



ARNPRIOR

**Town of Arnprior  
Regular Meeting of Council: June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Correspondence Package No. I-23-JUN-11**

**Recommendation:**

That the Correspondence Package No. I-23-MAY-10 be received as information and filed accordingly.

**General Information Items:**

**1. Correspondence from the Province of Ontario**

- a) [Government Investing in Agricultural Leadership Development](#)
- b) [Moving Forward with Building a Strong Ontario](#)
- c) [Ontario Connecting Long-Term Care Resident in Eastern Ontario to Specialized Care and Supports](#)
- d) [Ontario Creating New Program to Support Forestry Innovation and Job Creation](#)
- e) [Ontario Expanding Safety Training and Resources to Keep Workers Safe](#)
- f) [Ontario Honours Outstanding Bravery of Paramedics](#)
- g) [Ontario Investing in Life-Saving Training for Firefighters](#)
- h) [Ontario Investing in More Affordable Housing in Ottawa](#)
- i) [Ontario Investing in Provincewide Homeless Prevention](#)
- j) [Ontario Launches Free Job Training for People with Disabilities](#)
- k) [Ontario Lowering Minimum Age Requirement to be a Lifeguard](#)
- l) [Ontario Now Requires Naloxone Kits in At-Risk Workplaces](#)
- m) [Ontario Removing Unfair Work Barriers for Skilled Newcomers](#)

**2. Correspondence from the County of Renfrew**

- a) [2023 Capital Projects](#)
- b) [County of Renfrew Statement on Weekend Homicides](#)

**3. Correspondence from the Arnprior Regional Hospital**

- a) [New Masking Guidelines at the Hospital](#)
- b) [Message from our President and CEO about Temporary Closure of ED](#)

**4. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario**

- a) [Watch File – May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023](#)
- b) [Watch File – May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023](#)
- c) [Watch File – June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023](#)

**5. Correspondence from the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act**

- a) [AODA Toolbox – May 2023](#)

## NEWS RELEASE

# Governments Investing in Agricultural Leadership Development

Canada and Ontario investing up to \$2.325 million in 4-H Ontario

May 25, 2023

[Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs](#)

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PUSLINCH – The governments of Canada and Ontario are investing more than \$2.3 million over three years through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP) to support 4-H Ontario programming. This funding will allow 4-H Ontario to continue to engage youth interested in a career in the agriculture and agri-food industries.

“Young Ontario farmers greatly benefit from the leadership and training activities that the 4-H offers thanks to funding under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership. Young people are the future of the sector and this investment will give them the possibility to play an active role in agriculture,” said Rechie Valdez, Member of Parliament for Mississauga—Streetsville and Member of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food, on behalf of the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food.

4-H Ontario provides youth across the province with opportunities to participate in local and provincial initiatives that contribute to their growth and professional development, as well as teach transferrable leadership skills. This funding will continue the delivery of 4-H programming, create further learning opportunities for youth and seek to expand the program’s engagement with Indigenous and marginalized communities.

“4-H Ontario is a valuable youth development, community-based program focusing on leadership and life skills that young people will benefit from their entire careers,” said Lisa Thompson, Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs. “This investment will ensure 4-H Ontario can continue building future community and business owners, foster greater appreciation and pride of our rural communities and agriculture and food sectors, while creating a learning environment outside of the classroom where 4-H members can learn by doing.”

Under the funding agreement, investments will be made in a variety of 4-H programming areas. These will include:

- Support for local initiatives to increase awareness of careers in agriculture;
- Provincial youth leadership development efforts;
- Engaging diverse communities including underrepresented and Indigenous youth about 4-H Ontario programs;
- Improving the capacity to train and onboard volunteer workers for the organization;
- And developing and distributing curriculum resources.

This initiative continues a long-running tradition of government support for the organization. Approximately 6,000 currently enrolled youth will benefit from the funding.

Sustainable CAP is a five-year (2023-2028), \$3.5-billion investment by federal-provincial and territorial governments to strengthen competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of the agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector. This includes \$1 billion in federal programs and activities and a \$2.5 billion commitment that is cost-shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially/territorially for programs designed and delivered by the provinces and territories.

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### Quick Facts

- The funding agreement with 4-H Ontario will run through 2026.
- 4-H is a non-profit youth development organization that spans 10 provinces and 70 countries. 4-H Ontario has operated in Ontario for more than 100 years.
- Sustainable CAP will help us reach the goals outlined in Ontario's Grow Ontario Strategy, which include increasing total employment in the agri-food sector by 10 per cent over the next 10 years.
- Building sector competitiveness in Canada's agri-food sector and fostering the next generation of its farmers were among the top priorities set for Sustainable CAP by the federal-provincial-territorial agricultural ministers in [The Guelph Statement](#).

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### Additional Resources

[Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership](#)

[Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada](#)

[Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs](#)

[Grow Ontario](#)[4-H Ontario](#)

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## Related Topics

### Rural and North

Information about the province's Far North and rural communities. Get connected to business improvement organizations and learn more about funding and programs that support rural, northern and Indigenous communities. [Learn more](#)

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## NEWS RELEASE

## Moving Forward with Building a Strong Ontario

Ontario continues to support people and businesses while laying a strong foundation for future generations

May 18, 2023

[Finance](#)

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TORONTO — The Legislative Assembly has passed the government's *Bill 85, Building a Strong Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2023*, advancing the government's plan to grow the economy, build key infrastructure projects, and support businesses, families, and workers in every corner of the province.

"While Ontario is not immune to the challenges facing the global economy, our government has proven that our responsible, targeted plan is the right plan to navigate these uncertain times," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. "Our government is continuing with our plan to build a strong Ontario that the people of this province can be proud of, now and into the future."

As the government continues to deliver on its plan, it is also projecting to balance the budget next year, three years earlier than forecast in the *2022 Budget*.

Highlights contained in the *2023 Budget* include:

- The new [Ontario Made Manufacturing Investment Tax Credit](#), which provides a 10 per cent refundable Corporate Income Tax credit to help local manufacturers grow, create new jobs, innovate and become more competitive.
- Ontario's Critical Minerals Strategy, which supports better supply chain connections between industries, resources and workers in Northern Ontario and manufacturing in Southern Ontario, including Ontario-based electric vehicle (EV) and battery manufacturing.
- Moving forward with the government's historic \$184 billion capital plan, which includes the bridge crossing over the future Bradford Bypass, the next phase of construction for the new Highway 7 between Kitchener and Guelph, continuing work to widen Highway 401 from Pickering through Eastern Ontario and building Highway 413.
- Providing \$224 million in 2023–24 for a new capital stream of the Skills Development Fund to leverage private-sector expertise and expand training

centres, including union training halls to provide more accessible, flexible training opportunities for workers.

- Enhancing the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program with an additional \$25 million over three years to attract more skilled newcomers, including in-demand professionals in the skilled trades, to the province.
- Expanding the Guaranteed Annual Income System (GAINS) program, starting in July 2024, making an additional 100,000 seniors eligible for the program and adjusting the benefit annually to inflation.
- Training more Ontario doctors by investing an additional \$33 million over three years to add 100 undergraduate medical seats beginning in 2023 as well as 154 postgraduate medical training seats and prioritizing Ontario residents trained at home and abroad beginning in 2024 and going forward.
- Allowing pharmacists to prescribe over-the-counter medication for more common ailments, including mild to moderate acne, canker sores, diaper dermatitis, yeast infection, pinworms and threadworms, and nausea and vomiting in pregnancy beginning in fall 2023.

“Our government’s plan for Ontario is rooted in a long-term vision and real action,” said Minister Bethlenfalvy. “We are building a strong Ontario that has resilient economy, an Ontario that has the best infrastructure in place, an Ontario that has skilled workers trained for the jobs of tomorrow, and an Ontario that connects you to the care you need.”

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### Quick Facts

- Ontario’s *Plan to Build* includes the most ambitious capital plan in Ontario’s history, with planned investments over the next 10 years totalling \$184.4 billion, including \$20.6 billion in 2023–24.
  - The government will table its next economic and fiscal update as part of 2023–24 *First Quarter Finances*, which will be released on or before August 15, 2023.
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### Additional Resources

Read the [2023 Budget: Building a Strong Ontario](#)

Read [Highlights of the government’s plan](#)

Read the [Economic and fiscal overview](#)

Learn more about the [Ontario Made Manufacturing Investment Tax Credit](#)

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## NEWS RELEASE

# Ontario Connecting Long-Term Care Residents in Eastern Ontario to Specialized Care and Supports

Investment providing supports in long-term care homes instead of hospitals

May 23, 2023

[Long-Term Care](#)

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ALMONTE — The Ontario government is investing \$173,706 in three long-term care homes in Eastern Ontario to help seniors with complex needs like dementia and bariatric care connect to specialized care and supports in a home instead of a hospital. This is part of a \$20 million investment in 2022-23 in 189 projects provincewide through a new Local Priorities Fund operated by [Ontario Health](#).

“We’re expanding specialized services and supports for long-term care residents in eastern Ontario, so that people with complex needs get the care they need and deserve in the comfort of a home, instead of a hospital,” said John Jordan, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Long-Term Care. “Our government is taking action to ensure Ontario’s seniors get the right care in the right place.”

Some Local Priorities Fund projects help residents get specialized care in their long-term care home, reducing emergency department visits and hospital admissions. Others help long-term care homes admit alternate level of care hospital patients – people who no longer require acute care in hospital, but who have complex needs that are difficult to accommodate without specialized services and supports.

The projects that have been allocated funding in eastern Ontario are:

- \$89,550 for two projects at Fairview Manor in Almonte for specialized bariatric equipment and supplies, and IV infusion pumps;
- \$42,256 for one project at Fairmount Home in Glenburnie for specialized falls prevention equipment; and
- \$41,900 for one project at Rideaucrest Home in Kingston for bariatric equipment.

The Local Priorities Fund is part of an investment of over \$120 million in 2022-23 to provide access to a range of specialized services and supports that are helping long-term care residents with complex needs access connected and convenient

care in the right place.

The government is fixing long-term care to ensure Ontario's seniors get the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve both now and in the future. This work is built on four pillars: staffing and care; quality and enforcement; building modern, safe, and comfortable homes; and providing seniors with faster, more convenient access to the services they need.

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### Quick Facts

- The province has also announced Local Priorities Fund projects in the [Niagara Region](#), [Ottawa](#), [Brampton](#), [Mississauga](#), and [Windsor and Essex County](#).
  - Ontario's over \$120 million investment in specialized services and supports in 2022-23 included up to \$20 million for the Ontario Health Local Priorities Fund referenced in today's announcement, \$5.91 million for [four new Behavioural Specialized Units](#) in long-term care homes, an additional \$5 million for [Behavioural Supports Ontario](#), \$2.6 million for [Baycrest's Virtual Behaviour Medicine program](#), and \$4.5 million to build dedicated spaces for health care at a [new seniors' housing complex in Kenora](#).
  - Through a \$6.4 billion investment, Ontario now has over 30,000 new and 28,000 upgraded beds in development across the province. This will help increase overall bed capacity, address long-term care waitlists and hallway health care, and provide our seniors the care they deserve.
  - The Ontario government is providing up to \$1.25 billion this year to long-term care homes to hire and retain thousands more long-term care staff. This is part of the government's historic four-year, \$4.9 billion commitment to increase the provincewide average direct care time provided to residents to four hours per day by March 31, 2025.
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## Quotes

"Thank you to MPP John Jordan and the Ministry of Long-Term Care for this welcome funding. Specialized equipment purchased through the Local Priorities Fund helps us to provide the safe, high-quality care that our residents require and deserve, and gives their families peace of mind that their loved ones are being well cared for. The funding has also been used to remove barriers that may prevent us from welcoming other residents with unique needs into our home. At Fairview Manor, our team strives to give each resident the kind of care that we would want for our own family members."

