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Nikki Wesley/Metroland

The Georgetown Independent and Free Press editorial team members, including from left reporter Veronica Appia, regional managing editor Catherine O'Hara and reporter Herb Garbutt, have an important message to share with readers: newspapers matter - now more than ever.

## MORE THAN 100 NEWS OUTLETS IN ONTARIO HAVE CLOSED SINCE 2008

SAIRA PEESKER  
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It's about trust. Our relationship with our readers is built on transparency, honesty and integ-

riety. As such, we have launched a trust initiative to tell you who we are and how and why we do what we do. This article is part of that project.

More than 100 local news out-

lets have closed in Ontario in the past decade, with 35 more reducing service, according to data released this fall by an organization tracking news outlets across Canada.

The latest report by the Local News Research Project, based out of Ontario and British Columbia, shows that at least 105 outlets in this province have closed since 2008, including those that shut their doors due to mergers. Only 43 new outlets have arisen in that time.

Ontario's 105 closures make up nearly half of those in the country, which has seen at least

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