160	1,745
<b>Transportation and Warehousing</b>	1,415	975	440
<b>Information and Cultural Industries</b>	335	160	175
<b>Finance and Insurance</b>	745	210	530
<b>Real Estate and Rental and Leasing</b>	435	255	180
<b>Professional, Scientific and Technical Services</b>	980	430	550
<b>Management of Companies and Enterprises</b>	0	0	0
<b>Administrative and Support, Waste Management and Remediation Services</b>	1,060	630	435
<b>Educational Services</b>	1,675	370	1,300
<b>Health Care and Social Assistance</b>	3,490	320	3,170
<b>Arts, Entertainment and Recreation</b>	400	130	275
<b>Accommodation and Food Services</b>	1,855	460	1,395
<b>Other Services (except public administration)</b>	1,360	690	665
<b>Public Administration</b>	1,185	535	650

Source: Statistics Canada, 2002b; 2007b; 2013d

In Table 32 the largest portion of the total labour force is employed in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector (13%), followed by manufacturing (12%) and then health care and social assistance (11%). For males, agriculture forestry and fishing are the dominant sectors while health care and social assistance are the main employment sectors for females.

## 3.6 Business Activity

### 3.6.1 Background

The salt mining industry in Goderich dates back about 60 years. Today Sifto Canada extracts approximately 9 million tonnes a year. The mine is approximately 550 metres (m) below the surface and extends 5 km from the shore beneath Lake Huron.

Champion Road Machinery was located in Goderich and built road graders. In 1997, the Company and facility operations were taken over by Volvo, who continued to produce machinery there until 2009. The Volvo plant was closed that year and operations were moved to Shippensburg, Pennsylvania.

Wecast is another well-known industry in Huron County. Located in the Town of Wingham, it started out as a wood stove manufacturer and evolved into the manufacture of automotive exhaust systems. Many people in the Region, particularly in Huron and Bruce County, found employment with the Company at its Wingham plants. The Company went through a series of downsizings and then, in 2013, it was acquired. At present, operations at the Wingham plants are being rationalized to create efficiencies. The new owners closed a sister plant in Strathroy in 2014.

Other manufacturing operations in Wingham include Royal Homes, a manufacturer of prefabricated residential dwellings and BI-AX International, a manufacturer of plastic film used in the food packaging industry.

Hensall in Huron County is home to three large field crop processing facilities: Thompsons Limited; Hensall Co-op; and Cook's Division of Parrish & Heimbecker Limited. This is one of the largest inland concentrations of crop handling facilities in Ontario. Hensall is known as the "White Bean Capital of Canada".

Industry in the Region has waned in the past decade. The attrition of manufacturing in the County has led to an out-migration of youth and some families seeking employment and career opportunities outside the Region.

At one time Central Huron was home to the Bluewater Youth (detention) Centre, a significant area employer. In 2012, this facility was closed and approximately 200 jobs were lost.

Today four industries represent the pillars of the Huron County economy: agriculture, agri-manufacturing, tourism, and creative industries. Huron County is a provincial and national leader in agricultural production, diversity and innovation. Manufacturing is a staple of the local economy that has a close affiliation with the natural resource and food/feed processing sectors. Creative industries encompass a wide diversity of creative businesses and occupations, including cultural and knowledge-based jobs ranging from the performing arts to business and financial services. Service, trade and retail businesses and occupations are integrated and supported within all four pillars of the Huron County economy (County of Huron Planning and Development, 2013).

Tourism and recreation in Huron County are closely tied to the Lake Huron shoreline. Summer is the time of peak activity. The Huron shoreline is extensively developed with cottages, but there are also pockets of permanent residence along with commercial camp grounds and hotel / motel establishments. Cottagers, tourists and recreationists have been travelling to the area for a long time and the urban communities along the shoreline are well accustomed and capable of catering to visitor needs and wants.

Inland within Huron County there are a few developments that cater to tourists. The Benmiller Inn is a well-known establishment that provides high-end hotel, dining and spa facilities. Further inland in the community of Blyth, summer theatre has been proactively developed to become a tourist attraction.

Tourism and recreation has become an important industry and activity in the wider Region. It is linked to unique physiography and land uses of the Region, which, in combination, are attractive for retirees, recreationists, and cottagers alike. This Region provides a wide array of end point destinations that are usually linked to the shoreline.

In summary, over the period from 2001 to 2013 (Table 33), the downward trend in manufacturing (-10%) and in some social and professional services (i.e., health, government and education (-4%), professional and administrative (-5%)) has been countered by rise in the number of enterprises associated with agriculture and mining (32%), transportation and warehousing (12%), construction/utilities (23%), and finance/real estate (143%).

**Table 33. Change in Number of Enterprises by Sector in Huron County (2001-2013)**

Industry Sectors	2001	2013	Percentage (%) Change 2001-2013
<b>Manufacturing</b>	207	186	-10.1%
<b>Health, Government, &amp; Education</b>	273	261	-4.4%
<b>Transportation &amp; Warehousing</b>	271	304	12.2%
<b>Construction &amp; Utilities</b>	533	654	22.7%
<b>Retail &amp; Wholesale Trade</b>	749	767	2.4%
<b>Finance &amp; Real Estate</b>	325	790	143.1%
<b>Professional, Administrative, &amp; Other</b>	1,049	994	-5.2%
<b>Agricultural &amp; Mining</b>	1,973	2,604	32.0%

Source: Huron County, 2013c, and Huron Business Development Corporation, 2013a

## **Agriculture**

Huron East, Central Huron and Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh have the highest concentrations of farms. Huron East has the most amount of land farmed and then Ashfield-Colborne-Wanawash, Central Huron and South Huron are all closely clustered in second place. The greatest amount of capital investment, by a substantial margin, is found in Huron East. Agricultural sales are dominated by Huron East with South Huron and Central Huron being a distant second and third, respectively (Table 34).



**Table 34. Farms Numbers and Acreage within Huron County by Constituent Municipality (2011)**

Huron County Municipality	Farms	Acreage	Capital Investment	Sales
Ashfield-Colborne-Wananoosh	381	43,538	\$615,098,601	\$87,538,240
Bluewater	258	39,881	\$707,055,739	\$102,140,377
Central Huron	398	42,583	\$761,039,028	\$128,457,331
Howick	274	26,447	\$367,408,161	\$74,767,395
Huron East	517	62,663	\$1,232,475,546	\$227,057,707
Morris-Turnberry	202	19,084	\$290,585,165	\$66,229,416
North Huron	161	16,889	\$241,182,246	\$45,222,432
South Huron	276	42,533	\$807,993,175	\$146,001,341
<b>Sum of Huron County</b>	<b>2,467</b>	<b>293,618</b>	<b>\$5,022,837,661</b>	<b>\$877,414,239</b>

Source: Statistics Canada, 2013d

The dominant farm type in the County is cash cropping oilseeds and grain (Table 35).