- Mary Wilson Trider  
President and CEO, Fairview Manor

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## Additional Resources

- [2023 Ontario Budget: Building a Strong Ontario](#)
- [Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care](#)
- [Plan to Stay Open: Health System Stability and Recovery](#)
- [A better place to live, a better place to work: Ontario's long-term care staffing plan](#)

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## Related Topics

### Government

Learn about the government services available to you and how government works. [Learn more](#)

### Health and Wellness

Get help navigating Ontario's health care system and connecting with the programs or services you're looking for. [Learn more](#)

### Home and Community

Information for families on major life events and care options, including marriage, births and child care. Also includes planning resources for municipalities. [Learn more](#)

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## NEWS RELEASE

# Ontario Creating New Program to Support Forestry Innovation and Job Creation

Province announces close to \$20 million for new Forest Biomass Program

May 26, 2023

[Natural Resources and Forestry](#)

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ATIKOKAN – The Government of Ontario is strengthening the economy and promoting innovation in the forest sector with the creation of a new, \$19.6 million Forest Biomass Program. This application-based program will help develop untapped economic potential and environmental benefits offered by new and emerging uses of underutilized wood and mill by-products, known as forest biomass.

“This is good news for Ontario’s forestry industry, workers, communities and the environment,” said Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry. “Our government’s Forest Biomass Program will help create jobs, build local prosperity and enhance the sustainable practices essential to forest product operations.”

The program has been created based on feedback from the public, Indigenous communities and industry stakeholders, who all indicated the need for targeted support to further develop Ontario’s forest bioeconomy.

“The Forest Biomass Program will result in a stronger forestry sector,” said Kevin Holland, MPP for Thunder Bay – Atikokan. “The forestry industry is a major driver of the economy in Northwestern Ontario and plays a critical role in building Ontario. I am confident this program will enhance existing use of resources, promote research, and increase Indigenous economic prosperity across the region.”

The Forest Biomass Program will support projects to harvest more wood from Crown forests, increase forest sector job creation and regional economic growth and find new uses for wood in collaboration with stakeholders, industry and Indigenous communities. It includes four streams designed to position Ontario as a leader in innovative uses of forest biomass:

- **Indigenous Bioeconomy Partnerships**, to increase Indigenous participation in forest biomass opportunities and their economic benefits.
- **Exploring Biomass Pathways**, to help the public and private sector research technical, financial and scientific aspects of using forest biomass.
- **Innovative Bioproduct Manufacturing**, to increase the use of forest biomass in manufacturing, infrastructure, energy services and resource extraction.
- **Modernization**, to support forest sector transformation, competitiveness and participation through use of forest biomass.

Early this summer, the program will be open to applications for businesses, municipalities, Indigenous communities and not-for-profit organizations located in Ontario that have a project to expand the use of forest biomass and enhance the forest biomass supply chain.

The Forest Biomass Program will further the government's Forest Sector Strategy and Forest Biomass Action Plan goals to build a strong forest sector via technological innovation and greater use of forest biomass.

To learn more about the program, visit: <https://ontario.ca/page/forest-biomass-program>

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### Quick Facts

- On average, Ontario's forest industry has consumed less than half of the total wood supply available for sustainable harvest each year since 2007.
  - The [Forest Biomass Action Plan](#) is a five-year plan that encourages the use of forest biomass resources to secure jobs, support economic development and encourage sustainability in Ontario's forest sector. Forest biomass has many current and emerging uses, including as a source of low-carbon consumer products and renewable energy.
  - Wood produced from Ontario's Crown forests is sustainably sourced and renewable. Wood is a renewable resource, a clean energy source, and a sustainable and biodegradable alternative to single-use plastics.
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## Quotes

"Ontario's forestry industry is only made stronger through the Forest Biomass Program. I have seen firsthand the prosperity that comes with a robust forestry sector, as many Northern communities are centred around this vibrant industry. With sustainability and job creation top of mind, our government is building a resilient and cutting-edge sector where hardworking men and women can find meaningful employment."

**- Greg Rickford**  
**Minister of Northern Development**

"The new Forest Biomass Program will help to strengthen Ontario's regional forest economy and continue to put our forests to work. This funding stream will help our industry continue to grow and position Ontario as a leading jurisdiction in the forest biomass sector."

**- Mark Guillemette**  
**CEO of BioPower Sustainable Energy Corporation**

"Increased utilization of biomass will assist Ontario's transition to a net-zero economy, reduce unnecessary pressures on landfills, support the sustainable management of Ontario's public forests, and strengthen the circular bioeconomy. We applaud today's announcement and look forward to continued implementation of Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy and Forest Biomass Action Plan in partnership with the Ontario government."

**- Ian Dunn**  
**President and CEO of Ontario Forest Industries Association**

"OPG's biomass facility at Atikokan has long proven it can be called upon to reliably power the region's homes and businesses when Ontario's electricity demand is greatest. Through expanded use of this renewable energy source, Ontario will create jobs and produce electricity in areas where they are most needed."

**- Ken Hartwick**  
**President and CEO of Ontario Power Generation**

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## Additional Resources

[Forest Biomass Program](#)

[Forest Biomass Action Plan](#)

[Sustainable Growth: Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy](#)

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## Related Topics

### Business and Economy

Information about Ontario's economy and how to do business here. Includes economic development opportunities, research funding, tax credits for business and the Ontario Budget. [Learn more](#)

### Environment and Energy

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Accessibility

## NEWS RELEASE

# Ontario Expanding Safety Training and Resources to Keep Workers Safe

Investment Accompanied by Release of New Mandatory Working at Heights Training Standards

May 17, 2023

[Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development](#)

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**TORONTO** — The Ontario government is investing an additional \$12.5 million in Ontario's six health and safety associations, which provide safety training and resources to businesses and workers across the province. The investment will support organizations like Workplace Safety North, which helped rescue 39 miners trapped underground in Sudbury in September 2021, and strengthen worker safety in critical industries from manufacturing to forestry.

"Every worker in Ontario deserves to come home safely to their family at the end of their shift," said Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. "In addition to recently introducing legislation to [raise fines for occupational health and safety violations to the highest level in the country](#), our government will continue to invest in education, prevention and enforcement to ensure every worker in Ontario has the protections they deserve."

Ontario is also updating standards for mandatory [working at heights training](#) to address one of the leading causes of workplace deaths in industries like construction. These updates will help improve the quality of training and safety knowledge of participants when working in various settings including with ladders, skylights and damaged equipment. Over one million workers have completed this training since it began in 2015.

These changes follow the ground-breaking protections introduced by the government in the [Working for Workers Act, 2023](#), which proposes new health and safety protections for workers, including fines for [withholding passports](#), better protections for remote workers during [mass terminations](#) and [cleaner and women's-only washrooms on construction sites](#).

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## Quick Facts

- Health and safety associations are independent, not-for-profit corporations that deliver workplace health and safety programs on behalf of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. They include:
  - [Infrastructure Health & Safety Association](#)
  - [Public Services Health & Safety Association](#)
  - [Workplace Safety & Prevention Services](#)
  - [Workplace Safety North](#)
  - [Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers](#)
  - [Workers Health and Safety Centre](#)
- Together, the health and safety associations delivered over 64,000 training sessions last year.
- Over one million workers have successfully completed standardized working at heights training since the program's inception.
- Working at heights training providers have until April 1, 2024, to update their programs and ensure they fulfill the requirements of the revised working at heights [training program](#) and [training provider](#) standards.

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## Quotes

"We applaud Minister McNaughton's continued efforts to improve education, prevention and enforcement with respect to health and safety in the workplace. Today's announcement about mandatory working at heights training is a continuation of the government's commitment to ensure every worker in Ontario is getting the protections they deserve."

- Adam Melnick

Director of Canadian Affairs, International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers

"The government's continued investment into the upkeep and advancement of preventative education and training ensures that workers are better informed and prepared on construction sites. Updating the standards for mandatory working at heights training will directly translate into saving workers from potential exposure to incidents and accidents. The OGCA applauds the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development for this advancement."

**- Giovanni Cautillo**  
**President, Ontario General Contractors Association**

"The continuous process of reviewing the working at heights training standard helps ensure all workers are given the correct knowledge to work safely. With this knowledge, workers and employers can implement controls to ensure EVERYONE makes it home safe at the end of the day."

**- Blair Allin, NCSO**  
**Canadian Health and Safety Representative, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers**

"Safety is the foundation the residential sector builds on and RESCON fully supports the investment in health and safety associations and updating the working at heights training. Industry best practices have and will continue to reduce the number of fatalities and critical injuries in Ontario. We owe it to all workers and their families to continuously improve our health and safety systems."

**- Andrew Pariser**  
**Vice President, RESCON**

"At the Carpenters' Union, we know that investments in workplace health and safety are critical to ensuring all workers come home to their loved ones at the end of the day. Expanding our safety training and resources will offer better protections to workers, and we are fully supportive of the continued effort by this Government to keep those that are building the future of our province safe."

- Adam Bridgman

Director of Training, Carpenters' District Council of Ontario

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## Additional Resources

- [Ontario's occupational health and safety system](#)
- [Training for working at heights](#)
- [Program standard for working at heights training](#)
- [Provider standard for working at heights training](#)

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## Related Topics

### Business and Economy

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## NEWS RELEASE

# Ontario Honours Outstanding Bravery of Paramedics

10 Paramedics to Receive Inaugural Ontario Medal for Paramedic Bravery

May 24, 2023

[Health](#)

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TORONTO — The Ontario government is honouring paramedics from across the province with the inaugural Ontario Medal for Paramedic Bravery. The medal is given to paramedics who have demonstrated great courage risking their lives to save the lives of others.

The Honorable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, and Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, will present medals to 10 paramedics in a ceremony at Queen's Park this evening. This is the first year paramedics in Ontario will be honoured by the province with a medal for their actions.

“As Lieutenant Governor, I have witnessed first-hand the remarkable selflessness and bravery of first-responders,” said the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell. “While it is often said we live in an uncertain time, few Ontarians actually experience uncertainty in their everyday working lives in quite the way that paramedics do. Before their shifts begin, they don’t know where they will be dispatched, under what circumstances, or how they will be asked to help. On behalf of a very grateful province, I thank this year’s exceptional award recipients for their commitment, their incredible courage, and their dedicated service.”

Recipients are recognized for their individual acts of outstanding bravery, including moving a crashed plane to save passengers inside, diving to the bottom of Lake Ontario to rescue a drowned man, grabbing hold of a suicidal man on a highway ledge, swimming an unconscious cliff diver to safety, saving other first responders during a gas line explosion, and rescuing workers from a collapsed building.

“As we celebrate Paramedic Services Week, I am honoured to recognize the first Ontario Medal for Paramedic Bravery recipients for their courage protecting the people of this province in the face of grave risk and danger,” said Minister Jones.

"Day in and day out, first responders put their duty to Ontarians and service first. These paramedics represent the very best of Ontario and our government is proud to recognize their significant contributions to keeping communities safe."

While these medal recipients have been selected for their acts of extraordinary selflessness, each paramedic in Ontario has a profound impact on the health and safety of people across the province.

"The Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs (OAPC) is elated to have been part of the advocacy to create this Paramedic Medal of Bravery. Today is a momentous day as these are the first paramedics ever to be presented with the Ontario Medal for Paramedic Bravery elevating the level of honour and respect for their extraordinary acts of courage and the risks they faced," said Chief Michael Sanderson, President of the OAPC. "As we celebrate Paramedic Services Week and its theme of diversity in paramedicine, we'd also like to take this opportunity to recognize our diverse force of paramedics and their extraordinary dedication to serving the many unique communities throughout Ontario."

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### Quick Facts

- Paramedic Services Week is celebrated across Canada from May 21 to 27, 2023. The theme for Paramedic Services Week 2023 is "Diversity in Paramedicine – The Patient. The Provider. The Profession". This theme recognizes the importance of equity, diversity and inclusion for patients, providers, and the profession of paramedicine.
- Since its inauguration in 2015, 74 paramedics have received the Ontario Award for Paramedic Bravery. This year marks the first year the award has been elevated to a provincial honour medal as the newly named Ontario Medal for Paramedic Bravery.
- Any Ontario paramedic is eligible to receive the medal for an act of exceptional courage that has occurred within the last 24 months. The honour can be bestowed posthumously.
- There are over 10,500 paramedics currently employed in Ontario, the largest group of paramedics in Canada.

