



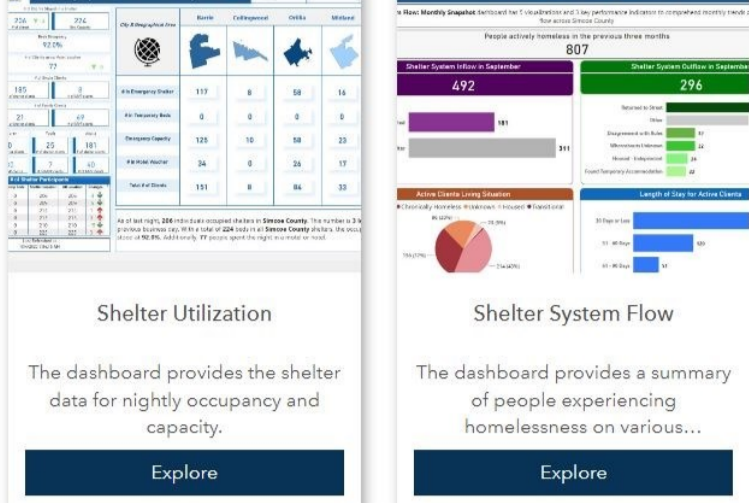
Council Highlights are intended to provide a summary of Council proceedings only. The information contained within the Highlights is based on approved material from within the associated agenda packages, linked at the bottom. These reports were part of the agendas from the **Council Meeting on October 24, 2023** and the **Committee of the Whole Meeting on October 10, 2023**. For more information on any item covered in the Highlights, each article is hyperlinked to the appropriate report, which can be accessed by clicking on the title. Images are also linked to relevant resources.

A recording of these sessions is also available for public viewing on the [County's YouTube channel](#).

- Service Simcoe



### Explore Data by Category



Click on the image above to visit the new dashboard.

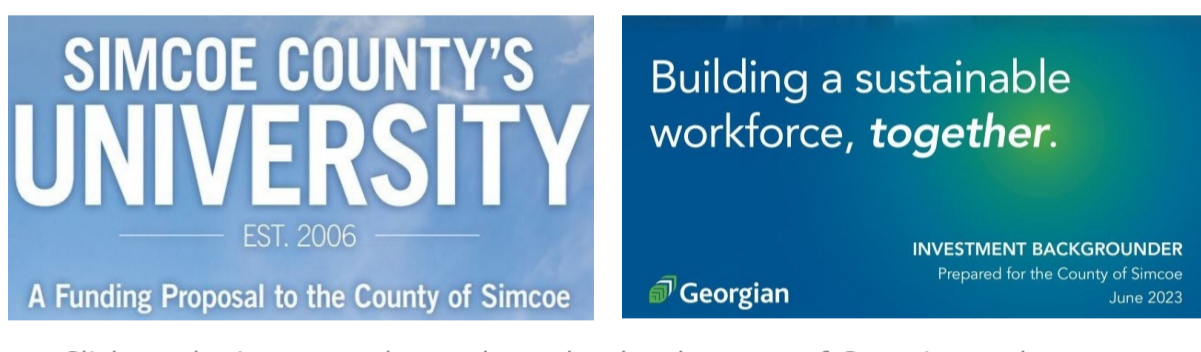
## Homelessness Services Winter Response and Deployment of Public Shelter Dashboard

On October 10, County Council was presented with the proposed homelessness services' winter response plan for 2023-2024. As part of the County's 10-point homelessness prevention strategy, this winter response plan highlights proposed actions to support our unhoused population throughout the coldest months of the year.

The winter response plan outlines the County's enhanced support with:

- winter warming centres – opening 7 days per week during the winter months
- additional mobile response outreach teams supporting additional warming and transportation to shelters during inclement weather
- activation for alternate spaces and temporary overflow beds in shelters, with up to an additional 107 available spaces, over and above the 224 shelter beds already in the system
- new tools to assist the public, service providers, and municipalities in accessing live to-the-minute data on each local homeless shelter's current bed capacity

The real-time data available through the new homelessness dashboard ([open.simcoe.ca](https://open.simcoe.ca)) will allow the public and stakeholders to see exactly where and when spaces are available and allow the County and its partners to plan ahead and monitor effectiveness of the long-term strategy. The development of this dashboard will continue to help the County make the best decisions and implement its 10-point homelessness prevention strategy.



Click on the images to learn about the development of Georgian and Lakehead.