**Table 35. Farms by Type in Huron County (2011)**

Farm Type	Huron County
Dairy	162
Beef	364
Hogs	172
Sheep	62
Poultry	165
Other Animals	216
Oilseeds and Grains	1,144
Vegetables	20
Fruit and Nuts Trees	16
Greenhouse	27
Other Crops	119
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,467</b>

Source: Statistics Canada, 2013d

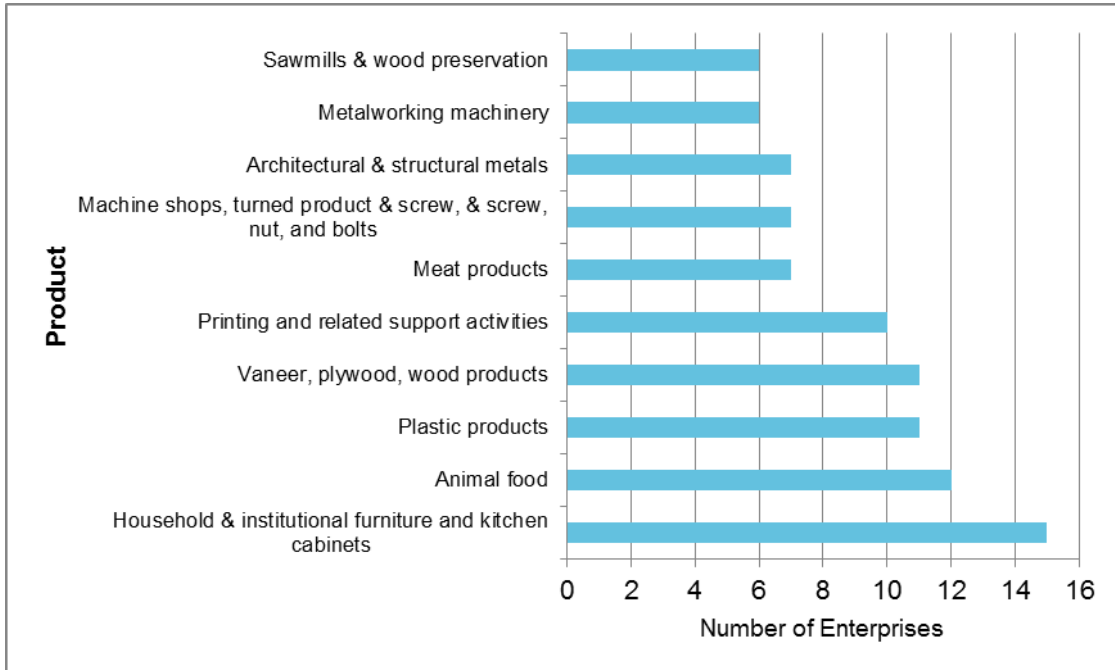
Farmland prices in Huron County plateaued in 2014 with prices settling in the range of \$13,500 to \$15,000 per acre. The majority of buyers were family-owned operations seeking to expand their operations. Most sales were for 100 acre parcels. Relative to other regions in Ontario and Canada, listing times were relatively short, and in the range of 3 to 6 weeks. This level of sales activity is indicative of the high value of the agricultural industry in this County. In general, land and property values are increasing, reflecting increased demand for both agricultural and recreational or retirement/retreat properties. Agricultural land prices are driven for the most part by production quota increases and expansion of local operations, while prices for hobby farm, recreational, retirement and/or retreat properties reflects the in-migration of new residents in or near their retirement age who choose to live in the County because of its environment and lifestyle offerings.

Regardless of location, agriculture has a dominant presence in the County. It is a major economic force and contributes not only to municipal and county finances, but it is the foundation of the economy and helps define community character throughout the County.

**Manufacturing**

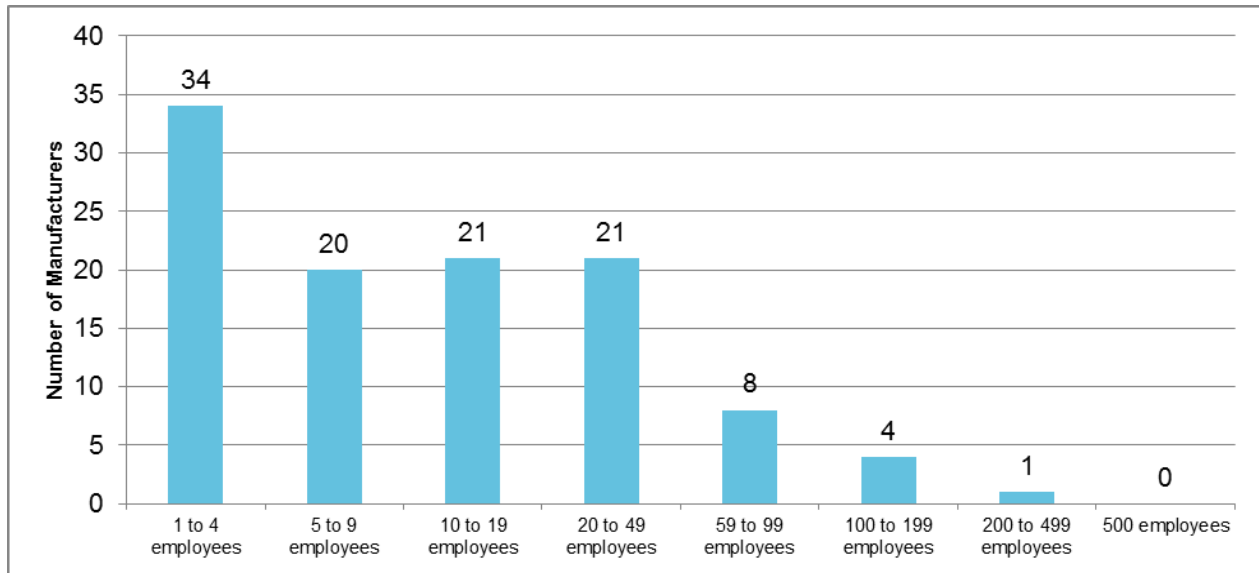
The employers of scale are associated with meat processing and agricultural feed and grain storage.. Otherwise much of the remaining manufacturing is diffuse across many end markets as illustrated in Figure 13. Moreover, a majority of these manufacturing enterprises tend to operate with small numbers of employees (Figure 14).

**Figure 13. Top 10 Manufactured Products by Number of Enterprises in Huron County 2013**



Source: Huron County, 2013d

**Figure 14. Grouping of Manufacturing Enterprises by Number of Employees**



Source: Huron County, 2013d

The County’s manufacturing sector is served by a network of Municipal, Provincial and County Highways, connecting Huron County to large metropolitan areas in Ontario and the United States. Additionally, a key industrial seaway-depth harbour on the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Seaway is located in Goderich. Three airports and a private short line railway provide Huron County’s business with timely and customized carrier services (County of Huron, 2014). Huron County offers access to affordable industrial land providing opportunities for expansion and attraction of manufacturing businesses (Huron County, 2013c).

Agricultural and resource-based processing dominates manufacturing in the County. Major food and feed processors include Hayter’s Farm, Kenpal Farm Products and Hensall District Co-op. The Sifto Salt Mine located in Goderich is one of the largest salt producers in the world. Existing and emerging niche food processors are establishing new economic opportunities and markets domestically and internationally (Huron County, 2013c).

Economic Development Services works in partnership with the Huron Manufacturing Association to further develop, build, and promote the manufacturing industry in Huron County. Opportunities for new business creation in food processing and renewable energy are being pursued and will lead to further growth (Huron County, 2013c).