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### Additional Resources

- [Recipients of Inaugural Ontario Medal for Paramedic Bravery](#)
  - [2021 Recipients of Ontario Award for Paramedic Bravery](#)
  - [Ontario's Honours and Awards for Bravery](#)
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## Related Topics

### Government

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### Health and Wellness

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## NEWS RELEASE

# Ontario Investing in Life-Saving Training for Firefighters

New projects will give firefighters the physical and mental health skills they need to stay safe and save lives

May 15, 2023

[Office of the Premier](#)

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**MISSISSAUGA** — The Ontario government is investing \$700,000 to support four innovative and free training projects designed for 203 professional and volunteer firefighters around the province. Training will focus on fighting fires in hazardous (Mayday) situations for small and rural services to ensure they are equipped and prepared for ground rescue and wildfire scenarios. There will also be courses for automobile extraction, boating and water safety, and elevator rescue.

“Our firefighters are true heroes who face danger head-on and without hesitation to protect our communities and our people,” said Premier Doug Ford. “These new investments will help to ensure they have the training and resources they need to do their jobs safely and effectively.”

Firefighting is among the most stressful careers in Ontario. In recognition of the mental toll, this investment will also contribute to peer support training for suicide awareness and crisis intervention. Two projects will be led by the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association, while the City of Mississauga and the Town of Georgina are receiving funding as well.

“Firefighters work tirelessly to protect others and the physical and mental stresses they face takes a toll,” said Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. “Our government is proud to invest in training programs that offer peer support and mental health services to ensure our firefighters have the training and experience they need to take care of their communities and themselves.”

In March 2023, Ontario [announced](#) plans to expand cancer coverage for firefighters. These changes will make it faster and easier for these heroes and their families to access the compensation and supports they deserve for thyroid and pancreatic cancers from the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB).

"We are thrilled with the announcement," said Greg Horton, President of the Ontario Professional Firefighters Association. "Professional development and capacity building are core value propositions the OPFFA offers its members. The Association plays a unique role in assessing the continuing education needs of its members and delivering programs to meet those needs. While there is ample training on how to put out a fire and save lives, there hasn't been adequate training on firefighter survival."

These projects are funded through the government's Skills Development Fund, a \$700 million initiative, which supports ground-breaking programs that connect jobseekers with the skills and training they need to find well-paying careers close to home.

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### Quick Facts

- There are about 30,000 firefighters in Ontario, including about 12,000 full-time firefighters, nearly 19,000 volunteer firefighters and more than 400 part-time firefighters.
- Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association is receiving \$367,105 for the Fire Ground Survival Program and \$65,995 for the Peer Support Program.
- The City of Mississauga is receiving \$101,099 for the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Fire Ground Survival program.
- The Town of Georgina is receiving \$176,000 for the Professional Development Georgina Fire & Rescue Services project.
- Through its first three funding rounds, the Skills Development Fund helped launch 595 projects to help nearly 522,000 people around the province take the next step in their careers.
- Ontario's Skills Development Fund is supported through labour market transfer agreements between the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario.

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### Quotes

"Our firefighting heroes require appropriate training and resources so they can save lives and make it home to their loved ones. This new training investment by our government is critical to tackling the operational and mental health challenges our professional and volunteer firefighters encounter daily."

- Michael Kerzner  
Ontario's Solicitor General

"This investment is welcomed as it allows Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services to provide the critical professional development and access to specialized training that helps ensure our firefighters have the practical skills and knowledge necessary to protect themselves and the communities they serve. Training like The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Fire Ground Survival program is invaluable. This internationally recognized program teaches firefighters how to prevent mayday situations from occurring including how to perform potentially life-saving actions should they become lost, trapped or injured. The Fire Ground Survival program also provides crucial skills training in the areas of self-rescue, rapid intervention and firefighter survival techniques as well as hazard recognition, effective communication and situational awareness to improve survivability and decrease the potential of injury and death of firefighters. Training and skills development is the foundation for our team; helping strengthen capabilities while reducing injuries and potential risk. "

**- Deryn Rizzi**

**Fire Chief of Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services**

"The Fire Fighters Association of Ontario welcomes this important announcement. The fire service has been faced with unique financial challenges post-covid that a lot of municipalities across Ontario are struggling to overcome. These investments will help alleviate this financial burden and allow fire departments to not only provide a better service to their citizens but keep their members safe while doing so."

**- Randy Narine**

**Section 21 Committee Representative, The Fire Fighters Association of  
Ontario**

"We are excited to see the Ministry's commitment to supporting our firefighters through the Skills Development Fund projects being announced today. These initiatives will help ensure our frontline heroes have the necessary skills and resources to protect our communities and keep Ontarians safe. We extend our thanks to Premier Doug Ford, the Hon. Monte McNaughton, and the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development for their dedication to Ontario's firefighters."

**- Rob Grimwood**  
**President, Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs**

"I'd like to thank Premier Ford and Minister McNaughton for supporting the Fire Ground Survival and Peer Support training programs from the International Association of Fire Fighters. These programs will help save the lives of firefighters by providing the skills needed to self-rescue should they become trapped at an emergency scene, as well better deal with the mental trauma often resulting from the job."

**- Fred LeBlanc**  
**13th District Vice President, International Association of Fire Fighters**

"Thanks to the Province of Ontario's Skills Development Fund, Georgina Fire & Rescue Services will be able to continue to improve and maintain high level training for our firefighters so we can respond to specialized rescue situations. This funding will be utilized to support our annual training plan and associated programs, help to ensure the safety of our firefighters, and meet the growing needs of our community."

**- Ron Jenkins**  
**Fire Chief, Town of Georgina**

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### **Additional Resources**

- [Skills Development Fund](#)
  - [Employment Ontario: Free Programs and Services for Job Seekers, Workers and Employers](#)
-

## Related Topics

### Education and Training

Learn about Ontario's early years, education and training systems. Includes information on child care, elementary schools, secondary schools, colleges, universities, skills training and financial aid. [Learn more](#)

### Government

Learn about the government services available to you and how government works. [Learn more](#)

### Law and Safety

Ontario's laws and related information about our legal system, emergency services, the Ontario Provincial Police and victim services. [Learn more](#)

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## NEWS RELEASE

## Ontario Investing in More Affordable Housing in Ottawa

Additional funding will continue to support vulnerable populations experiencing or at risk of homelessness

May 24, 2023

[Municipal Affairs and Housing](#)

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Ottawa — The Ontario government is investing an additional \$24.1 million in affordable housing in Ottawa to create up to 138 affordable and supportive housing units.

The project, known as Mikinak, is a joint initiative between the City of Ottawa and Ottawa Community Housing Corporation (OCHC) that, once completed, will contain a total of 271 units across three buildings. The project will provide supports for seniors, families, Indigenous households and persons with developmental disabilities. More than 20 per cent of the units across the project will be accessible.

“Today’s announcement demonstrates our government’s commitment to tackling homelessness and ending the housing supply crisis in Ontario,” said Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. “Our government’s support for the Mikinak project builds on the historic investments we have made in homelessness prevention and reinforces our constructive partnership with the City of Ottawa. This announcement also reflects the unique challenges and pressures facing Ottawa when it comes to tackling homelessness, as a service provider for people coming to the city from across Eastern and Northern Ontario.”

Located at 715 Mikinak Road, the project is being built on the former Canadian Forces Base Rockcliffe lot. The mid-rise buildings will include housing for people on the city’s social housing waitlist, which includes people residing in the emergency shelter system and offsite facilities such as hotels and motels.

“Every person, regardless of their circumstances, deserves a roof over their heads and a safe place to call home,” said Mark Sutcliffe, Mayor of Ottawa. “That’s why this announcement is very important for the City of Ottawa. It comes at a critical time and it demonstrates that the City and the Province of Ontario can work together towards our common goal of ending chronic homelessness by building more affordable housing and supportive housing. This announcement is an

important step in our ongoing discussion about fair and appropriate funding for housing and homelessness prevention and it helps Ottawa build more affordable and supportive units in the next year. I want to personally thank Premier Doug Ford and Minister Steve Clark for this welcome announcement. This comes after a lot of very healthy and productive dialogue and collaboration.”

OCHC is the largest provider of social housing in Ottawa and is Ontario’s second-largest housing provider. Supported by the City of Ottawa, OCHC manages a portfolio of approximately 15,000 affordable and community housing units for more than 32,000 people across Ottawa.

**Quotes:**

“Everyone deserves a safe and affordable place to call home and the Mikinak project is another step towards achieving that result. I look forward to the completion of this project and the positive impact it will have on the lives of so many in Ottawa. Ultimately, it’s all about creating a better future for Ontarians, and I am proud of our government’s effort to do just that.” – Nina Tangri, Associate Minister of Housing

“The Mikinak project will be a game-changer for many families throughout the Ottawa region. Our government is not only providing much-needed housing for families, seniors, Indigenous households and persons with developmental disabilities, but the development of the project will also stimulate the local economy with jobs and contracts for people working in the trades and in the construction industry. There are multiple layers of families and individuals who will benefit from the Mikinak project.” – Goldie Ghamari, MPP for Carleton

“Ottawa is open for business, open for tourism and open for hi-tech – and to be truly open we need to invest in people, talent, culture, sports and homelessness. This announcement will ensure that Ottawa is not only competitive but also compassionate – with provincial funding that addresses our city’s unique needs when it comes to fighting homelessness and providing Ottawa residents a safe and secure place to call home.” – Lisa MacLeod, MPP for Nepean

“Ottawa Community Housing is grateful for this funding from the Province of Ontario that will help build more affordable housing in our city. The provincial government is a key partner, and their support will help us see the completion of our 271-unit project at 715 Mikinak Road. Through building more affordable housing, preserving existing social housing and supporting tenants, we remain

committed to working together with all orders of government and our sector partners to address homelessness and tackle the housing supply crisis.” – Stéphane Giguère, Chief Executive Officer, Ottawa Community Housing

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### Quick Facts

- Through the Community Housing Renewal Strategy, response to COVID-19 and homelessness initiatives, over the past three years Ontario invested nearly \$4.4 billion for community and supportive housing while addressing homelessness and the impacts of the pandemic for vulnerable Ontarians.
  - Through Budget 2023, the government has made historic investments in homelessness prevention across Ontario, including more than \$31 million annually – an increase of 38 per cent from the previous year – for the Indigenous Supportive Housing Program.
  - In 2022, the government introduced the More Homes Built Faster Act, which takes bold action to address the housing crisis by building 1.5 million homes by 2031. The plan also has measures to reduce municipal charges for housing providers looking to build non-profit and affordable housing for vulnerable Ontarians.
  - In 2023, the government introduced the Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act, which proposes historic changes to ensure security and support for tenants and first-time homebuyers in Ontario, while also supporting the government’s goal to build 1.5 million homes by 2031.
- 

### Additional Resources

- [Ontario Increasing Homelessness Prevention Support for Indigenous People](#)
  - [Ontario Providing More Supportive Housing for Vulnerable People](#)
  - [Ontario Introduces Next Steps to Support Housing Supply Growth](#)
  - [Ontario’s Housing Supply Progress](#)
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### Related Topics

#### Home and Community

Information for families on major life events and care options, including marriage, births and child care. Also includes planning resources for municipalities. [Learn more](#)

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## NEWS RELEASE

# Ontario Investing in Provincewide Homelessness Prevention

By-name lists helping connect those experiencing homelessness with critical services

May 25, 2023

[Municipal Affairs and Housing](#)

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Toronto — The Ontario government is investing nearly \$770,000 to help the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH) work with communities to connect people experiencing or at risk of homelessness with the local services and supports they need.

