

## Have you heard of The Huron County Healthy Rural Policy Lens (HCHRPL)?



The tools can be downloaded at:

[www.gatewayruralhealth.ca/huron-county-rural-policy-lens.html](http://www.gatewayruralhealth.ca/huron-county-rural-policy-lens.html)

Developed by Sustainable Huron in 2014, the HCHRPL helps policy makers, project managers, program coordinators and community groups consider multiple elements to ensure their initiatives positively impact the wellbeing of Huron County and its residents. The HCHRPL helps broaden perspectives by focusing on the factors that characterize our population and geography, helping users to look at things beyond their own experience and see through another's eyes.

### The HCHRPL's Top **10** List of Valuable Uses:

1. It offers a well-rounded overview of Huron County to provide orientation for non-residents and newcomers
2. It can help define the market for a new program, product or service to be launched in Huron County
3. It can guide prioritization and compare the relative merits of alternative actions using a visual tool
4. It can assist organizations to chart their course for a new future as part of strategic planning
5. It can provide potential funders with a targeted case for support and help highlight the demonstrated needs in Huron County
6. It can be instrumental in project evaluation research design and used as an impact or benchmarking resource
7. It can stimulate advocacy efforts by helping to highlight rural realities
8. It can support consensus building and ensure latent issues are explored to the satisfaction of the group when seeking a decision
9. It was designed for municipal staff and local decision makers to create compelling arguments to influence policy or programming from outside our region (such as provincial or federal governments)
10. It can, and is being used as a framework considered by other rural communities as part of their sustainability planning

### Looking for a few good people (and organizations) to get involved and learn more about the HCHRPL!

As part of the Rural Ontario Institute's "Measuring Rural Community Vitality" Initiative, the HCHRPL Project has received funding to increase awareness and implementation of the resource, as well as to evaluate the tool.

**HCHRPL Education sessions** will be offered to individuals and agencies **FREE OF CHARGE** starting in March 2016.

Interested in receiving this education or to learn more, **please contact:**

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