**Tourism, Arts and Culture**

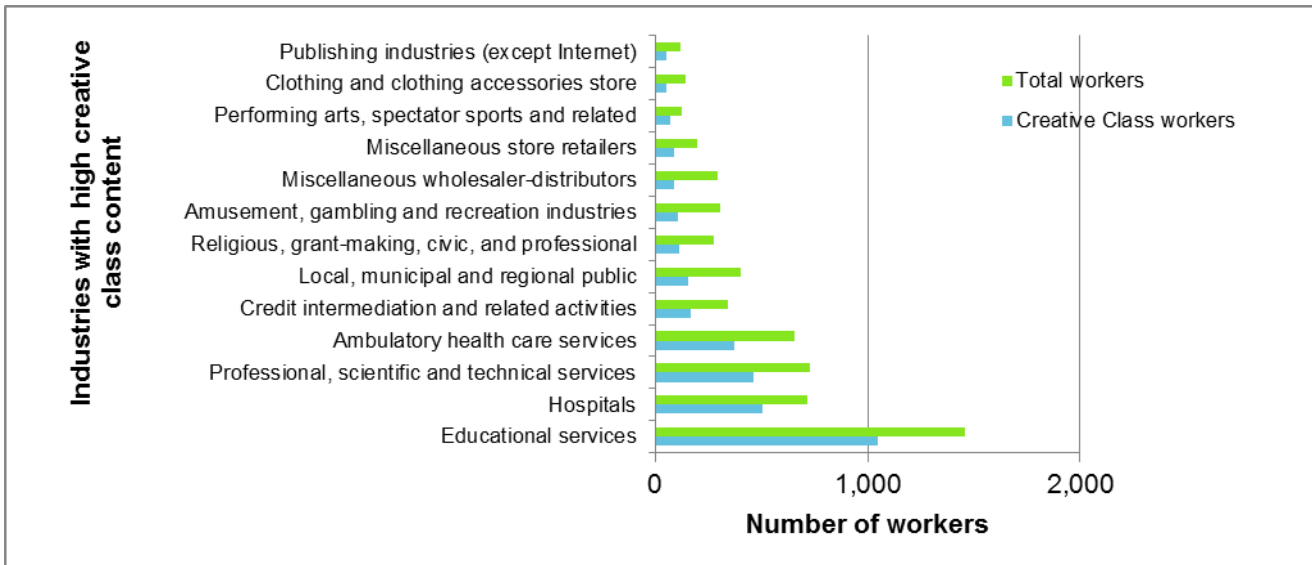
Tourism is an important component of Huron County’s economy. Huron County possesses an abundance of natural areas, shoreline, tourist attractions, and local annual events that draw thousands of visitors to the region each year. Nurseries, antique and specialty shops with unique products, and diverse restaurants and country inns specializing in serving locally grown foods further contribute to the local tourism industry (Huron County, 2014).

The County of Huron and the Huron Tourism Association (HTA) work closely together in promoting the region and its tourism strategies. Annually, Huron County in association with the Huron Tourism Association produce a comprehensive Travel Guide as well as specialty brochures promoting fishing, cycling, hiking, heritage walking tours, and heritage and cultural amenities.

**Creative Industries**

The promotion of creative industries is an integral part of all high-level economic development marketing programs in Huron County. The creative industries sector encompasses a wide range of economic activities and businesses from innovations in design and manufacturing equipment, architecture, engineering, film, music and software creation to advertising and information handling services and electronic publishing. Huron County boasts a growing number of knowledge enterprises. Professionals who contribute to the creative economy are referred to as the creative class. The creative class is comprised of knowledge workers, intellectuals and various types of artists. Figure 15 (taken from the Huron County Manufacturing Fact Sheet, Huron County 2013b) presents statistics relating to Huron County’s creative economy.

**Figure 15. High Creative Class Content Industries, Huron County, 2011**



Source: Huron County, 2013b

**Retail and Service**

Huron County’s retail and service sector is one of the largest employers in the area. An estimated 20% of Huron’s work force is employed in sales and service occupations. An estimated 44% (2,660) of Huron County’s 6,110 business enterprises are within the retail and service sector. According to a 2012 survey, Goderich’s downtown business core employs more than 500 people making it the second biggest employee concentration in Goderich; surpassed only by the Sifto salt mine (Huron County, 2013b).

**3.6.2 Number of Employees**

Huron County offers employment opportunities in the fields of agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, skilled trades, healthcare, and education. Growth sectors include agri-business, renewable energy, education, healthcare, and skilled trades. The healthcare and education sectors are two of the County’s larger employers. Huron County’s unemployment rate is consistently one of the lowest in Canada.

In Huron County, 18% of the labour force is self-employed making this is a major component of Huron’s economy (Huron County, 2013b).

Table 36 identifies the leading employers in Huron County.

**Table 36. Leading Employers in Huron County**

	<b>Industries</b>	<b>Community</b>
<b>Major Employers, Private Sector</b>	Dashwood Industries Inc.	Centralia
	Exeter Machine Products Ltd.	Huron Park
	Nabisco Ltd. (Division of Kraft Foods)	Exeter
	Northlander Industries Ltd.	Exeter
	Sifto Canada Inc.	Goderich
	General Coach (Division of Citair)	Hensall
	Hensall District Co-Op Inc.	Hensall
	Royal Homes Ltd.	Wingham
<b>Major Employers, Public Sector</b>	Avon Maitland District School Board	Throughout the counties
	Huron-Perth Catholic School Board	Throughout the counties
	County of Huron	Goderich

Source: Huron County, 2015b

**3.6.3 Investment Trends and Projections**

Huron County has established policies and actions to encourage economic activity that retains and creates jobs, fosters entrepreneurship, maintains or enhances quality of life and is compatible with the community and the environment. The policies and actions specified under Huron County’s Official Plan regarding economic development are as follows:

1. The maintenance, enhancement and co-ordination of physical infrastructure (i.e., water, sewer, road, rail, port, marina, air and communication services such as internet and wireless technologies) are critical for the economy’s growth.
2. Investment in business retention and expansion programs is encouraged to support the integrity and well-being of downtowns and local businesses; this includes enhancement of heritage features, preservation of unique rural small town character, and provision of a wide range of services and experiences.

3. Investment in an adequate supply of serviced and designated lands appropriate for industrial, commercial and residential development and redevelopment is encouraged and necessary for continued growth and development.

To promote economic development and ensure competitiveness, local Official Plans will:

- a) Encourage an appropriate mix and range of employment opportunities including industrial, commercial, and institutional;
  - b) Maintain a range and choice of suitable sites for employment uses;
  - c) Ensure the necessary infrastructure is available to support current and projected needs; and
  - d) Protect and preserve employment areas for current and future uses.
4. Entrepreneurial activity and business development will be supported and encouraged through programs of Huron County Economic Development Services, Huron Small Business Enterprise Centre, the Huron Business Development Corporation and other municipal, provincial and federal agencies and departments.
  5. Education and training programs will be supported for the purpose of workforce development and job creation, including programs designed to encourage retention of youth.
  6. Economic activity will have regard for public health, efficient energy practices, and the health and integrity of the environment.
  7. Economic development strategies and partnerships will be maintained and developed to enhance and support all sectors of the Huron economy including: agriculture, manufacturing, tourism and creative industries.
  8. Investment in economic development programs and resources will be designed and implemented in co-operation with local municipalities to ensure effective and efficient delivery.
  9. Planning and delivery of economic development programs and services will be developed and reviewed with the goals of: protecting environmental and community health; supporting and building upon existing sectors; diversifying the economy; retaining youth; fostering job creation; and conforming to the policies of this plan.
  10. Economic activity will have regard for efficient energy practices, new technologies, public health and sustainability of the community and natural systems.
  11. Economic activity regarding the growing, production, processing and marketing of local foods, including a winery secondary to an agricultural use, will be encouraged and supported, in accordance with the agricultural policies of this plan.

*Source: Huron County, 2015a*

### **3.7 Regional Profile Summary**

Huron County is an important agricultural area in the Province. It also occupies approximately a 100 km section of the Lake Huron shoreline, and, as a result, has had a long and important association with tourism and recreation. Like many rural locations in Ontario, Huron County is experiencing change. Manufacturing activity has diminished and the associated jobs have been lost. Agriculture is growing but not adding jobs. Farms are simply getting bigger with more land and more machinery. Traditional smaller farms are less common and the countryside is beginning to depopulate.

Huron County is experiencing slight population decline and its population is noticeably aging. Young people are finding it increasingly difficult to get good jobs in the County or surrounding region and as a result they are out-migrating. At the same time, however, retirees are moving to the area and either taking up residence in area towns and villages or converting their cottages to full time residences along the shoreline. The County is anxious to see economic development and job creation, but local logistics may make attracting major industry difficult. A prevailing hope is to attract small and medium size food processing businesses.

The small towns and villages throughout the County are facing challenges. Some core areas are in decline. Many local retail and service establishments are finding it increasingly difficult to attract business. Local residents no longer tend to shop local. They drive to shop where they can get good prices and selection either within the County (i.e., to Goderich and to a lesser extent Exeter) or beyond the County in larger urban centres (i.e., London and Kitchener-Waterloo).