The CAEH will use the funding to provide ongoing support to Ontario's 47 service managers – who deliver support services and homelessness prevention programs in local communities – so they can maintain and improve local by-name lists. These are real-time lists of people experiencing homelessness that identify their needs. The by-name lists help service managers understand the extent of homelessness in their communities and improve access to resources as soon as they are available. This includes housing assistance, such as supportive housing or rent supplements, and services like Ontario Works or health care.

“The by-name list is a life-changing innovation that ensures those experiencing homelessness have access to the supports and services they need,” said Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. “We’re proud to continue our partnership with the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness into 2024 to help service managers access the necessary tools, identify bottlenecks in the system, and in turn, better help their communities.”

Since 2021, Ontario has provided funding to CAEH, which offers support through coaching, tools and webinars so that service managers can spend more time working with their clients than on paperwork. This funding would extend CAEH's support for another year.

“Our ongoing collaboration with the Province of Ontario is helping service managers across the province build coordinated and efficient local homeless systems,” said Tim Richter, President & CEO of the Canadian Alliance to End

Homelessness. “This important work has helped London and St. Thomas-Elgin end homelessness for veterans and helped five other service managers achieve measurable and verifiable reductions in chronic homelessness – despite a wave of new homelessness happening across the country.”

“We are committed to addressing the needs of our province’s most vulnerable by investing in long-term solutions that connect people directly to services in their communities,” said Nina Tangri, Associate Minister of Housing. “That’s why we’ve invested over 40 per cent more in our homelessness prevention programs – so more people can access the help they need to get back on their feet.”

As announced in the [2023 Budget](#), the province added an additional \$202 million each year to the Homelessness Prevention Program and Indigenous Supportive Housing Program. This builds on the government’s investment of nearly \$4.4 billion over the past three years to grow and enhance community and supportive housing, address homelessness and respond to COVID19.

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### Quick Facts

- In March 2021, each service manager was asked to put in place a local by-name list. As of January 2022, by-name lists are in use across the province.
- On April 1, 2022, Ontario launched the Homelessness Prevention Program, which works to prevent, address and reduce chronic homelessness. The new program requires service managers to meet updated provincial by-name list requirements.
- Clients are only added to by-name lists with their consent. These lists reduce the need for the client to repeat their story or situation and helps the community remain accountable to ending homelessness.

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### Additional Resources

- [Ontario Increasing Homelessness Prevention Support for Indigenous People](#)
- [Ontario Providing More Supportive Housing for Vulnerable People](#)
- [Ontario Introduces Next Steps to Support Housing Supply Growth](#)
- [Ontario’s Housing Supply Progress](#)

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### Related Topics

#### Government

Learn about the government services available to you and how government works.

[Learn more](#)

#### Home and Community

## NEWS RELEASE

# Ontario Launches Free Job Training for People with Disabilities

New projects helping people with intellectual and physical disabilities train for meaningful work in their communities

May 29, 2023

[Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development](#)

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**TORONTO** — The Ontario government is investing \$6.5 million to support five innovative projects to help more than 3,770 people with disabilities find meaningful jobs with businesses in their communities. These projects will connect jobseekers to careers in a variety of sectors, including health care, information technology, retail and hospitality. More than 2.6 million people in Ontario live with a disability, which can significantly increase risk of unemployment.

“At a time when nearly 300,000 jobs are going unfilled around the province, giving people with disabilities a fair shot at a life-changing job isn’t just the right thing to do, it’s also good for the bottom line,” said Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. “Our government is proud to invest in training programs that will lift people living with physical or intellectual disabilities up, giving them training and confidence they need to find meaningful work, earn a good paycheck, and lead purpose-driven lives.”

The first project announced today is run by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and will be providing specialized employment services to 1,300 people who are blind, partially sighted or Deafblind. The program will provide one-on-one and peer support, skills building and goal-setting workshops, and accessible technology training needed to prepare for work with local employers.

“Our government believes that anyone who wants to work should have the opportunity to work. That’s why we are committed to removing barriers to employment for people with disabilities and connecting jobseekers and employers,” said Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. “These projects help create inclusive opportunities for Ontarians with disabilities to thrive in the workplace, strengthen our economy and enrich our communities.”

The other four projects are run by Community Living Toronto, Do Good Donuts, the Geneva Centre for Autism and PTP Adult Learning & Employment Programs in partnership with George Brown College. These programs will support 2,470 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who will have the chance to build in-demand skills, receive employment counselling, job coaching, hands-on training, and paid work placements. Additional mental health services will be available for those who need it.

“MyJobMatch is changing the way the developmental services sector approaches employment,” said Brad Saunders, CEO, Community Living Toronto. “We make supported employment easier by quickly matching job seekers with employers based on the skills, experience, and values employers are looking for. We welcome this important funding that will empower people with a developmental disability to participate in their own job search.”

These projects are funded through the Skills Development Fund, a \$700 million initiative, which supports ground-breaking programs that connect jobseekers with the skills and training they need to find well-paying careers close to home. The government will be unveiling more programs to help people with disabilities in the coming months.

For more information and the list of funding recipients, see the [Backgrounder](#).

---

### Quick Facts

- Businesses that hire people with disabilities have been shown to grow profits up to three times faster than their competitors.
  - In the winter, there were about 300,000 job vacancies in Ontario.
  - Through its first three funding rounds, the Skills Development Fund has supported 595 projects and helped almost 522,000 people around the province take the next step in their careers.
  - Ontario’s Skills Development Fund is supported through labour market transfer agreements between the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario.
-

## Quotes

"Thanks to the Skills Development Fund, CNIB's Come to Work program can continue our critical work of breaking down barriers and eliminating stigmas in the workplace for Ontarians who are blind, partially sighted, or Deafblind, while connecting those looking for work with employers. Whether it's a potential talent pool member or employer, we're asking the same thing: join this proven program and help build the way forward together."

**- Thomas Simpson**

**Vice President, CNIB Voice and Executive Director, Come to Work**

"Young adults with developmental disabilities have so much to offer the workforce. In return, employment offers them a meaningful connection to the community and improves mental health, physical health, social inclusion and belonging. This support from the province for our "Scale to Succeed" project means we can hire more youth into our real work for real pay training program where our employees with disabilities gain the skills, experience, and confidence they need to succeed as employees in the community."

**- Melanie Côté**

**Founder and President, Do Good Donuts**

"With this timely investment from Ontario's Skills Development Fund, Geneva Centre for Autism is launching the Autism Workforce Development Hub, a one stop shop for autistic job seekers and employers to access training, job matching, and individualized consulting. By working directly with both employers and job seekers to understand their needs and address potential workplace barriers, we can facilitate appropriate, inclusive employment opportunities for a largely untapped pool of talent."

**- Abe Evreniadis**

**CEO, Geneva Centre for Autism**

"PTP - Adult Learning and Employment Programs is thrilled to receive Skills Development Funds to create a seamless pathway to meaningful employment for youth with intellectual disabilities in partnership with George Brown Colleges' College Vocational Program. The funds will support the development of an innovative and integrated approach to program and service delivery that will include community and employer partnership development, as well as enhanced job search and job coaching support for youth participants."

- Barbara McFater

Chief Executive Officer, PTP Adult Learning and Employment Programs

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## Additional Resources

- [Ontario Launches Free Job Training for People with Disabilities](#)
- [Skills Development Fund](#)
- [Employment Ontario: Free Employment Services and Training Programs for Job Seekers, Workers and Employers](#)
- [Employment programs and services for people with disabilities](#)
- [Learn how you can make your business more accessible and inclusive](#)

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## Related Topics

### Jobs and Employment

We've got the resource and supports to help connect job seekers with employers.

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## NEWS RELEASE

# Ontario Lowering Minimum Age Requirement to be a Lifeguard

Creating more lifeguard opportunities will help keep pools and recreational camp waterfronts safe

June 02, 2023

[Health](#)

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**TORONTO** — The Ontario government is lowering the minimum age requirement to be a lifeguard, assistant lifeguard and aquatic instructor from 16 to 15 years of age to help communities address staffing shortages and make sure pools and recreational camp waterfronts across the province can be enjoyed safely. This change aligns the minimum age requirements with updated age requirements established by the Lifesaving Society's certification course.

"As school rises for the summer and the weather warms up, we spend more time enjoying pools and camp waterfronts," said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "Lowering the age for youth to become lifeguards creates more job opportunities for youth in a rewarding position that can help keep community pools and recreational camp waterfronts safe."

These changes come into effect today, on June 2, 2023. As a result, communities will now have access to more lifeguards so businesses and municipalities can hire additional staff ahead of the summer season. Access to more lifeguards will also help operators maintain and expand their hours of operation for public swimming and aquatic lessons.

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## Quick Facts

- Lifeguards must first pass a series of swimming tests and hold appropriate certifications – such as a current lifeguard or assistant lifeguard certificate or a current aquatic instructor certificate – to be able to work safely as lifeguards, assistant lifeguards, or aquatic instructors.
- The [National Lifeguard](#) training and certification, delivered by the Lifesaving Society, is the professional standard for lifeguarding in Canada. It certifies

lifeguards across the country and is recognized by the province of Ontario for lifeguarding public swimming pools.

- In July 2020, the Lifesaving Society lowered its age requirement for the national lifeguard certificate from 16 to 15 years of age.

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## Additional Resources

- [Become a National Lifeguard](#)

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## Related Topics

### Government

Learn about the government services available to you and how government works.

[Learn more](#)

### Health and Wellness

Get help navigating Ontario's health care system and connecting with the programs or services you're looking for. [Learn more](#)

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## NEWS RELEASE

# Ontario Now Requires Naloxone Kits in At-Risk Workplaces

Province's Workplace Naloxone Program first of its kind in North America

June 01, 2023

[Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development](#)

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TORONTO – The Ontario government is now [requiring at-risk employers to ensure their workplaces have a life-saving naloxone kit](#) on hand and workers trained on how to use them. As of April, more than 1,000 free nasal spray naloxone kits have been distributed to businesses around the province through [Ontario's Workplace Naloxone Program](#), while businesses may also obtain their own kits. In 2022, over 2,500 people died from opioid-related causes in Ontario.

“Ontario is in the middle of an opioid epidemic, and every one of these deaths is preventable,” said Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. “From worksites to nightclubs, requiring naloxone kits in at-risk businesses will help us increase awareness for opioid addiction, reduce the stigma, and save lives.”

Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can temporarily reverse an opioid overdose, restore breathing within two to five minutes, and allow time for medical help to arrive. Ontario's Workplace Naloxone Program is the first of its kind in North America and provides at-risk employers with access to free training for up to two workers and one nasal spray naloxone kit for each eligible workplace.

“Ensuring that naloxone is free and easily accessible across the province is a critical part of our government's strategy to reduce overdose deaths,” said Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions. “Everyone's life has meaning, and naloxone gives people the second chance they deserve. This policy will save lives and make Ontario a safer place to work.”

Protection from liability available under the *Good Samaritan Act* would generally apply to a person who voluntarily administers naloxone at a workplace in response to an opioid overdose. Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills

Development's inspectors will be taking an education-first approach to enforcement.

These changes follow the ground-breaking protections introduced by the government in the [Working for Workers Act, 2023](#), which includes fines for [withholding passports](#), better protections for remote workers during [mass terminations](#) and [cleaner and women's-only washrooms on construction sites](#).

