Newsletter: October 2025



Registration OPEN

Upcoming Meetups & Events

- October
 - o 8: Decew Falls Brewing Company (Niagara Region BC)
 - o **21:** Rural Roots Brewing Company (Woolwich BC)
 - 27: The Chill Bar & Grill (Eastbridge BC)
- November
 - 3: Farm League Brewing (Cambridge BC)
 - o **11:** The Bollywood Bistro (Guelph BC)
 - o **12:** Bentley's Barr Inn & Restaurant (Stratford BC)
- December 8: Maxwell's Concerts & Events (A Locally Connected Festive Meetup)
- **January 26:** Morty's Pub (9th Anniversary Meetup)

Feeding Connections: Thanks to Our Happy Hour Meetup Sponsors!

- October 8: Decew Falls Brewing Company St. Catharines
 - Kelly Sauriol, Mission35 Mortgages
- October 21: Rural Roots Brewing Company Elmira
 - Co-operators Elmira
- October 27: The Chill Bar & Grill Waterloo
 - Schooley Mitchell of KW
- **November 3:** Farm League Brewing Cambridge
 - Little Mushroom Catering
 - 1st Place Finishing
- November 10: The Bollywood Bistro Guelph
 - Wright Wealth (Guelph) Inc.
- November 12: Wild Wing Stratford
 - BG Marketing Co
- November 24: The Lancaster Smokehouse Eastbridge
 - Sentry Group
- **December 8:** Maxwell's Concerts & Events (Regional Festive Connections)
 - Co-operators Elmira
 - 4 x sponsorship opportunities available
- January 26: Morty's Pub (9th Anniversary Meetup)
 - 4 x sponsorship opportunities available

Sponsor an upcoming meetup (\$200) and help create an unforgettable experience! Your support not only enhances the event but also puts your business in the spotlight, connecting you with a diverse and engaged community. <u>Click here</u> for full sponsorship details.













One bike. 29 seats. One amazing cause.

Our MEGABike team for the Kitchener-Waterloo Thanksgiving Day Parade is growing, but we still have room for a few more riders!

This special float is a collaboration between the Locally Connected Community Hub and Tradebank, who have generously covered the float fees and MEGABike logistics. All we ask from riders is a minimum fundraising target of \$100. You'll also receive a Breast Cancer Canada shirt to proudly wear in the parade.

If any of these sound like you, we'd love for you to join us:

- You're a big fan of the KW Thanksgiving Day Parade
- You've always wanted to be in the parade (but never thought how... until now!)
- Riding a giant 29-seat bike just sounds fun
- You've been touched by breast cancer in some way—through a friend, family member, or your own journey
- You want to support Breast Cancer Canada, a national charity funding lifechanging research since 1991
- You simply want to help end breast cancer

Let's pedal together for a future without breast cancer.



(Christmas Edition)





In Honour of Small Business Week (Oct 19–25)

Join Jason Kipfer, Founder and Chair of the Locally Connected Community Hub, as he salutes the heart of our economy — small businesses! In this special podcast episode, Jason reflects on the vital role entrepreneurs play in shaping our neighbourhoods, creating jobs, and building community pride. Drawing from decades of experience supporting local business growth, Jason shares both data and personal stories that highlight the resilience, passion, and impact of small business owners.

<u>Listen now</u> and discover practical ways you can show your support this Small Business Week — and all year long.

Neighbours Helping Neighbours: LCCHub's November Food Drive



This November, the Locally Connected Community Hub is giving back in a big way! Each of our meetups throughout the month will serve as a collection point for our annual Community Food Drive, with all proceeds supporting the incredible work of local food banks within each chapter's community. If you're attending a meetup in November, we invite you to bring along a non-perishable food item or a cash donation to help families in need. In 2024, our Eastbridge chapter collected 59 lbs of non-perishable food (and an amazing 149 lbs in 2023!) — and this year, we're setting our sights higher, aiming for a collective total of 250 lbs across the Community Hub network. Let's come together and make a meaningful difference — one can at a time!

A Taste of Community: Giving Back Through Food

What began as a local tasting event has become one of the Eastbridge chapter's proudest traditions. Each fall, the Eastbridge Business Connections Meetup invites attendees to sample culinary creations from Waterloo's top local restaurants—while supporting Food4Kids Waterloo Region (F4KWR). Thanks to this generosity, \$603 was raised in 2024 and more than doubled in 2025, reaching \$1,200 to help provide healthy food packages for over 1,300 children across 100+ schools in the region.

We've Taken Our Podcasts to the Next Level — YouTube!

We're thrilled to share that our pre-meetup and special podcast episodes have been getting fantastic feedback from our Community Hub members — and we're taking things to the next level! To make it easier for you to listen, share, and stay connected, we've officially migrated all our podcasts to YouTube.

<u>You can now find all 19 episodes</u> — including behind-the-scenes stories, local business highlights, and community spotlights — on our YouTube channel. <u>Subscribe today</u> and never miss a conversation that connects our communities.

Your Community Is Looking - Are You Showing Up?

On Canada Day, the Locally Connected Community Hub celebrated something truly local — the launch of its ConnectSWO community engagement app!

Now's the time to make sure your profile is working for you. Take a few minutes to review and update your listing so potential customers, collaborators, and community members can find you easily. The app connects thousands of users across South and Southwestern Ontario — make sure your info is current, complete, and compelling.

Don't miss your chance to be seen!

- <u>Listen</u> to our launch podcast for a behind-the-scenes look of the ConnectSWO app.
- Download the ConnectSWO app for <u>Android / iOS</u>.
- Add your business or personal profile.

