

# REGIONAL ADVISORY WORKFORCE COLLABORATION PROJECT

The RAWC Project, funded through a Regional Economic Development Grant (RED Fund) includes 11 pilot companies, and is designed to provide ongoing support to employers and willful people experiencing diverse types of barriers to gain employment.. On June 13th, RAWC hosted the Mental Health First Aide workshop. The successful workshop had 11 participants representing 6 pilots companies.

### Coming Events:

The RAWC Project is hosting a "Breakfast Workshop" on "Respect in the workplace", happening at the Neustadt community centre on August 24th. The two-hour Respect in the Workplace training is designed to equip businesses with essential tools and strategies to foster a respectful and inclusive work environment. Rachel Glover from STEM consulting will be facilitating this workshop. Rachel is an experienced trainer and educator for public and private sector organizations specialized in the area of sexuality, diversity, inclusivity, communication, team building, respect in the workplace and other related topics.

Sessions for Mental Health First Aide are being planned for the fall and additional workshops are being planned for November.

August 24, 2023 @ 8:30 am to 11:30 am  
Neustadt Community Hall - 183 Enoch Street, Neustadt,  
ON, N0G 2M0

REGISTER NOW: [RITW.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)



## EDITORS COMMENTS

The Economic Indicators in the 1st half of 2023 show signs of a slowing economy. Ontario housing demands remain high in the province, however, the real estate sector has slowed down due to the increased rates and inflationary pressures. New Build Permits mirror the real estate industry with 520 less permits issued in the Saugeen area when compared to the same period last year.

### INDICATORS



#### Real Estate Sales

Values are falling, Lower Unit  
Sales, Lower Avg Prices



#### Bank of Canada Survey

Businesses Feel  
Pressure



#### Social Assistance

Continues to Increase



#### Building Permits

Slowing Down



#### Unemployment

Remains Low



#### New Motor Vehicle Sales

Local Sales Show No Change



Saugeen Economic Development Corporation  
A Community Futures Development Corporation

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# THE SAUGEEN ECONOMY

Jan - Jun 2023



## Saugeen Economic Development Corporation in Partnership with the Regional Advisory Committee

A COMMUNITY FUTURES  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

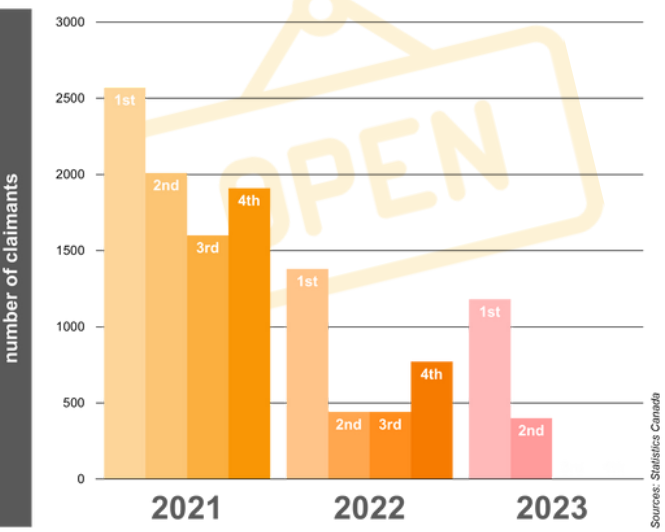


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## Unemployment Saugeen

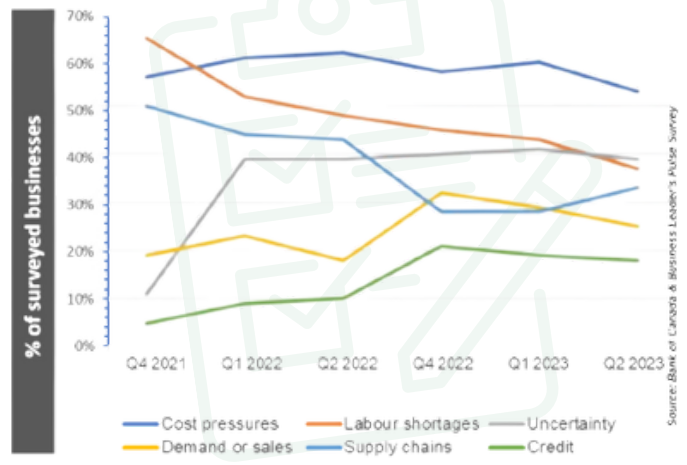
**The average number of claimants dropped**  
At the end of June 2023 there were 400 claimants for unemployment insurance in the Saugeen catchment area, down 40 or 10% when compared to the same time period in 2022. By comparison, there was a 9% decrease Ontario-wide.