---

### Quick Facts

- Employers can determine if they are eligible for the program and find additional information on accessing naloxone kits and training at [Ontario.ca/workplacenaloxone](https://ontario.ca/workplacenaloxone).
  - Employers who do not comply with their obligations under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* may be subject to orders and, where appropriate, prosecution.
  - The construction and manufacturing sectors account for 45 per cent of participating workplaces. Other sectors include retail (9 per cent); health care and social assistance (9 per cent); accommodation and food services (7 per cent); other services (25 per cent); arts, entertainment and recreation (4 per cent).
  - In 2020, 30 per cent of workers who died from opioid-related causes were employed in construction. Bars and restaurants also experienced increased opioid usage and accidental overdoses often because of recreational drugs laced with deadly opioids such as fentanyl and carfentanil.
  - Employers can obtain additional information on how to access free naloxone training and kits from the [Canadian Red Cross](#) and [St. John Ambulance](#).
- 

### Related Topics

#### Business and Economy

Information about Ontario's economy and how to do business here. Includes economic development opportunities, research funding, tax credits for business and the Ontario Budget. [Learn more](#)

#### Government

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#### Jobs and Employment

We've got the resource and supports to help connect job seekers with employers. [Learn more](#)

## NEWS RELEASE

# Ontario Removing Unfair Work Barriers for Skilled Newcomers

Professional Engineers Ontario first regulated profession to remove Canadian experience requirement following provincial legislation

May 23, 2023

[Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development](#)

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**TORONTO** — The Ontario government is leading the country with changes to help internationally-trained immigrants work in the fields they've studied in. After introducing [historic legislation](#) that banned regulated professions from requiring Canadian work experience in more than 30 occupations, Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO) are the first association to remove it from their application criteria. This has the potential to help thousands of otherwise-qualified professionals pursue their dreams over the coming years, all while maintaining Ontario's world-class licensing and exam requirements.

"It's an all-too-common experience: meeting a skilled newcomer trained as an engineer, doctor, or accountant, working in a low-wage job that has nothing to do with their profession," said Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. "Our government has a plan to build a stronger Ontario that works for everyone, and we're going to do it by unleashing the talent we have right here at home. I congratulate Professional Engineers Ontario for taking this historic step to support our mission."

Roughly 300,000 jobs continue to go unfilled across the province every day, including thousands in engineering, costing billions in lost productivity. At the same time, studies have shown only a quarter of internationally trained immigrants in Ontario work in the regulated professions they trained for. Currently, even if a newcomer has the skills and technical ability to pass their profession's licensing exams, they may still be barred from registering in their profession without Canadian work experience – even if that work occurs in an unrelated sector, such as retail.

“Each year, up to 60 per cent of the engineering licence applications that PEO receives are from internationally trained engineers,” said Roydon Fraser, President of PEO. “By no longer requiring proof of Canadian experience when applying for an engineering licence, PEO will effectively ensure that qualified, international applicants can be licensed more quickly, so they can actively contribute to the economy as engineers. PEO will continue to ensure all professional engineers meet rigorous qualifications for licensing and that only properly qualified individuals practice engineering through a competency-based assessment model and other methods for evaluation.”

Ontario is the first province in Canada to ban unfair or discriminatory Canadian work experience requirements to help newcomers work in the professions they trained for. In December 2023, all unfair requirements for Canadian experience will be automatically voided unless an exemption is granted by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development for public health and safety.

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### Quick Facts

- Introduced as part of *Working for Workers Act, 2021*, Ontario was the first province in Canada to ban use of discriminatory Canadian Experience Requirements in occupations under *the Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act, 2006* (FARPACTA).
  - In 2019, Engineers were the fourth largest regulated profession in Ontario with 85,649 members and had the second largest number of internationally trained members, with 24,258 people registered in the profession.
  - In 2020, the median employment income for a Civil Engineer in Ontario was \$96,000.
  - As part of *Working for Workers Act, 2023*, introduced this past March, changes to the FARPACTA would help ensure that regulated professions assess competency in a way that is non-discriminatory, ensuring newcomers are able to continue their careers in Ontario.
  - Ontario invests over \$90M annually in services that help newcomers learn English or French, settle, access training and find jobs.
-

## Quotes

"We applaud the Professional Engineers Ontario for their leadership in removing the Canadian work experience as a requirement. Through Achēv's own work with employers and job seekers, we know that removing this barrier will create a true win-win-win. Employers get the talent they need, skilled newcomers secure jobs in their chosen profession, and Ontario's economy grows."

**- Tonie Chaltas**  
**CEO, Achēv**

"Newcomers to Canada long for bold leadership and initiatives that facilitate and promote their labour market access and inclusion. We applaud the Government of Ontario and Minister McNaughton for their continued efforts to support newcomer's economic integration and wellbeing, and for being the first province in Canada to ban discriminatory Canadian experience requirements for certain regulated professions."

**- Sara Asalya**  
**Executive Director, Newcomer Women's Services Toronto**

"We applaud the Professional Engineers for recognizing the skills and experience of new immigrants. Minister McNaughton has once again demonstrated true leadership in spearheading this important legislation of providing equal opportunity for all to contribute in making our industries prosper."

**- Teresa M. Torralba**  
**Executive Director, Philippine Legacy and Cultural Alliance (PLACA)**

"We applaud Professional Engineers Ontario for removing Canadian work experience from their application criteria for foreign trained professionals. We also thank the Province of Ontario for their leadership in enabling newcomers to work in their chosen fields, follow their professional goals, and achieve economic self-reliance."

- Elise Herzig  
Executive Director, JIAS Toronto

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## Additional Resources

- [Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program](#)
- [Newcomer Settlement Program](#)
- [Ontario Bridge Training Program for Internationally-Trained Immigrants](#)
- [Work in your profession or trade: Resources for Ontario workers who were trained outside of Canada](#)

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## Related Topics

### Business and Economy

Information about Ontario's economy and how to do business here. Includes economic development opportunities, research funding, tax credits for business and the Ontario Budget. [Learn more](#)

### Government

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### Jobs and Employment

We've got the resource and supports to help connect job seekers with employers. [Learn more](#)

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## Media Contacts

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## **MEDIA RELATIONS**

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www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca



**FOR  
IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE**

### **RELEASE DATE:**

May 25, 2023

## **2023 Capital Works projects underway in County of Renfrew**

The County of Renfrew's Capital Works Plan is well underway for 2023! The Department of Public Works and Engineering plans to rehabilitate or reconstruct approximately 49 kilometres of County Roads and has work scheduled on 10 County Structures. Hardened shoulders will be added to approximately 30 kilometres of the roads undergoing construction in 2023.

The County maintains a 10-year Asset Management Plan (AMP) that is reviewed annually based on recent condition assessments. The AMP is used to plan the capital projects required to maintain the 816 kilometres of roads and 252 bridges and large culverts (Structures) under the County's responsibility.

The total capital budget for County Roads and Structures in 2023 is \$31 million; with \$2.6 million contributed from the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) and \$2.9million contributed from the Canadian Community Building Fund (CCBF), formerly known as the Gas Tax Fund.

Rising construction costs continue to receive careful consideration as projects are designed. County staff continues to make efforts to reduce construction costs, without reducing the high level of service that should be expected of rehabilitated County Roads and Structures.

A wide range of projects are planned for 2023 as listed and detailed below:

### **County Road 1 (River Road), from Lochwinnoch Road to Algonquin Trail**

Located in the Townships of McNab/Braeside and Horton, 2.27 km of River Road will be pulverized and paved, with drainage and safety device improvements in required locations. This project includes the incorporation hardened shoulders as well as improvements to the Algonquin Trail. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated to be undertaken from early June to early July.

### **County Road 2 (Daniel Street South), from Galvin Street to Edey Street**

Located in the Town of Arnprior, the intersection of Daniel Street with Galvin Street and Edey Street will be reconstructed and realigned. This project is being undertaken by the Town of Arnprior, in cooperation with the County of Renfrew. Lane closures and temporary full closures with local detours will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated to be undertaken from June to September.

**County Road 4 (Storyland Road), from County Road 653 (Cheneaux Road) to Alex Lane**

Located in the Township of Horton, 2.8 km of Storyland Road will be pulverized and paved, with base stabilization, drainage, and safety device improvements in required locations. This project includes the incorporation of hardened shoulders. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated to be undertaken in September.

**County Road 20 (Bruce Street), from Highway 60 to Highway 17**

Located in the Town of Renfrew and Township of Horton, 3.11 km of Bruce Street will be rehabilitated by a combination of milling and paving and applying surface sealer treatment, with drainage repairs in required locations. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated to be undertaken in July.

**County Road 24 (White Water Road), from Highway 17 to County Road 40 (Greenwood Road)**

Located in the Township of Laurentian Valley, 2.45 km of White Water Road will be rehabilitated by application of a surface lift of asphalt and shoulder. This project includes the incorporation of hardened shoulders. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. This project commenced in 2022 and will be completed June 2023.

**County Road 30 (Lake Dore Road), from Highway 60 to Sperberg Road**

Located in the Township of North Algona Wilberforce, 3.26 km of Lake Dore Road will be reconstructed, with base repairs, drainage improvements, safety improvements, and widening in required locations. This project includes incorporation of hardened shoulder by the County and a paved sidewalk by the Township. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated from July to October.

**County Road 37 (Murphy Road), from Portage Road to Woodland Crescent**

Located in the Town of Petawawa, 1.2 km of Murphy Road will be pulverized and paved, with drainage and safety device improvements in required locations. This project includes the incorporation hardened shoulders. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated to be undertaken in June.

**County Road 42 (Forest Lea Road), from Highway 17 to County Road 51 (Pembroke Street West)**

Located in the Township of Laurentian Valley, 4.22 km of Forest Lea Road will be rehabilitated by applying surface sealer treatment, with drainage repairs in required locations. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated to be undertaken in July.

**County Road 58 (Round Lake Road), from Deer Trail Road to Structure B101 (Bonnechere River Bridge)**

Located in the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards, 2.52 km of Round Lake Road will be

pulverized and paved, with drainage and safety device improvements in required locations. This project includes the incorporation hardened shoulders. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated to be undertaken from late-June to late-July.

**County Road 65 (Centennial Lake Road), from 2872 Centennial Lake Road to Black Donald Access Point**

Located in the Township of Greater Madawaska, 1.63 km of Centennial Lake Road will be pulverized and paved, with close-cut-clearing, drainage improvements, and safety device improvements in required locations. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated to be undertaken from mid-July to late-August.

**County Road 508 (Calabogie Road), from County Road 34 (Norton Road) to Mill Street**

Located in the Township of Greater Madawaska, 1.84 km of Calabogie Road will be pulverized and paved, with drainage and safety device improvements in required locations. This project includes the incorporation hardened shoulders. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated to be undertaken from late-July to mid-October.

**County Road 508 (Calabogie Road), from Goshen Road to Highway 17**

Located in the Township of McNab/Braeside, 4.36 km of Calabogie Road will be overlaid, with drainage improvements in required locations. This project includes the incorporation hardened shoulders. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated to be undertaken from late-July to mid-October.

**County Road 512 (Foymount Road), from B257 (Harrington Creek Bridge) to Miller Road**

Located in the Township of Bonnechere Valley, 2.77 km of Foymount Road, from Harrington Creek Bridge to Buelow Road will be reconstructed, with alignment corrections, base repairs, drainage improvements, safety improvements, and widening in required locations. This project includes incorporation of hardened shoulder. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated from July to November. Utility relocations will be undertaken from Buelow Road to Miller Road during this timeframe as well. Dependant on the progression of the utility relocations, the County may proceed with road reconstruction works between Buelow Road and Miller Road.

**County Road 515 (Palmer Road), from Finch Road to County Road 514 (Schutt Road)**

Located in the Townships of Madawaska Valley and Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan, 6.5 km of Palmer Road will be pulverized and paved and overlay in combination with overlay on sections, added, with drainage and safety device improvements in required locations. This project includes the incorporation of hardened shoulders. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated to be undertaken from late-June to late-July.

### **County Road 517 (Dafoe Road), from Coulas Road to Serran Road**

Located in the Township of Madawaska Valley, 2.73 km of Dafoe Road will be pulverized and paved, with base repairs, drainage improvements, and safety device improvements in required locations. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. Construction is anticipated to be undertaken in August.

### **County Road 517 (Dafoe Road), from Serran Road to County Road 62 (Combermere Road)**

Located in the Township of Madawaska Valley, 3.22 km of Dafoe Road will be rehabilitated by application of a granular shoulders and granular sealing. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required for portions of the project. This project commenced in 2022 and will be completed June 2023. This project includes the incorporation of hardened shoulders.