Testimonial

After years of doing business nationally and internationally, I wanted to plunge back into my community to find synergies on a local level and build equally strong relationships right here, in my own backyard. What Jason Kipfer has built with the LCCHub is a key element in my mission, and journey – to connect deeply with meaning, and purpose.

The LCCHub offers participants much more than just events - it's a catalyst for real community engagement. The hub's gatherings bring people together, creating genuine connections that make a profound impact on the well-being of our community.

 Kevin Litwiller, Strategic-Partner Schooley Mitchell of KW.



Online Resources

- <u>ConnectSWO</u> Southwestern Ontario's largest and most freely accessible shop local business directory
- Photo Gallery
- Meetup Feedback Form
- Community Outreach
- Milestones & Achievements
- Sponsors
- RSVP to your next Meetup

New Members

Eastbridge Chapter

- Derek Hori Fish Lake Road
- Gary Finn
- · Harry Endrulat Best Version Media
- Todd Smith

Kitchener-Waterloo Chapter

- Abishek Priyan Kabilan
- Andrew Mahorn LNM Accounting Solutions
- Andrew TBD Tree To Hotel
- Arunamalya Kaliyaperumal Elamurugan
- Clarissa Santos Moreira The Tree Coffee House
- Dhanush Nangunoori
- Dianne Andernacht Winmar
- Dominique Charbonneau City of Waterloo
- Emily Glabush
- Eric Avner Waterloo Region Community Foundation
- Glenn Stewart Glenn Stewart Insurance
- Hayley The Canadian Brewhouse
- Janine Home Depot Waterloo
- Jay Verma Portfate
- Jenny Cahuenas
- Jesse Becker
- Kate Lahey The Ocho Collective

- Kim Moore
- Kyle The Club at Northfield
- Mahmoud Tellou Bagel
- Mike Morrice Capacity Canada
- Olivia Verbit AJF Studio
- Richard Elmes March of Dimes Canada
- Sanjay Dhanapal Starts
- Sean Wideman
- Victor Savtchouk Point Blanc
- Waleed Raza
- William Martin

Cambridge Chapter

- Alina Telescu
- Amy Boissonneault
- Andrea Four Fathers Brewing Co.
- Krista O'Hara
- Matt Patton Breezy Moving Inc.
- Melissa Carter
- Michelle Malatches Digital Chaos
- Rob McIntosh Cambridge Redhawks
- Sherry Couchman The Poop Valet
- Suzanne Flinn Suzanne Flinn Personal Concierge Services
- Tracy DeGrow OneSource Moving Solutions

Guelph Chapter

- Brittany Wright
- Derek Peters-Rebocho Kelsey's Original Roadhouse
- Melissa Lehman Guelph Solar
- Sarah Millson Jupiter Consulting Ltd.

Niagara Region Chapter

Emily Doucette

Stratford Area Chapter

- Andrea Demars Demars Events
- Brooklyn Ross Breaking Elements Dance Company

- Doug Town Crier
- Elaine Townsend
- Jon Ross Madmash Brewery & Restaurant

Woolwich Chapter

- Adil Rauf Redmount Canada
- Azadeh Farokhshahi Acctech Services
- Carlene Hawley
- Donna Arseneau
- Edward Denyer Eco Cafe St. Jacobs
- Kristen Schulz Luxe Realty Group
- Ryan Meghdies Tastic Marketing
- Vanessa Rusu Vanessa Rusu Digital

Member at Large

Prateek Nijhawan



Annual Meetup Door Prize Sponsors

- ALL Corporate Print & Branding
- Andy's Custom Contracting
- Bailey's Local Foods
- bookmytherapy.ca

- HiWay Flowers
- irisHR
- Jackie Lauer, Leadership Consulting & Coaching

- Brentwood Custom Lasering
- Caudle's Catch Seafood
- Cellular Phoenix
- Chef On Call
- Classic Indian Restaurant
- Creekside Hearing
- Cross Heating & Air Conditioning
- Ctrl V Cambridge
- Ctrl V Guelph
- Ctrl V Waterloo
- Dairy Queen Grill & Chill (King Street North)
- DT Shawarma (Bridge Street West)
- Eby Manor Golden Guernsey Dairy Market
- Enspire Dental Opportunities
- Freshco (University & Bridge)
- Garrett Peck Visuals
- Gecko Websites
- Grand River Tanning Salon
- Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce
- Hand & Stone Guelph
- Hand & Stone The Boardwalk

- KW Siskins
- Lavish Nails & Beauty Spa
- Les trois lys herbal clinic
- Meal in a Jar
- Morty's Pub
- OUR Community Dollar
- Pennzoil 10 Minute Oil Change
- Pharmasave Carriage Crossing Pharmacy
- Red Swan Pizza (Northfield Drive)
- Regal Nails Cambridge
- Renu Coaching
- ShineCo Cleaning
- St. Louis Bar & Grill
- Sugar Savvy Beauty Boutique
- The Poop Valet
- The Pickle Barrel (Conestoga Mall)
- Trevello
- Ultimate Vision Web & IT Solutions
- Ultra Plumbing & HVAC
- Vasco Real Estate
- Wally Parr Foods
- Waterloo Bike Shop
- YUMMY Burgers

We look forward to seeing you at one of our many upcoming Meetups! <u>Click here</u> to confirm your spot (if you haven't already)!

Jason Kipfer
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Co-Founder & Chair, Eastbridge Business Connections
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