## 4. Comparison of Community Patterns between Central Huron, Huron County and the Province

### 4.1 Population Dynamics

#### 4.1.1 Trend Over Time

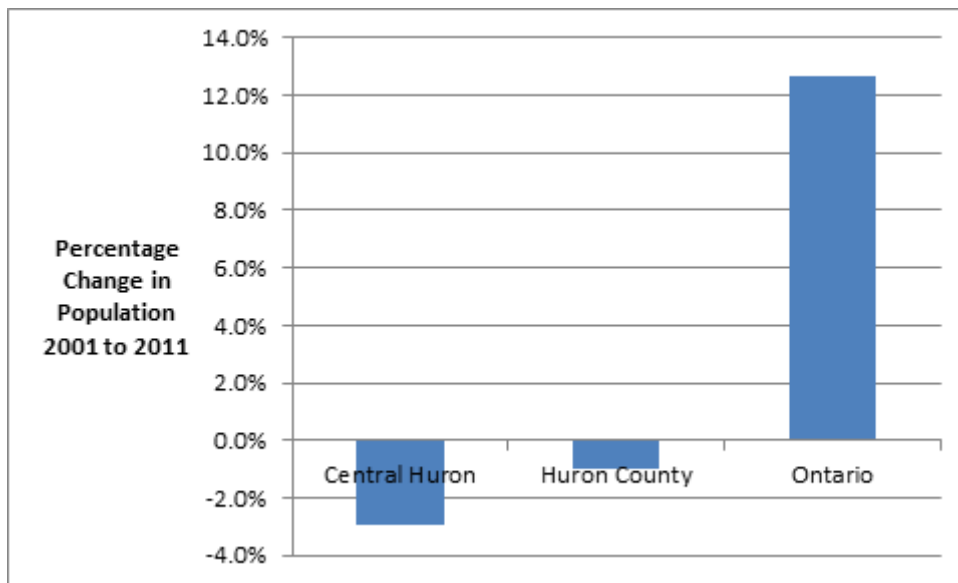
Table 37 and Figure 16 show population in Central Huron and Huron County declined over the period from 2001 to 2011. Central Huron lost 3% of its population and Huron County 1%. Conversely, over the same time frame, the Province showed population growth approaching 13%.

**Table 37. Population Trend (2001-2011) – Central Huron, Huron County and Ontario**

	2001 (Census)	2006 (Census)	% Change (2001-2006)	2011 (Census)	% Change (2006-2011)
<b>Central Huron</b>	7,806	7,641	-2.1%	7,595	-0.7%
<b>Huron County</b>	59,701	59,325	-0.6%	59,100	-0.4%
<b>Ontario</b>	11,410,046	12,160,282	6.6%	12,651,795	4%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2002a; Statistics Canada, 2002b; Statistics Canada, 2002c; Statistics Canada, 2002d; Statistics Canada, 2007a; Statistics Canada, 2007b; Statistics Canada, 2007c; Statistics Canada, 2007d; Statistics Canada, 2013d

**Figure 16. Percent Change in Population over Time in Central Huron, Huron County and Ontario**

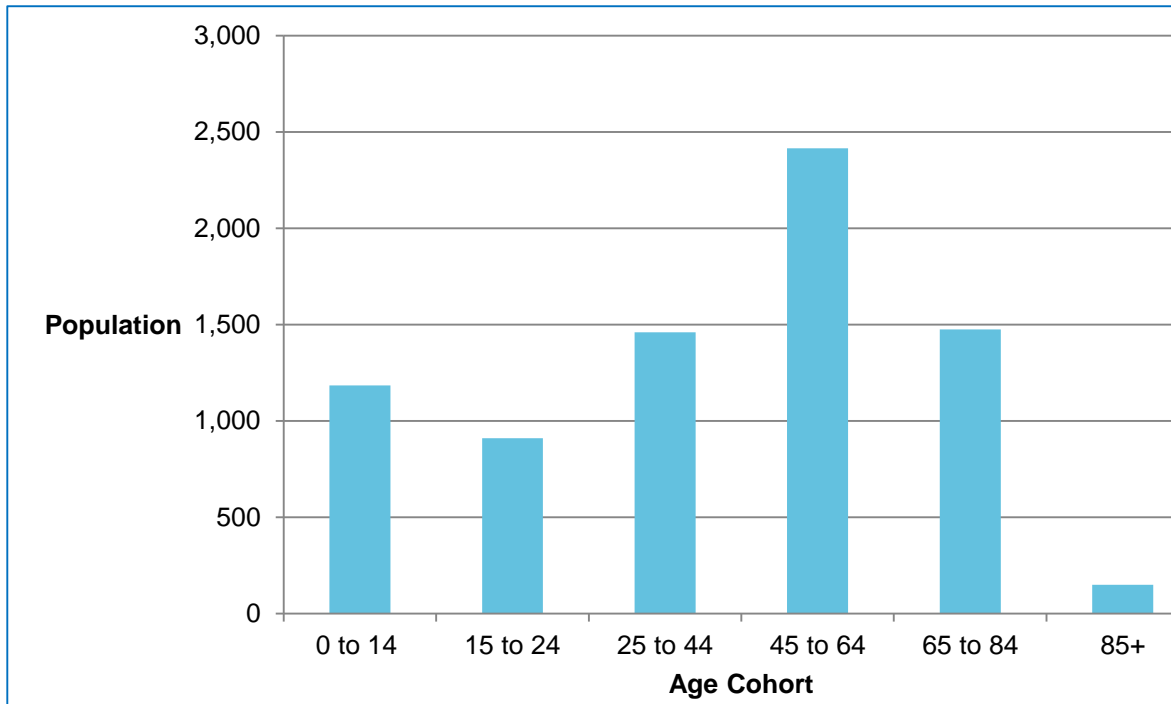


Source: Statistics Canada, 2002a; Statistics Canada, 2002b; Statistics Canada, 2002c; Statistics Canada, 2002d; Statistics Canada, 2007a; Statistics Canada, 2007b; Statistics Canada, 2007c; Statistics Canada, 2007d; Statistics Canada, 2013a; Statistics Canada, 2013b; Statistics Canada, 2013c; Statistics Canada, 2013d

#### 4.1.2 Age Profile

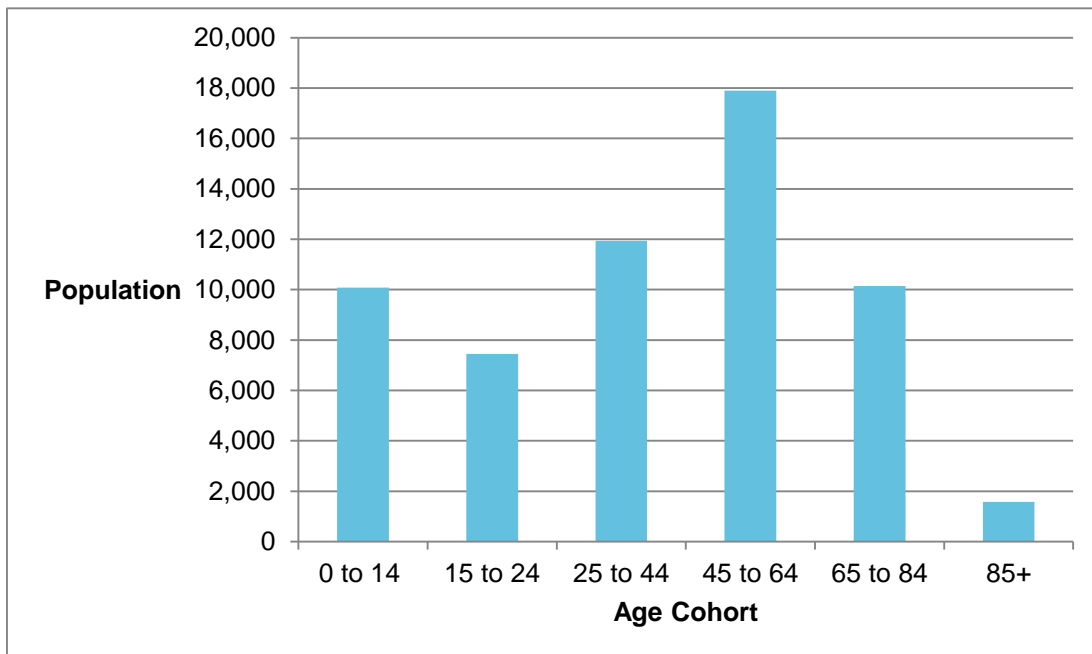
Age profiles for Central Huron, Huron County and the Province of Ontario are shown in Figures 17, 18 and 19. The profiles for Central Huron and Huron County are very close. The Provincial profile shows a much stronger 25 to 44 age cohort than either of the former. Table 38 reveals the Central Huron population has the highest median age followed by the County and then the Province.

