

# Starting your Home Based Business

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## What is a Home Based Business?

All three municipalities in the Parry Sound Area Development Community allow occupants of dwellings to conduct businesses from their homes. Allowing new businesses to start at home and to grow into successful operations is part of all three municipality's economic development strategies. Generally, home based businesses are commercial activities that occur within a residential dwelling located in a residential or rural area of a municipality. In McDougall and Seguin, some home industries are also permitted in accessory buildings without requiring a rezoning. Some of the uses that are considered appropriate for home based businesses include offices of professions like an accountant or doctor, consulting services, music or dance instruction, creation of crafts, hair salon, distribution sales office, high tech and computer services, and similar gainful occupations.

## What rules would apply to my Home Based Business?

Standards for home based businesses are intended to balance the interests of the business entrepreneur and preserving the quiet and safe residential character of the streets and neighbourhoods of the three communities. Each municipal zoning by-law does this by regulating the amount of floor space that can be dedicated to the business within the dwelling, limiting the number of employees who do not live in the house, and listing the types of uses that are permitted. Additional regulations address the parking required for the business, maximum number of commercial vehicles permitted, prohibiting nuisance impacts, and hours for deliveries. The rules of each municipality are similar, but slightly different, so you will need to check them out at the municipal office.

## What do I need to do to start my Home Based Business?

There is no business licensing currently required by Parry Sound, McDougall or Seguin for home based business or home industries. You should, however, contact your municipal office to check out the rules around home based businesses and home industries to confirm that your business will be permitted under the current Zoning By-law rules. Certain business are not permitted to be home based and therefore would have to be located in commercial or industrial areas. Better to check out the rules with your municipal staff before you start!

## When its time to grow – what should I do?

You started your home based business, things are going great, but you are running out of room. When your business out-grows your home and property, it is time to start looking for a commercial or industrial site in the community to take your business to the next stage of growth. Your

municipalities are ready to help you with this next stage in your business development. Contact your municipal office, the Community Business & Development Centre, or check out the Parry Sound Area Development Community website to see what sites may be available for your business. Contact information is provided below. Call us, we can help!

**Who to Contact?**

<p><b>Town of Parry Sound</b>          Iain Laing          52 Seguin St.,          Parry Sound, ON          P2A 1B4          Phone: (705) 746-2101          Fax: (705) 746-7461  <a href="http://www.townofparrysound.com">www.townofparrysound.com</a></p>	<p><b>Municipality of McDougall</b>          Garfield Eaton          R.R.#3 (Nobel)          Parry Sound, ON          P2A 2W9          Phone: (705) 342-5252          Fax: (705) 342-5573  <a href="http://www.municipalityofmcdougall.com">www.municipalityofmcdougall.com</a></p>	<p><b>Township of Seguin</b>          Tom Stockie          5 Humphrey Dr.,          R.R.#2,          Parry Sound, ON          P2A 2W8          Phone: (705) 732-4300          Toll Free: 1-877-473-4846          Fax: (705) 732-6347  <a href="http://www.twp.seguin.on.ca">www.twp.seguin.on.ca</a></p>
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**Parry Sound Area Community Business & Development Centre**

Bill Spinney  
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 Parry Sound, ON  
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 Phone: (705) 746-4455  
 Toll Free: 1-888-746-4455  
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[www.cbdc.parrysound.on.ca](http://www.cbdc.parrysound.on.ca)

**Parry Sound Area Development Community Website**

[www.cityfree.ca](http://www.cityfree.ca).