## BofC Business Survey

**Canadian Businesses surveyed feel pressure from economic challenges**

The Business Leaders' Pulse is a new online survey conducted by the Bank of Canada. Leaders of various types of businesses across Canada are asked to complete this short questionnaire to assess the extent of and reaction to ongoing economic challenges, such as supply chain bottlenecks and labour shortages. Results suggest that business conditions have not changed much since pressures on the global banking system increased in Q4 2021, the graph clearly shows cost pressures remain the top concern for Canadian Businesses.



NOTE: The information in this newsletter was deemed accurate at the time of printing. We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the contents of this document and accept no responsibility for errors or omissions.

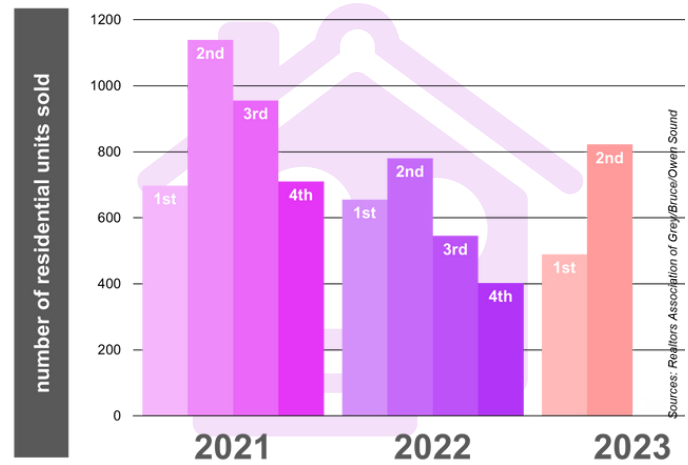


## Real Estate Sales

Grey/Bruce/Owen Sound

**Average price dropping**

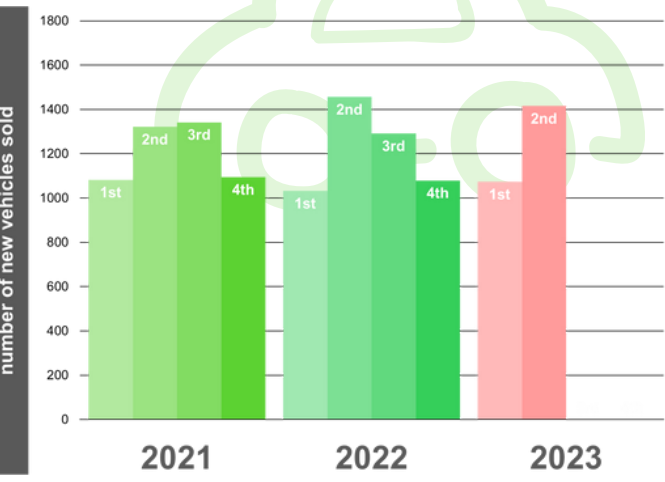
The first half of 2023 home sales totaled 1,312 units, down 9% from same period in 2022. The average price of homes sold during the first half of 2023 was \$644,360.00, down 14% from 2022. The total value of all properties sold from Jan - Jun 2023 was \$887 million, down 27% when compared to Jan - Jun 2022.



## New Motor Vehicle Sales Saugeen

**Local sales same as last year**

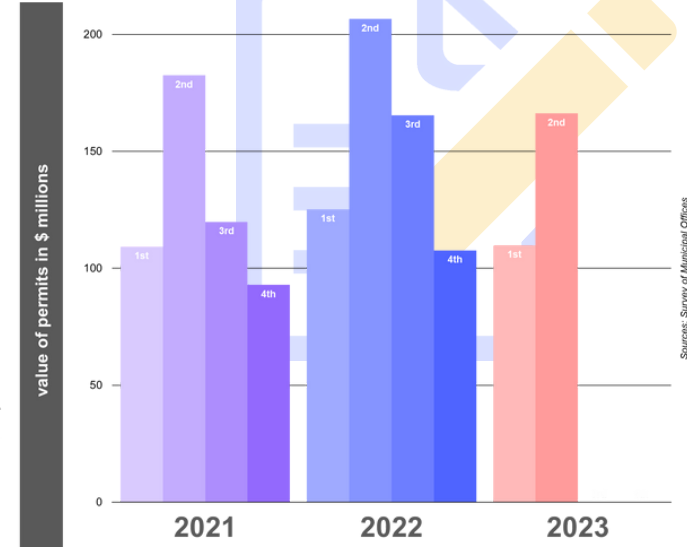
In the 1st half of 2023, local sales were reported at 2,488 units, matching the unit sales in the first half of 2022. Ontario-wide sales had a 10% increase over the same time period.



## Building Permits Saugeen

**Permit numbers & values dropping**

The value of building permits issued at the end of the first half of 2023 was reported at \$276 million, down \$56 million or 20% when compared to the first half of 2022.



## Social Assistance

Grey/Bruce/Owen Sound/Wellington County\*

\*Not including the city of Guelph

**Caseloads increase**

The 1st half of 2023 reported that the average caseloads for that period were 2,229. This represents an increase in caseloads by 8.5% when compared to the 1st half of 2022.