### **County Road 635 (Swisha Road), 200m north of Highway 17**

Located in the Township of Laurentian Hills, a drainage system located 0.2 km north of Highway 17 was abandoned and replaced by a new cross-culvert. Lane closures and alternating traffic were required for the project. This project commenced in April and will be completed in May.

### **County Structure B044 (Douglas Bridge)**

Located on County Road 5 (Stone Road), approximately 0.06 km east of Highway 60, in the Township of Admaston/Bromley, Douglas Bridge will be rehabilitated. Rehabilitation will include removal of existing surface, application of concrete overlay, waterproofing, and paving of deck, barrier repairs, structural concrete repairs, and safety device improvements. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required over the bridge and a portion of Hyndford Road will be closed during the project with a signed detour in place. The project is anticipated to be undertaken from June to October.

### **County Structure B064 (Pilgrim Road Bridge)**

Located on Pilgrim Road, approximately 0.5 km east of Guiney Road, in the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan, Pilgrim Road Bridge will be rehabilitated. Rehabilitation will include removal of existing timber decking, steel repairs, cleaning and coating of steel members, and replacement of timber deck. Full closure will be required for the construction works and a temporary detour has been established with property owners. The project is anticipated to be undertaken from May to June.

### **County Structure B257 (Harrington Creek Bridge)**

Located on County Road 512 (Foymount Road), approximately 2.5 km east of Cormac Road, in the Township of Bonnechere Valley, Harrington Creek Bridge will be replaced. Replacement will be with a large concrete box culvert and will be undertaken in conjunction with the reconstruction of County Road 512 (Foymount Road). Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required over the structure during the project. The project is anticipated to be undertaken from July to September.

### **County Structure B310 (Ski Hill Bridge)**

Located on County Road 58 (Round Lake Road), approximately 3.2 km west of Stencells Road, in the Township of Laurentian Valley, Ski Hill Bridge will be rehabilitated. Rehabilitation will include removal of existing surface, application of concrete overlay, waterproofing, and paving of deck, barrier repairs, structural concrete repairs, slope stabilization, and safety device improvements. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required over the bridge during the project. The project is anticipated to be undertaken from June to October.

### **County Structure C025 (Borne Road Culvert)**

Located on Borne Road, approximately 0.15 km west of Gorman Road, in the Township of Laurentian Valley, Borne Road Culvert will be rehabilitated. Rehabilitation will include installation of a CSP liner, installation of a 'high water' CSP pipe, slope protection, and safety device improvements. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required over the bridge during the project. The project is anticipated to be undertaken from July to September.

### **County Structure C115 (Dunlop Crescent Dual Culvert)**

Located on Dunlop Crescent, approximately 0.1 km north of Highway 17, in the Township of Head, Clara and Maria, Dunlop Crescent Dual Culvert has been replaced. Replacement included removal of the existing structure, installation of polymer coated twin CSP, application of grouted slope protection, and safety device improvements. Full closure was required over the structure during the project. The project was completed from late-March to early-April.

### **County Structure C137 (Hanson Creek Culverts)**

Located on Robertson Line, approximately 2 km west of County Road 2 (White Lake Road), in the Township of McNab/Braeside, Hanson Creek Culverts will be replaced. Replacement will include removal of the existing culverts, installation of twin HDPE culverts which are much longer than existing, backfilling to a wider platform, paving, and improved safety devices. This project is being undertaken with the Township of McNab/Braeside in order to permit raising the road over the structure and correcting grades along Robertson Line. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required over the structure during the project. The structure project is anticipated to be undertaken in July.

### **County Structure C168 (Lake Clear Tri Culverts)**

Located on Lake Clear Road, approximately 1.7 km south of County Road 512 (Foymount Road), in the Township of Bonnechere Valley, Lake Clear Tri Culverts will be rehabilitated. Rehabilitation will include lining of the existing culverts and safety device improvements as required. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required over the structure during the project. The project is anticipated to be undertaken in September.

### **County Structure C191 (Dicks Road Culvert)**

Located on Dicks Road, approximately 0.9 km northeast of Micksburg Road, in the Township of Laurentian Valley, Dicks Road Culvert will be rehabilitated. Rehabilitation will include lining of

the existing culvert with a polymer coated CSP, grouting, slope stabilization, and safety device improvement. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required over the structure during the project. The project is anticipated to be undertaken in August.

### **County Structure C197 (Etmanskies Swamp Culvert)**

Located on County Road 62 (John Street), approximately 0.6 km south of Highway 60, in the Township of Madawaska Valley, Etmanskies Swamp Culvert will be rehabilitated. Rehabilitation will include access construction, lining of the existing culvert with a glass reinforced polymer liner, grouting, slope stabilization, and safety device improvement. Lane closures and alternating traffic will be required over the structure during the project. The project is anticipated to be undertaken from mid-August to late-September.

Area residents should also watch for regular maintenance operations that will be undertaken throughout the County such as shouldering, mowing, paver patching, pothole patching, brushing, ditching, crack sealing, and more.

The County requests that motorists obey all signs and traffic control personnel during construction to ensure safety of workers and the public. We apologize for any inconvenience that may be caused.

For up-to-date traffic impacts and updates on active projects, visit Municipal511 at <https://www.municipal511.ca> and follow the County of Renfrew on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

To report a concern or provide input regarding a County of Renfrew project, visit the County's Zencity engagement site at <https://bit.ly/3MWrDZu>.

- 30 -

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Lee Perkins	Director, Public Works & Engineering	613-732-4353
Tina Peplinskie	Media Relations Coordinator	613-735-7288

## **MEDIA RELATIONS**

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**FOR  
IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE**

### **RELEASE DATE:**

May 23, 2023

### **Message from County of Renfrew on weekend homicides**

The County of Renfrew and Renfrew County Housing Corporation are deeply saddened by the events of this past weekend. We consider the safety and well-being of our staff and our residents to be of utmost importance and we will be assessing the ongoing situation with our community and municipal partners, including the Ontario Provincial Police and other first responders, the Town of Renfrew, and the City of Pembroke.

“Our thoughts go out to all who have been impacted by these violent acts,” said Renfrew County Warden Peter Emon.

These two apparently isolated incidents have and will affect our community for some time to come and we, along with our partners, have already begun the task of supporting those individuals, families, and groups affected by the events and will continue to do so until it is no longer required.

Area residents impacted by this weekend’s tragedies are encouraged to reach out for support, if required, to the following agencies:

- Renfrew County Victim Services – 1-877-568-5730
- Mental Health Services Crisis Line – 1-866-996-0991
- Phoenix Centre for Children & Families – 1-800-465-1870

As the investigations into these incidents is ongoing, the County of Renfrew will not be making further comment.

- 30 -

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Tina Peplinskie      Media Relations Coordinator

613-735-7288


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## New masking guidelines at The Hospital

**May 17, 2023** – Arnprior Regional Health is safely easing COVID-19 precautions at The Hospital with changes to masking guidelines effective May 17, 2023. Based on the current risk assessment for the senior population, **these changes do not apply to The Grove Long-Term Care Home or Community Programs (Adult Day Program, Assisted Living).**

### What is not changing

- Staff and physicians will continue to wear masks when engaged in patient care.
- Everyone is required to wear a mask in all clinical areas including:
  - Patient care area hallways and corridors, patient rooms, nursing stations, and Entrance C
  - Emergency Department, including Entrance E
  - Diagnostic Imaging
  - Outpatient clinic appointments and labs
  - All waiting rooms and corridors
- Staff, families, and visitors at The Grove and Community Programs (Adult Day Program, Assisted Living) must always wear a mask.

### What is changing

Masks are recommended but **no longer required** for everyone in public areas outside of clinical areas, including hallways, elevators, cafeteria, stairwells, gift shop, administration

[What's New @ ARH](#)
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## Thank a Staff Member

Send a special thank you message to one of our departments, staff members, physician's or volunteers.

[Send A Message](#)

## Provide Feedback

Share any concerns or an experience you had while

locations, and entrances B, D).

### Why is The Hospital making these changes

The Hospital Team made this decision after carefully considering the impact on staff and patient safety, particularly those more vulnerable to infection. The decision aligns with other hospitals in the region and comes after monitoring various indicators to help determine the right timing to make changes:

- The wastewater markers have stabilized.
- The number of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 has been decreasing for many weeks.
- The number of COVID-19 outbreaks in Renfrew County has also declined.

The Hospital will actively monitor public health indicators and make further adjustments as appropriate.

For some, masking still makes sense for medical reasons and to protect loved ones, and The Hospital Team will support them in their choices and provide safe, quality care.

As a reminder, The Hospital asks visitors to stay home if they experience symptoms, except if they need to receive care.

accessing our services, we  
welcome your feedback.

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### QUICK LINKS

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### CONTACT US

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## Message from our President and CEO about temporary closures of ED

### Message from Leah Levesque, President and CEO, ARH:

**May 30, 2023** – Our provincial health system has experienced significant health human resources challenges that began years ago, which over the last two years, has had a more pronounced impact on smaller hospitals. These challenges are due to multiple factors connected to the pandemic, including healthcare professionals leaving the profession, illness, burnout, and excessive overtime, which have limited staffing solutions for many hospitals.

ARH has worked with determination to avoid disruptions to care by prioritizing retention and recruitment, contracting community paramedics, utilizing agency nurses, strengthening our partnerships with colleges, hiring clinical externs, and more.

We value the commitment and dedication of all our ARH staff and physicians, who always prioritize patient access and safety in the care they provide every day.

Unfortunately, we could not avoid the two overnight temporary closures due to unexpected staffing shortages. We cannot guarantee there will not be another temporary closure; however, we are working diligently with our partners to avoid any further disruptions. We know how challenging these closures are for our community, and we are grateful for their ongoing support and understanding.

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## Thank a Staff Member

Send a special thank you message to one of our departments, staff members, physician's or volunteers.

[Send A Message](#)

## Provide Feedback

Share any concerns or an experience you had while accessing our services, we welcome your feedback.

[Provide Feedback](#)



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## CONTACT US

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May 18, 2023

## In This Issue

- Recent AMO housing submissions.
- AMO submission to Ministry of Energy.
- Submit your entry for the 2023 PJ Marshal Awards.
- Applications open for 2023 Ontario Community Environment Fund.
- Federal Housing Advocate Review on Homeless Encampments.
- EnAbling Change Program funding opportunity.
- Expanding Access to Primary Health Care Expression of Interest.
- Support for Municipal Disability Management Programs.
- Register for the AMO 2023 Annual General Meeting and Conference.
- Additional accommodations available for AMO 2023.
- AMO Conference 2023: Exhibitor and sponsorship information.
- Request your delegation meetings at AMO 2023.
- Navigating Conflict for Elected Officials: June workshop.
- AMO-OFIFC Indigenous Community Awareness: November workshop
- Navigating the Road to Resilience Risk Management symposium: October 4-5.
- eScribe webinar: Member spotlight on the Township of Scugog.
- Energy Planning Tool makes reporting energy easy!
- Canoe vendor spotlight: Niu Toilet.
- Building Linkages in Emergency Management Symposium: October 17-18.
- Careers: Brantford Police Service, Wasaga Beach, Hastings, Orillia, and Essex.

## AMO Matters

AMO is responding to Bill 97. Recently AMO made a [submission](#) responding to Schedules 4 and 6 and delivered [remarks](#) and a [written submission](#) to Standing Committee. More to come.

AMO [submitted](#) comments to the Ministry of Energy on IESO's Pathway to Decarbonization Study, supporting IESO's no regret actions, the role of municipal governments and Indigenous communities, and strengthening connections.

The [PJ Marshall Award](#) recognizes municipal governments demonstrating excellence in the use of innovative approaches in the areas of capital, service delivery showing examples where Ontario municipalities have implemented and can point to tangible outcomes from new, more cost-effective ways of providing public services and facilities. The deadline to submit is May 26.

