

# EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT: Planning & Development



Centre Wellington

Planning & Development includes Planning, Heritage, GIS, the Building Division & **Economic Development**

**NUMBER  
OF STAFF**  
1

## Economic Development Officer



**WHAT  
DO  
WE  
DO?**

- Encourage and facilitate business retention and expansion
- Facilitate commercial and industrial development projects and investment
- Manage the municipally owned employment lands
- Collaborate with key stakeholders – such as BIA's, Chamber of Commerce, County of Wellington
- Provide economic and community information – demographics and statistics
- Facilitate external business attraction

**KEY  
FACTS**



- 2018 Population: 29,963
- 2,852 business establishments, a 66% growth in total number of businesses from 2012 - 2017
- \$2.5 billion in total export sales from Centre Wellington
- 100 one-on-one Business Consultations in first six months of operations at the Small Business Centre – 68 Small Businesses visited

**CURRENT  
&  
UPCOMING  
PROJECTS**

- New Economic Development Strategic Action Plan – complete in February 2019
- Downtown Fergus Action Plan – including implementing Main Street Revitalization Funding
- Improve Centre Wellington Community Improvement Plan – update and implement County of Wellington involvement
- Continue to Expand Service of Small Business Centre – in partnership with Guelph Wellington Business Centre
- Land and space – work to provide solutions to limited availability

# TOP QUESTIONS ASKED

**1. I want to expand my business, does the Township have any land available?**

Contact Township economic development staff with information on the business requirements and staff will provide information on the most appropriate option for the business owner.

**2. Is there any space for my business to rent or purchase?**

Contact Township economic development staff with requirements – amount of space, location etc – and staff will provide options based on what is available in the marketplace that meets those needs.

**3. Is there help with starting a business in Centre Wellington?**

Contact the Small Business Centre located in Fergus for one-on-one assistance in creating business plans, and general small business support.

**4. Can I get help from the Township to fix up my storefront?**

Contact Township economic development staff about eligibility requirements for the Community Improvement Plan, or visit the website (see Community improvement Plan)

**5. What is the Economic Development Strategic Action Plan?**

A plan to guide and inform Economic Development Activities that supports local businesses and addresses issue identified by the community.