**Figure 17. Age Profile (2011) – Central Huron**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2013a; Statistics Canada, 2013d

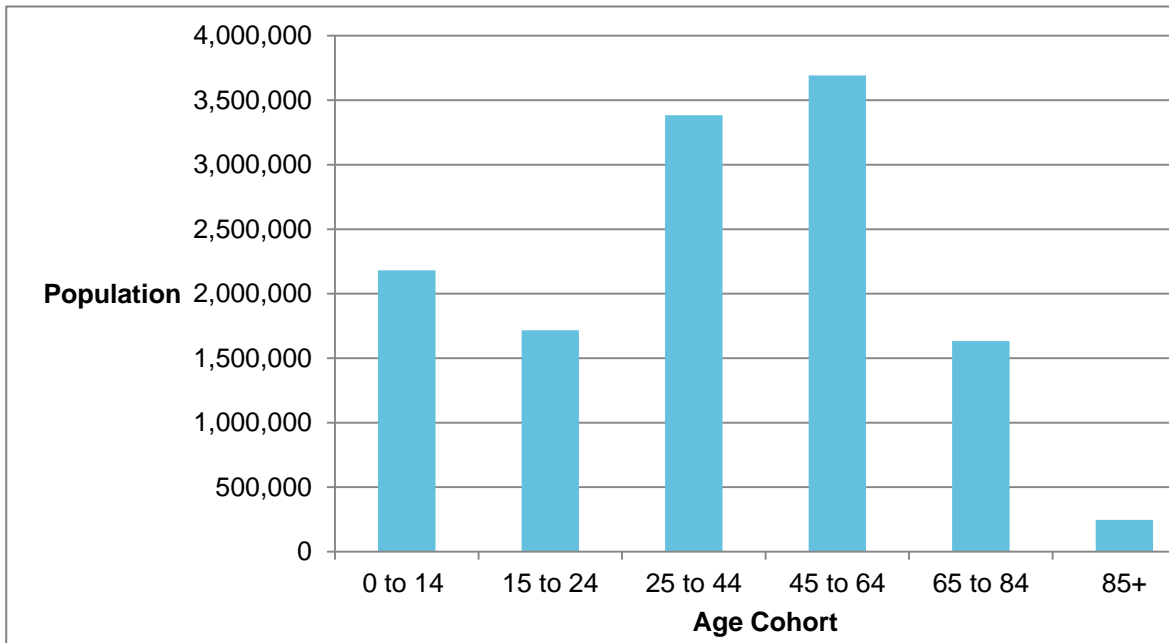
**Figure 18. Age Profile (2011) – Huron County**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2013b; Statistics Canada, 2013d



**Figure 19. Age Profile (2011) – Ontario**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2013c; Statistics Canada, 2013d

**Table 38. Gender and Age Profile (2011) – Central Huron, Huron County and Ontario**

Community	Total Population	Male	Female	Median Age	% Population 15 Years and Over
Central Huron	7,595	3,695	3,885	47.5	84.5%
Huron County	59,100	29,125	29,970	45.1	82.9%
Ontario	12,651,795	6,181,445	6,470,345	40.4	84.5%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2013a; Statistics Canada, 2013b; Statistics Canada, 2013c; Statistics Canada, 2013d

## 4.2 Labour Force

Table 39 shows Central Huron, Huron County and the Province of Ontario have similar participation rates in the labour force. Central Huron shows an unemployment rate that is half a percentage point lower than Huron County and nearly 3% lower than the Province.

**Table 39. Labour Force (2011) – Central Huron, Huron County and Ontario**

Labour Force Activity	Central Huron	Huron County	Ontario
Total Population – Individuals 15 years and over	6,395	47,815	11,359,578
In Labour Force	4,130	31,525	7,496,542
Employed	3,915	29,740	6,848,397
Unemployed	215	1,790	648,145
Participation Rate	64.6%	65.9%	66.0%
Employment Rate	61.2%	62.2%	60.3%
Unemployment Rate	5.2%	5.7%	8.6%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2013a; Statistics Canada, 2013b; Statistics Canada, 2013c; Statistics Canada, 2013d

#### 4.2.1 Population by Education/Training Attainment

With respect to education/training attainment, the most striking figure in Table 40 is for the category - University certificate, diploma or degree. Central Huron is slightly above the level of attainment for the County. Both, however, are roughly 60% below the level realized for the Province. Central Huron and the County of Huron both show slightly higher attainment levels compared to the Province for the category – Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma.

At the high school level, both the Municipality and County show higher attainment of certificates or equivalents than the Province.

**Table 40. Education Profile (2011) – Central Huron, Huron County and Province of Ontario**

Education/Training Attainment (25 Years and Over)	Central Huron	%	Huron County	%	Ontario	%
<b>Total Population – Individuals aged 25 to 64</b>	3,880	/	29,505	/	7,018,880	-
<b>No Certificate, Diploma, Degree</b>	600	15.46%	5,120	17.35%	769,575	10.96%
<b>High School Certificate or Equivalent</b>	1,075	27.70%	8,455	28.66%	1,702,160	24.25%
<b>Apprenticeship or Trades Certificate or Diploma</b>	450	11.60%	3,505	11.88%	546,565	7.79%
<b>College, CEGEP or Other Non-university Certificate or Diploma</b>	1,135	29.25%	8,135	27.57%	1,654,395	23.57%
<b>University Certificate or Diploma Below the Bachelor Level</b>	75	1.93%	660	2.24%	318,130	4.53%
<b>University Certificate, Diploma or Degree</b>	540	13.92%	3,630	12.30%	2,028,055	28.89%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2013a; Statistics Canada, 2013b; Statistics Canada, 2013c; Statistics Canada, 2013d

#### 4.2.2 Employment by Activity and Sector

Table 41 shows Central Huron has a very high concentration of employment in – Agriculture, Forestry Fishing and Hunting. This concentration is 1.6 times that found at the County level and 14 times that found at the Provincial level. Proportionally, Manufacturing is weaker in Central Huron than it is in Huron County or the Province. By the same token, Huron County shows more strength in Manufacturing than the Province. The other sector of note is Professional Scientific and Technical Services. Central Huron has a stronger representation in this sector than Huron County but a much lower concentration than the Province.