## Provincial Matters

Please review the Ontario Community Environment Fund program [application guide](#) for guidance on applying to the program. The deadline to submit through [Transfer Payment Ontario](#) is May 30 at 5pm. Contact [OCEF@ontario.ca](mailto:OCEF@ontario.ca) for more details.

The Ontario government is providing up to \$1.5 million through the 2023-2024

EnAbling Change Program for accessibility projects. Applications for this funding are open through to June 29th.

The Ministry of Health and Ontario Health released an Expression of Interest for funding opportunities for primary care. On May 18, two webinar sessions will provide guidance on applications.

### **Federal Matters**

The Federal Housing Advocate has launched a review of homeless encampments. Municipalities, service providers, and people experiencing homelessness are encouraged to submit experiences and ideas for solutions by May 26.

A free assessment of disability management programs is available until June 2024. The assessment involves an interview and produces a report. For details, visit the National Institute of Disability Management and Research website.

### **Eye on Events**

AMO is excited about this year's Conference hosted by the City of London at RBC Place London and DoubleTree by Hilton, August 20-23. View the preliminary program and Register now for this important event.

AMO continues to work to meet your accommodation needs for the 2023 Conference. 65 additional rooms are now available at the Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre. Make your reservation here.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to exhibit or sponsor at the 2023 AMO Conference - the largest municipal conference in Ontario. Full details on how your organization can participate is located here here.

Delegation meetings are a unique opportunity to meet with provincial ministers and staff on matters of local interest. The request for delegations through MMAH is opened until June 9, 2023. To request a delegation meeting, click here.

AMO has designed its training to support members in your leadership roles. Our training offers skills to navigate the many relationships you encounter as an elected official. Navigating Conflict Relationships for Elected Officials is a top-rated course you shouldn't miss. Register for the June 27-28 training.

Building on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shared by AMO and the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC), we are offering training to help build indigenous cultural competency in municipal government. Register for the November 27 training.

The LAS IPE Risk Management Symposium will discuss critical municipal risk issues such as climate resiliency and the Natural Assets Initiative, cyber security, risk data management and more. Registration is now open.

AMO and eScribe are pleased to be joined by Becky Jamieson, Director of Corporate Services and Municipal Clerk for the Township of Scugog, to explore the benefits of meeting management platforms. See first-hand how eScribe helps governments leverage technology to make their public meetings easier and engage with their constituents better.

### **LAS**

The [LAS Energy Planning Tool](#) takes the stress out of reporting annual consumption under O.Reg 25/23 (formerly 507/18). [Get your data ready today](#) and beat the July 1 deadline. While you're at it, update your conservation measures and you'll be that much closer to your 5-year CDM plan.

Looking to add some outdoor washrooms to your public spaces this summer? The [Canoe Procurement Group](#) has you covered. Niu Toliet offers smart mobile and permanent washroom solutions to blend in with your public community spaces and special events. [Contact Sarah](#) to learn more.

### **Municipal Wire\***

Attend Niagara West Emergency Management's *Building Linkages in Emergency Management Symposium*, October 17-18, at the Holiday Inn & Suites St. Catharines Conference Centre, to hear best practices and lessons learned from real disasters and help your community to be more resilient. Details and to register [here](#).

### **Careers**

[Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Specialist - Brantford Police Service](#). Coordinate policy, programs, and evaluation development, and work to identify, address and prevent systemic racism in policy, practices, programs and services. [Apply online](#) by May 24.

[Manager, Finance - Town of Wasaga Beach](#). Responsible for the administration and oversight of analytical accounting activities. [Apply online](#) by June 2.

[Corporate Project Manager - County of Hastings](#). The position will oversee all aspects of corporate projects to ensure that scope, quality, schedule, budget resources and risks are managed during each project phase. Apply to [careers@hastingscounty.com](mailto:careers@hastingscounty.com) by May 31.

[Senior Financial Planning Analyst - City of Orillia](#). Participate in the development and implementation of policies / procedures and internal control processes reflecting industry best practice. [Apply online](#) by May 28.

[Chief Administrative Officer - County of Essex](#). Responsible for the strategic leadership and efficient delivery of all the administrative and operational services. Apply to [careers@waterhousesearch.net](mailto:careers@waterhousesearch.net) by June 5.

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### **About AMO**

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow [@AMOPolicy](#) on Twitter!

### **AMO Contacts**

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May 25, 2023

### In This Issue

- Submissions on Tenant Protection and Site Plan Control.
- Applications open for 2023 Ontario Community Environment Fund.
- Federal Housing Accelerator Fund.
- Federal Housing Advocate Review on Homeless Encampments.
- EnAbling Change Program funding opportunity.
- Support for Municipal Disability Management Programs.
- Register for the AMO 2023 Annual General Meeting and Conference.
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- AMO-OFIFC Indigenous Community Awareness: November workshop.
- Navigating the Road to Resilience Risk Management symposium: October 4-5.
- LAS Blog: AMO's Work on Ending Homelessness.
- Canoe vendor spotlight: Unifirst Corporation.
- Register for FCM's Gender-Based Analysis course.
- Building Linkages in Emergency Management Symposium: October 17-18.
- Careers: Township of South Glengarry and County of Simcoe.

### AMO Matters

As part of consultations on Bill 97, AMO has [submitted comments](#) on tenant protection proposals. AMO and ROMA have also submitted a letter to Minister Clark on site plan control.

### Provincial Matters

Please review the Ontario Community Environment Fund program [application guide](#) for guidance on applying to the program. The deadline to submit through [Transfer Payment Ontario](#) is May 30 at 5pm. Contact [OCEF@ontario.ca](mailto:OCEF@ontario.ca) for more details.

The Ontario government is providing up to \$1.5 million through the 2023-2024 [EnAbling Change Program](#) for accessibility projects. Applications for this funding are open through to June 29.

### Federal Matters

The Housing Accelerator Fund - launching in summer 2023 - provides incentive funding to local governments to boost housing supply across Canada. More information on eligibility criteria can be found [here](#).

The Federal Housing Advocate has launched a [review of homeless encampments](#). Municipalities, service providers, and people experiencing homelessness are encouraged to submit experiences and ideas for solutions by May 26.

A free assessment of disability management programs is available until June 2024. The assessment involves an interview and produces a report. For details, visit the National Institute of Disability Management and Research [website](#).

### Eye on Events

AMO is excited about this year's Conference hosted by the City of London at RBC Place London and DoubleTree by Hilton, August 20-23. View the preliminary [program](#) and [register](#) now for this important event.

AMO continues to work to meet your accommodation needs for the 2023 Conference. 65 additional rooms are now available at the Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre. Make your reservation [here](#).

Don't miss out on the opportunity to exhibit or sponsor at the 2023 AMO Conference - the largest municipal conference in Ontario. Full details on how your organization can participate is located here [here](#).

Delegation meetings are a unique opportunity to meet with provincial ministers and staff on matters of local interest. The request for delegations through MMAH is opened until June 9, 2023. To request a delegation meeting, click [here](#).

AMO has designed its training to support members in your leadership roles. Our training offers skills to navigate the many relationships you encounter as an elected official. [Navigating Conflict Relationships for Elected Officials](#) is a top-rated course you shouldn't miss. Register for the June 27-28 training.

Building on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shared by AMO and the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC), we are offering training to help build indigenous cultural competency in municipal government. [Register](#) for the November 27 training.

The LAS IPE Risk Management Symposium will discuss critical municipal risk issues such as climate resiliency and the Natural Assets Initiative, cyber security, risk data management and more. [Registration](#) is now open.

### LAS

AMO has long been involved with housing and homelessness advocacy and is working to help municipal leaders find solutions that are appropriate for their communities. [Read more](#) about the Homelessness Symposium.

Looking for some new uniforms? We're pleased to welcome [UniFirst Corporation](#) to the Canoe Procurement Group. Keep your staff looking great with on-site analysis and fittings, laundering, deliveries, repairs, and inventory controls. [Contact Sarah](#) to learn more.

### Municipal Wire\*

FCM's free, *Gender-Based Analysis (GBA) Plus as an Equity Lens for the Municipal Sector* online course is an opportunity for municipalities to gain information and insight into supporting your own GBA and equity goals. Click [English](#) or [French](#) to register for the first cohort starting in June.

Attend Niagara West Emergency Management's [Building Linkages in Emergency Management Symposium](#), October 17-18, at the Holiday Inn & Suites St. Catharines Conference Centre, to hear best practices and lessons learned from real disasters and

help your community to be more resilient.

### Careers

Chief Administrative Officer - Township of South Glengarry. Responsible for the efficient administration of the Township and is the primary policy advisor to Council. Apply to [allen@palmerecareers.com](mailto:allen@palmerecareers.com) by June 17.

Manager, Business Intelligence & Policy Development - County of Simcoe.

Responsible for planning, assessing risk management and evaluation of a full range of social planning, policy analysis and data development. Apply online by May 26.

### About AMO

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow [@AMOPolicy](https://twitter.com/AMOPolicy) on Twitter!

### AMO Contacts

AMO Watchfile Tel: 416.971.9856

Conferences/Events

Policy and Funding Programs

LAS Local Authority Services

MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario

ONE Investment

Media Inquiries

Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions

### AMO's Partners



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June 1, 2023

## In This Issue

- EnAbling Change Program funding opportunity.
- AMO & CMHC Housing Accelerator Fund Webinar: June 7.
- Support for Municipal Disability Management Programs.
- Register for the AMO 2023 Annual General Meeting and Conference.
- Additional accomodations available for AMO 2023.
- Request your delegation meetings at AMO 2023.
- Councillor training: Fall dates.
- Navigating Conflict for Elected Officials: June workshop.
- AMO-OFIFC Indigenous Community Awareness: November workshop.
- Human Rights and Equity Training: November workshop.
- New incentives for your lighting projects!
- Existing Building Commissioning workshops.
- It's easy to use the Canoe Procurement Group.
- New funding program supporting municipal action on invasive species.
- Careers.

## Provincial Matters

The Ontario government is providing up to \$1.5 million through the 2023-2024 [EnAbling Change Program](#) for accessibility projects. Applications for this funding are open through to June 29.

## Federal Matters

Municipalities are invited to join CMHC representatives of the Ontario region to learn more about the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) application process on [June 7 from 10-11:30am](#).

A free assessment of disability management programs is available until June 2024. The assessment involves an interview and produces a report. For details, visit the National Institute of Disability Management and Research [website](#).

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Secure your spot in AMO's iconic councillor training this fall. This training provides councillors in all stages of their careers information, insights, and the necessary tools to be an effective local leader. [Register today](#).

AMO has designed its training to support members in your leadership roles. Our training offers skills to navigate the many relationships you encounter as an elected official. [Navigating Conflict Relationships for Elected Officials](#) is a top-rated course you shouldn't miss. Register for the June 27-28 training.

Building on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shared by AMO and the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC), we are offering training to help build indigenous cultural competency in municipal government. [Register](#) for the November 27 training.

Understanding your role and responsibilities as an elected official when it comes to [Human Rights & Equity](#) is critical. This training examines your legislative responsibilities and understanding what equity means and how it can be implemented. [Register today](#) to build your knowledge in these complex areas.

## **LAS**

Are you considering LED upgrades at your municipal facilities? They may qualify for new incentives. IESO's [custom track incentives](#) have returned offering \$0.13/kWh or \$1200/kW in some cases! Contact [Christian Tham](#) to find out how you can take advantage of these through the [LAS Facility Lighting Service](#).

Increase the value of your building, improve occupancy comfort, and reduce energy costs through one simple effort. Sign up for an [LAS Building Commissioning Workshop](#) to learn how. Check out our [Public Sector Course Catalog](#) for workshop details.

In just 4 easy steps, you can use Canoe to buy your everyday items: (1) Make sure your purchasing by-law allows for group buying. (2) Post a [Notice of Participation](#) on your procurement website. (3) Send in your [opt-in form](#). (4) Contact any of the [many vendors](#) and mention you want to buy through the Canoe! Questions? Contact [Sarah Hubble](#) for more info.

