

Township of South Glengarry Beautifies Main Street Lancaster

The Portraits of Our Past Mural Festival receives My Main Street support to draw visitors and increase local vibrancy in Lancaster

September 25, 2024 – Lancaster, ON - The Township of South Glengarry is pleased to announce that our Portraits of Our Past Mural Project was selected for [My Main Street Community Activator](#) stream support to engage famed Walldog Mural Artists to design and install two murals on Military Road that portray the history and early influences that shaped our community.

The Township of South Glengarry has commissioned highly-skilled mural artists to install two historical murals on Lancaster's main street area over four days (September 25-28), beautifying and creating points of interest in Lancaster's commercial core. Through community engagement South Glengarry residents selected the mural themes of a "Historic River Scene" and "Early Farming Settlers." A mural design will be based on each theme and will be painted directly on main street buildings.

The goal of the Portraits of Our Past Mural Project is to attract residents and visitors to our commercial area to support local businesses for increased community economic development while building community pride, strengthening connections and creating a space of belonging. The mural festival will run from September 25-28. A community mural unveiling celebration is planned for Saturday, September 28 between 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Visit the Township of South Glengarry website at www.southglengarry.com to get updates.

My Main Street is built on the principle of supporting community economic development and creating vibrant and diverse neighbourhoods which will enhance the overall quality of life for residents while also promoting sustainable and inclusive community development. My Main Street is delivered by the [Canadian Urban Institute](#) (CUI), and supported by a Government of Canada investment through the [Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario](#) (FedDev Ontario) to foster the stabilization and revitalization of main streets across southern Ontario. Learn more about the My Main Street program at mymainstreet.ca.

Quotes

"The residents of South Glengarry have a history to be proud of and the murals give us an opportunity to share that history. We believe that public art can bring people together and create a sense of pride and belonging, and serve as a lasting tribute to the rich history and heritage of the Township."

- *Lachlan McDonald, Mayor, Township of South Glengarry*

"We believe that public art can bring people together and create a sense of pride and belonging in our community. The murals will beautify Lancaster and attract residents and visitors to our main street businesses, driving community economic development for years to come."

- *Jennifer Treverton, Economic Development Officer, Township of South Glengarry*



“Vibrant main streets like Military Road in South Glengarry remind us of the value of investing in ‘place’ and the importance of participating in activities that make our shared lives more productive, creative and rewarding. The best thing about main streets is we all have one.”

- *Mary W. Rowe, CEO and President, Canadian Urban Institute*

“CUI, with support from the Government of Canada, is investing in community projects, such as the Township of South Glengarry’s Portraits of Our Past Mural Project. These projects attract visitors to our main streets, support local businesses, and revitalize our communities – helping shops, restaurants and local economies thrive. Together, we’re building stronger, more vibrant communities.”

- *The Honourable Filomena Tassi, Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario*

Associated Links

- [Township of South Glengarry](#)
- [My Main Street](#)
- [Canadian Urban Institute](#)
- [FedDev Ontario](#)

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Background:

About My Main Street: The My Main Street program has returned in 2024 with an additional Government of Canada investment, building on an initial investment in 2021, through the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario) to spur local economic recovery. To date, the initial 2021 investment has supported nearly 4,500 businesses and organizations, nearly 7,500 jobs and leveraged nearly \$19 million in additional investment. The



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funding aims to revitalize neighbourhood main streets with a healthy retail mix while generating inclusive economic opportunities. The program now features two streams – the Business Sustainability Program stream and the Community Activator stream. My Main Street is delivered by the Canadian Urban Institute (CUI).

About Canadian Urban Institute (CUI): The [Canadian Urban Institute](#) is a leading organization dedicated to advancing urban solutions. CUI collaborates with city builders, researchers, and community leaders to create thriving, equitable, and sustainable urban spaces across Canada.

About FedDev Ontario: For 15 years, the Government of Canada, through [FedDev Ontario](#), has worked to advance and diversify the southern Ontario economy through funding opportunities and business services that support innovation, growth and job creation in Canada's most populous region. The Agency has delivered impressive results, which can be seen in southern Ontario businesses that are creating innovative technologies, improving productivity, growing revenues, creating jobs, and in the economic advancement of communities across the region. Learn more about the impacts the Agency is having in southern Ontario by exploring our [pivotal projects](#), our [Southern Ontario Spotlight](#), and FedDev Ontario's [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).