

SMALL BUSINESS TOOLS

Welcome to the City of Port Colborne!

Whether you are a new business joining our community, or an existing one looking to grow, we would like to extend the warmest THANK YOU for choosing our city.

We hope the information contained here provides the resources you need to succeed, and invite you to visit Economic Development team on the 1st Floor of City Hall for business support, or check the city website at www.portcolborne.ca and search "Starting or Growing Your Business?" to gain access to regulations, licenses, permits and other useful resources.

LIBRARY Resources

Perhaps you're just starting out and need access to a computer, the internet, photocopying and scanning, or a quiet space to write your business plan? The library and all of its knowledgeable and kind staff is waiting to help you.

Stop by today at 310 King Street, reach us by phone 905-834-6512 or online.

CIP Community Improvement Plan

The City of Port Colborne offers a range of incentive programs for new or expanding businesses through the Community Improvement Plan Program (CIP).

For example, if you are a business or property owner, the Façade Improvement Program is structured as a matching grant where the City will provide a grant equal to 50% of the cost of eligible façade and storefront improvement and restoration works, up to a maximum grant per property/project of \$20,000.00. Could this funding help you start your renos?

Contact the Economic Development Officer at bram.cotton@portcolborne.ca to learn where to start.

Looking for FINANCIAL SUPPORT?

Where do you go when your business needs funds to grow? Venture Niagara is a not-for-profit corporation that helps new business start-ups and existing businesses expand their operations so our community can thrive in today's economy.

To learn more contact Volker Loetferring the Business Loans Officer at volker@ventureniagara.com.

GRAND OPENING How to Plan For Success

Hosting a successful Grand Opening is key to announcing to the residents of Port Colborne that you are open for business. This includes the attendance of the City's Mayor, Councillors as well as BIA representatives at your ribbon cutting ceremony.

Email mayor@portcolborne.ca to schedule your grand opening, or milestone anniversary celebration.

BIA Business Improvement Association

Did you know Port Colborne has not ONE, but TWO Business Improvement Associations ready to support you? The Downtown BIA and Main Street BIA act as a voice for the business community, promoting, overseeing its improvement, beautification and maintenance. Reach out today!

[Downtown BIA](#)
downtownportcolborne@gmail.com

[Main Street BIA](#)
mainstreetportcolborne@gmail.com

CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Serving business communities for over 111 years, the Port Colborne | Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce are not-for-profit organizations existing to promote and to serve business members.

Contact dolores@pcwchamber.com PCW Chamber of Commerce or amy@gncc.ca GNCC to learn about the membership perks for both chambers.

Staffing Support PC WORKS

PC Works offers a variety of free recruitment services for Employers and Job Seekers. Our recruitment services for Employers include:

- Job Board to advertise
- On-site and Virtual Job Fairs
- Training and placement financial Incentives for Employers
- Grant money for skills and training upgrading through the Canada-Ontario Job Grant

Contact us at 905-834-3629 to learn more!

Small Business Enterprise Centre

The Niagara Falls Small Business Enterprise Centre (SBEC) is your go to for information and advice on starting or growing your small business.

Check out their Starter Company Plus program to kick start your business. As a participant, you will receive:

- One-on-one guidance from a Small Business Enterprise Centre advisor to develop a business and financial plan
- Mentorship from local entrepreneurs and business professionals
- Access to business workshops on topics ranging from legal considerations to digital marketing
- Chance to compete for a micro grant of up to \$5000

They can be reached at (905) 356-7521.

Additional Government RESOURCES

The newly updated Government of Ontario business page hosts a wealth of information for entrepreneurs who want to start or grow a business in Ontario. Visit the site below for support.

www.ontario.ca/page/business-and-economy

Hosting an EVENT?

Are you hosting an event the community can attend? Be sure to list it for FREE in the city hall Community Event Calendar.

<https://tinyurl.com/3kkj76r8>

Have more QUESTIONS?

The staff at the City of Port Colborne are always here to answer any questions and can be reached at (905) 835-2900 or in person at City Hall, Monday to Friday from 8:30 to 4:30.

If you would like to additional support please reach out to Olga Loeffen, the Business Community Ambassador at olga.loeffen@portcolborne.ca.

Are you listed on the BUSINESS DIRECTORY?