## **Municipal Wire\***

The Invasive Species Centre is [accepting applications](#) under the Invasive Species Action Fund until June 7, 2023. Through this program municipalities and other applicants can receive up to \$25,000 to support planning, monitoring and control of priority invasive species.

## **Careers**

[Senior Processing Officer - Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development](#). Assess, determine, or make final decisions on the eligibility of applicants' nominee applications. [Apply online](#) by June 7.

[Project Manager, Facilities - Region of Durham](#). Manage the delivery of capital projects throughout the stages of design, tendering and construction. [Apply online](#) by June 16.

[Director of Planning & Development - Township of Tiny](#). Responsible for all matters pertaining to land use planning and development. Apply to [humanresources@tiny.ca](mailto:humanresources@tiny.ca)

by June 16.

Chief Financial Officer - Brantford Police Service. Responsible for providing strategic management of the accounting and finance functions, directing accounting policies, procedures, and internal controls. [Apply online](#) by June 7.

Finance Supervisor - District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board. Responsible for overseeing and supervising the financial functions carried out by the Finance Department. Apply to [jobs@psdssab.org](mailto:jobs@psdssab.org) by June 16.

Chief Executive Officer - Windsor-Detroit Tunnel Corporation. The CEO oversees the direction, day-to-day administration, safety, and all other aspects of operations of the Windsor-Detroit Tunnel. [Apply online](#) by June 30.

#### About AMO

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# AODA Toolbox



What you need to know about Ontario's accessibility laws

The [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005](#) (AODA) is about identifying, removing and preventing barriers to inclusion for people with disabilities.

Collaboration among businesses, organizations, communities and all levels of government is key to creating a more accessible and inclusive province.

## In this issue

- National AccessAbility Week 2023
- Assistant Deputy Minister's corner
- The EnAbling Change Program creates positive change
- Inclusive executive recruitment in the Ontario Public Service
- It's an accessibility compliance reporting year
- Meet Rory Burke: Director, AODA Compliance Assurance Branch
- We're back! Find us at events across the province
- The Foundations of Accessibility: four key requirements

## National AccessAbility Week (May 28 - June 3, 2023)

When Rick Hansen and his team (Don Alder, Tim Frick, Robin-Lee Gibson, Amanda Reid, Mike Reid and Nancy Thompson) said goodbye to the crowd gathered at Vancouver's Oakridge Shopping Centre on March 21, 1985, they had no idea of the adventures and challenges that lay ahead, or the culture change they would inspire.



From March 21, 1985 to May 22, 1987, Rick Hansen wheeled more than 40,000 kilometres through 34 countries to raise awareness about the potential of people with disabilities and the importance of creating accessible and inclusive communities.

This journey, the [Man In Motion World Tour](#), led to the creation of an annual celebration to reflect on how we can make Canada more accessible to everyone.

The first [National AccessAbility Week](#) took place in 1988. Since then, for one week each year, we recognize the efforts of individuals, communities and workplaces that are actively working to remove barriers to accessibility and inclusion.

## Assistant Deputy Minister's Corner

In our day-to-day work at the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility (MSAA), we are constantly thinking about how our fundamental legislation – the AODA has a real impact on removing barriers to accessibility for Ontarians, and how it is changing the experiences of Ontarians with disabilities in receiving services, attending schools, colleges and place of employment, volunteering, shopping, travelling and living in their chosen communities. This dynamic becomes even more important as we celebrate National AccessAbility Week.

Within government, accessibility principles are embedded in our day-to-day practices. This commitment permeates the entire Ontario Public Service (OPS) and is boosted by cooperation among ministries.

In addition to supporting an organization-wide commitment to ensuring that things like accessible meetings and inclusive forms of communication are part of our daily work, we are from time to time asked to assist on “special projects”. Our ministry took a hands-on approach to planning and implementing an inclusive and fully accessible state funeral for

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ministry staff were engaged in auditing and the hosting the ceremony and festivities marking the coronation of King Charles III to be accessible for all. Invitations available in alternate format, signed parking and seating for persons with disabilities, sign language interpreters, accessible routes for visiting and participating in the Royal Fun Fair activities, accessible washrooms and cable covers resulted in hosting a barrier free ceremony.

On policy development, collaboration between ministries is also vital. As an example, MSAA is currently working with the Ministries of Education; Colleges and Universities; and Health, to analyze reports submitted by Standards Development Committees containing recommendations for removing barriers to accessibility in K-12 education, post-secondary education, and the health care sector respectively. We know that these ministries have expertise in these important sectors, which is vital to determining how these recommendations could play out in regulation.

So, in the spirit of National AccessAbility Week I'd like to commend all of our internal partners as we strive for excellence in creating an inclusive experience for all.

One of the ways in which we measure the external impact of the work we do is through regulatory compliance. We are continually working with the public sector, non-profit organizations, and businesses to ensure they understand their obligations under the AODA – and are applying them. To do this, the AODA and Ontario Regulation 191/11, Integrated Accessibility Standards (IASR) establishes a scheme in which all organizations beyond a certain size must report their compliance actions. In this issue, you can find out more about this process, including deadlines and additional guides and resources that will aid in completing an accessibility compliance report.

Another way in which our Ministry helps to remove barriers to accessibility in Ontario is by providing financial support to organizations that promote and improve accessibility. The EnAbling Change Program (ECP) is an initiative that provides funding to non-profit and industry associations who work to promote the value and benefits of accessibility across the province. I am very pleased that [we have recently announced that the 2023-24 ECP applications process is now open](#). You can read more about ECP – including information about two of the 2022-23 recipients in this issue.

Of course, compliance and organizational funding support are just two of the ways we carry out the aims of the AODA. I am looking forward to letting you know about many others in future issues of the Toolbox.

To sum up, I came across a quote on the [website Disabled Spectator](#) that I think describes our efforts very well: Accessibility is not only an issue that applies to people with disabilities – it is an issue that affects everybody. An inclusive world is a better world.

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Ontarians with Disabilities Division,  
Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility



## The EnAbling Change Program creates positive change

You're never too young to learn about the benefits of accessibility. That's the idea behind the [Canadian National Institute for the Blind](#) (CNIB) project: "CNIB Kids – Inclusive and Accessible Education in Ontario".

The project will recruit and train 10 education ambassadors to build relationships with schools and educators across Ontario, so they can deliver presentations to schools about accessibility, sight loss education and challenge stigmas.

CNIB received funding for the project through the MSAA's 2022-23 EnAbling Change Program (ECP).

Other 2022-23 ECP recipients include the [Retail Council of Canada](#), which received funding for its project: "EnAbling Change for Retailers – Creating an Inclusive Culture within the Retail Store", which will help retailers across Ontario create more inclusive employment practices and businesses.

ECP provides funding to non-profits and industry associations across a range of sectors to educate Ontarians about the value and benefits of accessibility to help make Ontario open to people of all abilities.

Applications for the 2023-24 ECP are now open.

Learn more about the [EnAbling Change Program](#) and how to apply.

## Inclusive executive recruitment in the Ontario Public Service (OPS)



The OPS is working to build a more inclusive employment culture with increased representation in senior leadership from underrepresented groups, including people with disabilities.

The newly created Leadership Succession Unit (LSU) in the Treasury Board Secretariat has a mission to:

- attract talent from the province's most underrepresented groups in senior leadership
- encourage them to join the OPS in executive roles

This is one part of a broader senior leadership diversification strategy.

In the Fall, LSU hosted an online event for leaders with disabilities that attracted more than 150 registrants. [Follow LSU on LinkedIn](#) for information about upcoming events.

Are you a leader with a disability seeking an executive-level role in the OPS? Email senior consultant [Farhana Kassam](#) for more information.

## your 2023 accessibility report



### It's an accessibility compliance reporting year

This year, [all public sector organizations](#) and [businesses and non-profits](#) with 20 or more employees are legally required to report on their compliance with the [AODA](#) by December 31, 2023.

Learn about accessibility reporting and get a head start by visiting [ontario.ca/accessibilityreport](https://ontario.ca/accessibilityreport). [Contact us](#) if you need help.

Find [resources/info to help businesses and non-profits better understand their requirements](#) under accessibility laws and standards.

### Meet Rory Burke: Director, AODA Compliance Assurance Branch

In April 2023, Rory Burke joined the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility as Director of the AODA Compliance Assurance Branch. Rory is also the appointed Director under the AODA and is responsible for compliance with the AODA across the province. As the regulator, the branch works to ensure organizations understand and comply with provincial accessibility standards through compliance assistance, audit, and enforcement activities. The branch also strives to work more closely with sectors, partners, and stakeholders to achieve accessibility compliance and better outcomes for people with disabilities.

Rory is a seasoned leader with more than 15 years of senior management and executive-level experience within the Ontario Public Service (OPS), including executive leadership experience in regulatory development and compliance assurance, strategic planning, policy, people-centered service delivery, operations management and change management.

Rory was previously the Director of the Services Transformation Branch at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the appointed Chief Building Official for the province, where he led transformational initiatives across the OPS in addition to training, licencing, and compliance with building practitioners throughout Ontario. Rory has also held various leadership roles within the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, where he led and managed complex and high-profile portfolios involving extensive stakeholder management.

Rory Burke

Director, AODA Compliance and  
Assurance Branch

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities  
Division, Ministry for Seniors and  
Accessibility



## We're back! Find us at events across the province



The Outreach and Education Unit (OEU) at the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility (MSAA) works with disability organizations, businesses, non-profit organizations, and the broader public sector to help Ontarians understand the requirements of the AODA, and to champion accessibility broadly.

Participating in events as guest speakers across the province to teach people about AODA requirements and the benefits of making communities and businesses more accessible is just one way we're working to achieve our goal of a more accessible Ontario.

Following a pause in event outreach during the pandemic, OEU was thrilled to participate in the [Ontario Small Urban Municipalities](#) conference in Brantford to present updates from MSAA Assistant Deputy Minister Meenu Sikand and OEU Manager Greg Coelho. They spoke with more than 160 delegates from 120 municipalities and heard about their

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Professionals to share updates and hear from the community about accessibility priorities.

Also, on May 31, Assistant Deputy Minister Sikand will participate in the [City of Ottawa's Accessibility Day](#) event being organized by the Canadian Accessibility Network.

MSAA was delighted to take part in a virtual panel on April 27, 2023, hosted by the [Ontario Museum Association](#), on accessibility planning for Ontario museums to provide its members with an overview of the AODA.

The key to addressing barriers to accessibility is to learn from each other. When we engage with our stakeholders, OEU has the opportunity to provide important information and learn about the needs of those impacted by accessibility legislation.

If your organization is planning an event and would like to invite MSAA to present, please send an email with your request to [AODA.Events@ontario.ca](mailto:AODA.Events@ontario.ca)

## The Foundations of Accessibility: four key requirements

These four key requirements from the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) under the AODA are key to organizations. These [requirements from the General Section](#), Information and Communications Standard and Customer Service Standard are foundational to an organization's accessibility.

In order to meet these key requirements, organizations must:

1. have [accessibility policies](#)
2. have a [multi-year accessibility plan](#), and update it every five years for designated public sector and large organisations only
3. provide [training](#) for all staff on the AODA, IASR, the areas of the Ontario Human Rights Code that refer to people with disabilities, and on how to provide goods, services or facilities to a person with a disability
4. have a process for receiving and responding to [feedback](#) about how they provide accessibility to people with disabilities. This [feedback process](#) must be accessible to people with disabilities by providing or arranging for accessible formats or communication supports upon request

## We would love to share your successes in our Toolbox newsletters!

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to share your successes in our Toolbox newsletters! Send your stories and photos to [AODAoutreach@ontario.ca](mailto:AODAoutreach@ontario.ca)

## Was this newsletter helpful?

Please forward this email to others interested in accessibility so that they can [subscribe to the newsletter](#).

For more accessibility information and resources you can visit [ontario.ca/accessibility](https://ontario.ca/accessibility).

Follow us on our social media channel links below for regular news updates

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