**Table 41. Employment by Activity and Sector (2011) – Central Huron, Huron County, and Ontario**

Employment by Activity and Sector	Central Huron	%	Huron County	%	Ontario	%
<b>Total Labour Force Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Industry</b>	4,130	-	31,520	-	6,864,985	-
<b>Industry - not applicable</b>	70	1.7%	525	1.7%	184,735	2.7%
<b>All Industries</b>	4,060	98%	31,000	98.4%	6,680,250	97.3%
<b>Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting</b>	875	21%	4,230	13.4%	101,280	1.5%
<b>Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction</b>	65	2%	445	1.4%	29,985	0.4%
<b>Utilities</b>	40	1%	550	1.7%	57,035	0.8%
<b>Construction</b>	255	6%	2,930	9.3%	417,900	6.1%
<b>Manufacturing</b>	300	7%	3,705	11.8%	697,565	10.2%
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	150	4%	1,280	4.1%	305,030	4.4%
<b>Retail Trade</b>	415	10%	2,900	9.2%	751,200	10.9%
<b>Transportation and Warehousing</b>	145	4%	1,415	4.5%	307,405	4.5%
<b>Information and Cultural Industries</b>	30	1%	335	1.1%	178,720	2.6%
<b>Finance and Insurance</b>	95	2%	745	2.4%	364,415	5.3%
<b>Real Estate and Rental and Leasing</b>	40	1%	435	1.4%	133,980	2.0%
<b>Professional, Scientific and Technical Services</b>	155	4%	980	3.1%	511,020	7.4%
<b>Management of Companies and Enterprises</b>	0	0%	0	0.0%	6,525	0.1%
<b>Administrative and Support, Waste Management and Remediation Services</b>	135	3%	1,060	3.4%	309,630	4.5%
<b>Educational Services</b>	280	7%	1,675	5.3%	499,690	7.3%
<b>Health Care and Social Assistance</b>	395	10%	3,490	11.1%	692,130	10.1%
<b>Arts, Entertainment and Recreation</b>	95	2%	400	1.3%	144,065	2.1%
<b>Accommodation and Food Services</b>	200	5%	1,855	5.9%	417,675	6.1%
<b>Other Services (except public administration)</b>	275	7%	1,360	4.3%	296,340	4.3%
<b>Public Administration</b>	115	3%	1,185	3.8%	458,665	6.7%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2013a; Statistics Canada, 2013b; Statistics Canada, 2013c; Statistics Canada, 2013d

### 4.2.3 Skills and Labour

The distribution of total labour force by skill/occupation in Huron County compared to Central Huron for 2011 is provided in Table 42. The profiles are roughly similar. The largest proportion of the total labour force worked in either “Sales and Service Occupations and Trades” or “Transport and Equipment Operations and Related Production Occupations” in both Central Huron and Huron County. The least represented category in Central Huron and Huron County was “Occupations in Art, Culture, Recreation and Sport”.

**Table 42. Comparison of Labour Force Occupations in Central Huron and Huron County (2011)**

Total Labour Force by Occupation – Skills Profile	Central Huron	Huron County
<b>Total Labour Force Population aged 15 years and over by occupation</b>	4,130	31,520
<b>Occupation - not applicable</b>	70	525
<b>All Occupations</b>	4,065	30,995
<b>Management Occupations</b>	750	4,420
<b>Business, Finance and Administration Occupations</b>	485	3,760
<b>Natural and Applied Sciences and Related Occupations</b>	105	875
<b>Health Occupations</b>	240	2,050
<b>Occupations in Education, Law and Social, Community and Government Services</b>	375	2,945
<b>Occupations in Art, Culture, Recreation and Sport</b>	40	480
<b>Sales and Service Occupations</b>	770	5,880
<b>Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators and Related Occupations</b>	710	6,145
<b>Natural Resources, Agriculture and Related Production Occupations</b>	335	2,135
<b>Occupations in Manufacturing and Utilities</b>	255	2,310

Source: Statistics Canada, 2013a; Statistics Canada, 2013b; Statistics Canada, 2013c; Statistics Canada, 2013d

## 4.3 Community Patterns with Region and Province Summary

The available data indicates overall, the populations of Central Huron and Huron County have dipped slightly since 2001 while the Provincial population has grown by 13% (Statistics Canada, 2002; 2007; 2012a). As shown in Table 38, in 2011 the median age of the population in Central Huron was roughly 2.5 years older than that for the County and 7 years older than that for the Province. As shown in Table 27, between 2001 and 2011 Central Huron’s population aged at a slightly faster rate than that for Huron County. Unemployment rates are slightly lower in Central Huron and the County relative to the Province. Educational attainment in terms of university degrees is much higher for the Province relative to Central Huron and the County. Relative to the Province, persons employed in primary activity (i.e., agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting) in Central Huron and Huron County account for a much larger portion of their constituent labour forces.

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# Appendix A

Businesses and Services  
Inventory for Central Huron

Appendix A. Businesses and Services Inventory for Central Huron

# Appendix A. Businesses and Services Inventory for Central Huron

Business/Organization Type	Business/Organization Name
Accommodation, Bed & Breakfast	Locust Leaf Bed & Breakfast Audrey's B & B Bannock Burn B&B Godley Bed & Breakfast The Hen's Nest Kildonan House Bed & Breakfast Three Gables Bed & Breakfast Nairn Drive Bed & Breakfast Wagon Wheel Bed & Breakfast
Accommodation, Campgrounds & RV Parks	The Old Homestead Pine Lake Campground Shelter Valley Campground Kitchigami Family Campground
Accommodation, Housekeeping Cottages & Cabins	Summer Haze Locust Leaf Sunset Suite Maitland's Hidden Treasure Emerald Escape Sharpe's Cottage
Accommodation, Permanent & Seasonal	The Lighthouse Cove
Accommodation, Permanent & Seasonal AND Real Estate, Property Rental, Leasing, Appraising	Huron River Villa Princess Huron Lakefront Trailerpark Resort
Accommodations, Campgrounds & RV Parks AND Golf, Curling & Country Clubs, & Mini Golf	Bluewater Golf Course & Campgrounds
Accommodations, Hotels, Motels, Inns & Resorts	Bayfield Village Inn Inc. Deer Park Lodge Dreamz Inn Silver Birch Motel
Accommodations, Hotels, Motels, Inns & Resorts AND Accommodation, Motels & Resorts	Parker House Motel
Accounting, Bookkeeping & Tax Preparation	Christina Feeney, C.A. Megan Ashbourn Bookkeeping James Collins, Accountant Hayter & Associates Inc. Vodden, Bender & Seebach, CA's - Clinton
Antiques & Collectables, Consignment, Used Merchandise	Of Rack & Room Treasures Past & Present C & E New & Used Furniture Holmesville Church Galleries Ringwood House Antiques
Antiques & Collectables, Used Merchandise AND Food, Farm Direct	Bayfield North Antiques & Collectibles Flea Market
Antiques & Collectibles, Consignment, Used Merchandise and Women's Apparel & Fashion Accessories and Children's & Infants' Clothing, Accessories & Furnishings	ReLook Nook
Appliance & Electronics Sales & Service	Groves TV & Appliance Centre L & A Southwest Satellite
Appliance & Electronics Sales & Service AND Home & Yard Improvements, Building Supplies & Hardware	Wise Energy Center
Artists, Galleries & Studios	Towns Sharp's Creek Forge
Artists, Galleries & Studios AND Manufacturing & Industry	C.C.I. - Creative Custom Ironworks