## Post Secondary Education Capital Funding

County Council has a long history of supporting our local Post Secondary Education institutions providing funding for capital works and partnership program funding to assist in providing opportunities for our residents to obtain post-secondary diplomas and degrees close to home.

The previous 10 year, \$1.5M annual commitment provided funding of \$10M to Lakehead and \$5M (plus additional contributions) to Georgian.

On October 24, 2023, Council approved that a request from Georgian College, in the amount of \$1.5 million towards the capital renovations of the skilled trades facilities, be supported with funding being utilized from the post secondary capital reserve. A request from Lakehead University, in the amount of \$15 million towards the further development of the Orillia Campus facilities, was also supported with funding being utilized from the annual budget contributions toward post secondary capital supports until the commitment is achieved.

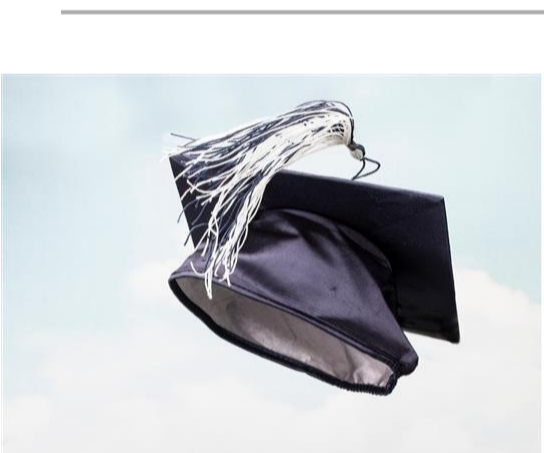


Click on the image above to learn more about the County's 5-point strategy on Early Learning and Child Care Growth

## Updated Provincial Funding Allocation and Directed Growth Plan

Ontario's vision for the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system includes a licensed child care system where more families in Ontario have access to high quality, affordable, flexible, and inclusive early learning and child care regardless of where they live. Through the CWELCC agreement between the province and the federal government, Ontario has been funded to create 86,000 new child care spaces compared to 2019 levels. As part of the provincial growth plan, Simcoe County has received an allocation of 3,081 new licensed child care spaces for creation between 2022 and 2026. This is the third-largest allocation in Ontario.

On October 10, Council received a report on the growth of child care spaces in Simcoe County. In 2023, the County exceeded the 464 spaces it was required to create. Over 1,100 new licensed child care spaces have been created or are expected to open across the County in 2023. As the County continues to grow, it will request additional spaces to support future years' growth beyond the 3,081 spaces.



# Bursary Program

## Student Bursary Congratulations

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2023 student bursaries. This year, the County partnered with all 16 member municipalities to offer 16 bursaries that are jointly funded (\$2,000 from the County, \$1,000 from the member municipality). Congratulations to:

- Haley Lundy, Township of Adjala-Tosorontio
- Michaela Warman, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury
- Justin Rowbotham, Township of Clearview
- Taylor Mather, Town of Collingwood
- Julia Mancuso, Township of Essa
- Briar Cryderman, Town of Innisfil
- Audrey Gignac, Township of Midland
- Demarco Smith, Township of New Tecumseth
- Colleen McElroy, Township of Oro-Medonte
- Alexa Weatherell, Town of Penetanguishene
- Franchi Torchia, Township of Ramara
- Abigail Austin, Township of Springwater
- Katya Fairbairn, Township of Springwater
- Patricia Roussel, Township of Tay
- Chloe Eakley, Township of Tiny
- Dana Cogswell, Town of Wasaga Beach

In addition, the County is providing five additional bursaries that are fully funded by the County. Congratulations to:

- Emma Robitaille, Town of Midland
- Sydney Bosse, Township of New Tecumseth
- Keith Greenhalgh, Township of Oro-Medonte
- Emma Wilson, Township of Springwater
- Renee Ferlito, Township of Tay

The County has once again partnered with Georgian College, and students who are enrolled at Georgian College are also receiving additional \$1,500 in financial assistance provided by Georgian College.

## Simcoe County Hospital Alliance Cheque Presentation at Stevenson Memorial Hospital on Tuesday, October 31, at 1 p.m.

On Tuesday, October 31, at 1 p.m., Stevenson Memorial Hospital will be hosting an event at which the Warden, joined by County Councillors in attendance, will present cheque for the County's annual funding to the Simcoe County Hospital Alliance. This funding will support the redevelopment of Stevenson Memorial Hospital. All members of County Council are invited to attend the event.

[Council Meeting Agenda - October 24, 2023](#)

[Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda - October 10, 2023](#)

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