**Appendix A. Businesses and Services Inventory for Central Huron**

<b>Business/Organization Type</b>	<b>Business/Organization Name</b>
<b>Artists, Galleries &amp; Studios, including Framing</b>	Susan Hay Studio
<b>Arts &amp; Crafts, Sewing, Knitting &amp; Hobby Supply Stores AND Food Stores, Specialty</b>	The Dutch Store
<b>Attractions</b>	Woodlands Arboretum & Nature Centre
<b>Attractions AND Sports &amp; Recreation</b>	Hullett Provincial Wildlife Management Area
<b>Auctioneers</b>	Richard Lobb, Auctioneer
<b>Audiologist</b>	ListenUp! Canada
<b>Auto Repair &amp; Maintenance AND Automotive &amp; RV Sales, Rental &amp; Service (New &amp; Used)</b>	A & T Automotive Service Centre
<b>Automotive &amp; RV Sales, Rental &amp; Service (New &amp; Used)</b>	Anchorvale Repair & Sales
<b>Automotive &amp; RV Sales, Rental &amp; Service (New &amp; Used) AND Service Stations</b>	P.J. Goldsworthy, Motor Sales & Petro
<b>Automotive Part, Repair &amp; Maintenance</b>	Carter's West End Garage & Body Shop Clere-Vu Auto Recyclers Clinton Auto Parts Ltd. Elliott's Rad Shop Mark's Auto Repair Countryside Collision & Customizing Don's General Repairs & Auto AC Centre Otten Auto Refinishing Radar Auto Parts Inc.- Clinton MGM Townsend Tire
<b>Automotive Part, Repair &amp; Maintenance AND Fuel Suppliers</b>	Huron Fuel Injection Ltd.
<b>Automotive Part, Repair &amp; Maintenance AND Recycling &amp; Waste Disposal , Demolition, Salvage</b>	Jenkins Repair Service & Towing
<b>Banks, Trust Companies &amp; Credit Unions</b>	BMO Bank of Montreal RBC Royal Bank
<b>Beer, Wine &amp; Liquor Stores</b>	The Beer Store (LCBO) Liquor Control Board Of Ontario
<b>BIAS &amp; Chambers of Commerce</b>	Clinton and Central Huron BIA
<b>Catalogue &amp; Online Shopping</b>	Sears Order Office
<b>Caterers &amp; Mobile Food Service</b>	Bon Vivant - Personal Chef Service Deli-licious Catering Red Rose Catering
<b>Child Care Services</b>	Clinton Co-operative Child Care Centre
<b>Cleaning Services, Pest Control</b>	Paul Davis Systems of Huron-Perth Cleanfreak Cleaning Co. Housekeeper for Hire
<b>Communication, Marketing &amp; Media</b>	Purple Unicorn Technology
<b>Communication, Marketing &amp; Media AND Advertising &amp; Public Relations</b>	RPM Promotions M.P. Russo & Associates Inc.
<b>Communication, Marketing &amp; Media AND Storage &amp; Warehousing</b>	ShipCo Promotional Marketing
<b>Construction Materials &amp; Building Supplies</b>	Tri-County Brick & Masonry
<b>Construction Materials &amp; Building Supplies AND Hardware Stores</b>	Langford Lumber Home Building Centre
<b>Consulting: Personal AND Music &amp; Dance: Instruments &amp; Supplies, Instruction/Lessons AND Health, Mental Health, Counselling &amp; Therapy</b>	DP Music Therapy
<b>Contractors, Cabinet Makers &amp; Finish</b>	Steve Haggitt Cabinet Installation
<b>Contractors, Cabinet Makers &amp; Finish AND Manufacturing &amp; Industry</b>	Unique Custom Woodworks

**Appendix A. Businesses and Services Inventory for Central Huron**

<b>Business/Organization Type</b>	<b>Business/Organization Name</b>
<b>Contractors, Electrical</b>	ADR Electric Ed's Electric D&J Gower
<b>Contractors, Excavation &amp; Site Preparation</b>	A & W Concrete Forming Ltd/A & W Brick & Concrete Products Merner Contracting Ltd. Postill Excavating Sid Bruinsma Excavating Inc. Gulutzen Excavation
<b>Contractors, Excavation &amp; Site Preparation AND Contractors, Septic &amp; Sewage AND Mining, Quarrying &amp; Related Services</b>	VanDriel Excavating Inc.
<b>Contractors, Flooring, Tiling AND Paint, Decorating &amp; Flooring Stores</b>	Lakewood Hardwood Flooring
<b>Contractors, General Construction</b>	Jack H. Gerrits Building Contractor Renovations& Additions Ken's Carpentry LCB Langendoen Custom Builders Postma Custom Building Vanden Heuvel Structures Walter Bell, Masonry Construction Mayberry Carpentry Rutledge Renovations
<b>Contractors, General Construction AND Contractors, Excavation &amp; Site Preparation</b>	Nesbitt Construction Inc.
<b>Contractors, Painting &amp; Wallpaper, &amp; Drywall</b>	Atherton Painting & Renovations
<b>Contractors, Painting, Wallpaper &amp; Drywall</b>	Rick's Painting Victorian Dècor West Coast Painting Rescom Home Comfort Tom Duizer Plumbing & Heating
<b>Contractors, Plumbing, Heating &amp; Cooling AND Home &amp; Yard Improvements, Building Supplies &amp; Hardware AND Contractors, Electrical</b>	Wist Energy Centre
<b>Contractors, Roofing &amp; Siding</b>	Stryker's Siding & Insulation
<b>Contractors, Specialty/All Other</b>	Central Huron Insulation Inc D.O.R.S. Denomme's Overhead Repair Service Dick's Tree Cutting and Boom Service
<b>Convenience Stores (Including Video)</b>	Charlie's Variety
<b>Dental &amp; Denture Services</b>	Albert Street Denture Clinic Clinton Dental Clinic
<b>Department Stores</b>	Elliott's Liquidation & Auction Inc. Canadian Tire WalMart
<b>Design Services: Graphic, Printing, Signage, Interior AND Manufacturing &amp; Industry</b>	Creative Classics
<b>Education &amp; Training</b>	ESTC (Emergency Services Training Centre) Central Huron Secondary School (CHSS) The Centre for Employment & Learning Clinton & District Christian School Clinton Drive Test Centre-Ministry of Transportation Clinton Public School Rural Response for Healthy Children St Anne's Secondary School St Joseph's School Hullett Central Public School
<b>Farm &amp; Agriculture Related: Sales &amp; Services</b>	Cargill Fertilizer Ltd. Robert Radford Farm Machinery Repairs Radford's Farm Equipment

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<b>Business/Organization Type</b>	<b>Business/Organization Name</b>
<b>Farm &amp; Agriculture Related: Sales &amp; Services AND Auto Repair &amp; Maintenance AND Automotive Parts</b>	Ontario Used Tractor Parts
<b>Farm &amp; Agriculture Related: Sales &amp; Services AND Farmers' &amp; Vendors' Market</b>	Firmly Rooted
<b>Farm &amp; Agriculture Related: Sales &amp; Services AND Manufacturing &amp; Industry</b>	Co-Op Huron Bay Co-Operative Inc.
<b>Farm &amp; Agriculture Related: Sales &amp; Services AND Water: Softening, Purification, Bulk &amp; Bottled AND Contractors, Specialty Trade</b>	Dale's Pump & Farm Service Ltd.
<b>Farmers' &amp; Vendors' Market</b>	Farmer's Market Clinton and Central Huron Farmers Market
<b>Finance &amp; Insurance</b>	Libro Credit Union
<b>Florists/Special Occasions</b>	Per-fect Designs Zehrs Florist
<b>Florists/Special Occasions AND garden centres &amp; landscaping services</b>	The Backyard Flower Shop
<b>Food Stores, Specialty AND Restaurants (Eat-in &amp; Take-out) AND Manufacturing &amp; Industry AND Food, Farm Direct AND Caterers, Mobile Food Services</b>	Bayfield Berry Farm
<b>Food, Farm Direct</b>	Falcon Spring Farms Hayen Barton Stock Farm Frank & Wanda Rozendal Bellview Fruit Farm Goud Farm Jim Bell Fruit Farm
<b>Food, Farm Direct AND Manufacturing &amp; Industry</b>	Blyth Farm Cheese
<b>Food, Farm Direct AND Museums &amp; Historical Sites, Attractions</b>	Laithwaite Apple Park
<b>Food, Farm Direct AND wholesale distributors</b>	Boucher's Honey Bees
<b>Footwear, Leather Goods &amp; Luggage AND Women's Apparel &amp; Fashion Accessories AND Men's Clothing</b>	The Old Mill
<b>Fuel Suppliers</b>	Sparling's Propane Co. Ltd.
<b>Funeral Services, Cemeteries</b>	Falconer Funeral Homes Ltd. Huron Superior Memorials
<b>Garden Centres, Landscaping Services &amp; Nurseries</b>	Falhaven Farm & Nursery Mathers' Landscaping Pondsvie Garden Centre Greyhaven Gardens
<b>Garden Centres, Landscaping Services &amp; Nurseries AND contractors, specialty trade</b>	Stumpy's Tree Service & Removal
<b>Garden Centres, Landscaping Services &amp; Nurseries AND Farm &amp; Agriculture Related: Sales &amp; Services AND Veterinary &amp; Pet Services &amp; Supplies</b>	Verbeek's Farm & Garden Centre
<b>Golf, Curling &amp; Country Clubs, &amp; Mini Golf</b>	Woodlands Links Golf Course
<b>Grocery Stores</b>	Foodland Zehrs Food Plus
<b>Hair &amp; Body Care/Spas</b>	Cornerstone Spa The Cutting Edge Dapper Haircuts for Guys Les Ciseaux (Clinton) Ltd. Reflections By Design First Choice Haircutters P-Zazz Salon & Spa
<b>Health: Chiropractic, Massage &amp; Physiotherapy Services</b>	Irene Cantelon, Reflexologist Clinton Massage Therapy Clinic Mary Marsh, Reflexologist

**Appendix A. Businesses and Services Inventory for Central Huron**

<b>Business/Organization Type</b>	<b>Business/Organization Name</b>
<b>Health: Chiropractic, Massage &amp; Physiotherapy Services AND Health: Alternative Health Services</b>	Clinton Chiropractic & Wellness Centre Clinic
<b>Health: Medical &amp; Emergency Services</b>	Clinton Family Health Team Clinton Medical Centre Clinton Public Hospital Dr. Keith Hay Dr. Marianne Smith
<b>Health: Miscellaneous Social &amp; Healthcare Services</b>	Community Care Access Centre for Huron ONE CARE Home & Community Support Services
<b>Home &amp; Yard Improvements, Building Supplies &amp; Hardware</b>	Blue Horizon Pools & Spas
<b>Home Furnishings &amp; Gift Stores</b>	Crossroads Made in Huron Artisan Market & More Robert F. Blackwell Fine Woodworking
<b>Home Furnishings &amp; Gift Stores AND Manufacturing &amp; Industry</b>	Nature's Nest
<b>Investment &amp; Insurance</b>	Canada First Financial Inc Lawrence Beane Financial Services Gaiser-Kneale Insurance Brokers Inc. Investors Group Financial Services Inc. - Clinton Bryan Lavis Insurance Broker Ltd. P.A. Roy Insurance Brokers o/a Excalibur Insurance Group
<b>Legal Services</b>	Philip Cornish D. Gerald Hiltz, Lawyer
<b>Libraries</b>	Clinton Library
<b>Manufacturing &amp; Industry</b>	Bluewater Docking Systems Composite Creations Epps Products Lavis Contracting Co. Ltd. Summerhill Machine Shop Tiesma Industrial Coverings Inc. Kountry Essence Candles Shoreline Welding & Machine Inc.
<b>Manufacturing &amp; Industry AND artists, galleries &amp; studios, including framing</b>	The Recycler
<b>Manufacturing &amp; Industry AND contractors, cabinet makers &amp; finish</b>	Wood Concepts
<b>Manufacturing &amp; Industry AND contractors, specialty trade</b>	Teeswater Concrete Ltd.
<b>Manufacturing &amp; Industry AND design services: graphic, printing, signage, interior</b>	Max Print & Copy Inc. Sign Guys Canada
<b>Manufacturing &amp; Industry AND heavy equipment sales, service &amp; parts</b>	Thomson Technical Services Inc
<b>Manufacturing &amp; Industry AND retail, all others AND storage &amp; warehousing</b>	Fleming Feed Mill Ltd.
<b>Municipal Government</b>	Municipality of Central Huron
<b>Museums &amp; Historical Sites, Attractions</b>	School on Wheels Railcar Museum
<b>Music &amp; Dance Instruction/Lessons</b>	Dance Techniques
<b>Optometrists, Opticians &amp; Optical Supplies</b>	Huron Optometric Centres - Clinton
<b>Organizations, Associations &amp; Service Clubs</b>	Central Huron Agricultural Society Jeannette Martin Clinton Horticultural Society Clinton Legion Clinton Lions Club Huron County Soil & Crop Improvement Assoc. Kinsmen / Kinettes

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<b>Business/Organization Type</b>	<b>Business/Organization Name</b>
<b>Pharmacies</b>	Clinton Pharmacy J & J Pharmacy Ltd. Zehrs Pharmacy
<b>Photographers</b>	DLS Photography
<b>Places of Worship</b>	Heartland Community Church St. Paul's Anglican Church - Clinton
<b>Professional, Scientific &amp; Technical Services</b>	Frank A. Cameron Barrs. & Solic.
<b>Public Administration</b>	Huron County Library Ministry of Natural Resources Ministry of Transportation (MTO)
<b>Public Administration AND Health: Miscellaneous Social &amp; Healthcare Services</b>	Huron County Health Unit
<b>Publishers, Newspapers, Directories, Books, Etc.</b>	Clinton News Record
<b>Real estate, Property Rental, Leasing, Appraising</b>	Farm Credit Canada (FCC) Rathwell National Realty Inc. Royal LePage Heartland Realty Thomas Consulting
<b>Rental: Industrial/Commercial/Consumer Goods &amp; Equipment AND Wedding Related</b>	NJS Design, Event & Party Rentals
<b>Restaurants (Eat-In &amp; Take-Out)</b>	China Palace Godfathers Pizza Lil's Kitchen New Orleans Pizza Stella's Burger Bar Subway Willy's Burger Bar Tim Hortons
<b>Restaurants (Eat-In &amp; Take-Out) AND bake shops</b>	Bartliff's Bakery & Restaurant
<b>Restaurants (Eat-In &amp; Take-Out) AND Caterers &amp; Mobile Food Service AND Facility Rental</b>	The White Carnation Restaurant & Banquet Hall
<b>Service Stations</b>	Edward Fuels - Clinton Gas Bar Edward Fuels, Zehrs Gas Bar
<b>Shipping, Courier</b>	Canada Post Corporation, Clinton The Shipping Store - Clinton
<b>Shipping, Courier AND Storage &amp; Warehousing AND Funeral Services, estate distribution, cemeteries</b>	ShipCo International
<b>Small engine sales &amp; repair, boat, motorcycle, etc. AND rental: industrial/commercial/consumer goods &amp; equipment</b>	Central Huron Rental & Small Engine Repair
<b>Small engine sales AND repair, boat, motorcycle, etc.</b>	Goderich Power Centre
<b>Social Services</b>	The Community of Friends Moving Toward Wellness Rehabilitation Services
<b>Social Services AND Consulting: Personal</b>	Huron-Perth Centre EAP Services
<b>Sporting Goods</b>	Ontario Gun Services
<b>Sports &amp; Recreation</b>	Clinton Racetrack
<b>Sports &amp; Recreation AND Equine Breeding, Training, Lessons</b>	Home on the Range - Frontier Town
<b>Storage &amp; Warehousing AND Farm &amp; Agriculture Related: Sales &amp; Services</b>	Hensall District Co-op Elevators Inc. - Londesboro
<b>Taxi, limousine &amp; charter bus services</b>	Clinton Taxi
<b>Taxi, Limousine &amp; Patient Transportation</b>	Robert Q Travel Mart
<b>Transportation: Services &amp; supplies</b>	TTK Services Inc.

**Appendix A. Businesses and Services Inventory for Central Huron**

Business/Organization Type	Business/Organization Name
<b>Veterinary &amp; Pet Services &amp; Supplies</b>	Clinton Veterinary Services Snips & Clips, Professional Dog Grooming Brown Dog Kennels Huron Registered (Kuvaszok) Kennels Pet Valu
<b>Water: Softening, Purification, Bulk &amp; Bottled</b>	ARC Water
<b>Website Development, Design, Marketing &amp; Consultation</b>	Rural Business Network DataQuest Consulting Services
<b>Wholesale Distributors</b>	Baker's Nursery
<b>Window, Door &amp; Mirror Sales &amp; Installation AND Home &amp; Yard Improvements, Building Supplies &amp; Hardware</b>	Clinton Glass & Mirror Company Ltd.
<b>Women's Apparel &amp; Fashion Accessories</b>	Marita's Fashion Boutique