

PIRNETNEWS

Building and growing for a better tomorrow

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effect since 1962, allows small communities without LCBO service to have a local retail store sell alcoholic beverages in conjunction with other goods.

[\[For the full story, click here.\]](#)

More LCBO News:

Development Facilitator's Term Extended

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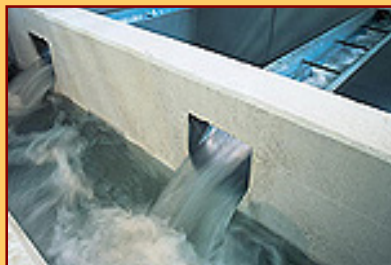
Ontario Trillium Foundation invests in infrastructure to build healthy and vibrant communities



Four hundred and sixty-four organizations across Ontario will receive almost \$32 million through the Ontario Trillium Foundation's (OTF) latest round of grants. The OTF, which receives \$100 million annually from the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation's charity casino initiative, helps build healthy and vibrant communities

throughout Ontario by strengthening the capacity of the volunteer sector through investments in community-based initiatives. [[For the full story, click here.](#)]

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Walkerton was a terrible water tragedy – it should never have occurred and must not occur again.

There has been a concerted effort in the past six years since the Walkerton tragedy to preserve water quality through new legislation and regulations and with investment in research infrastructure

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Robert Fung praised for his accomplishments as Chair of the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation



Representatives from the Governments of Canada, Ontario and the City of Toronto praised outgoing Toronto Revitalization Corporation (TWRC) Chair Robert Fung for moving the city's waterfront revitalization project from the planning to implementation stage with great skill and insight. His appointment as Chair of the TWRC ended May 15. [\[For the full story, click here.\]](#)

Development Facilitator's Term Extended



The McGuinty government has extended the term of Alan Wells as Provincial Development Facilitator. "The government has launched a number of important planning and land use initiatives," said David Caplan, Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal. "That's why I have asked Alan Wells to continue for the next two years as a facilitator and mediator on planning and other issues." [\[For the full story, click here.\]](#)



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Health care facilities move forward in May



Public Infrastructure Renewal Minister David Caplan joins Kingston hospital officials at an announcement of major investments in Kingston area hospitals.

From L to R, back row: Larry Norman, Board Chair Providence Continuing Care Centre; Terry Sullivan President Cancer Care Ontario; Hugh Graham Executive Director Hotel Dieu Hospital; MPP John Gerretsen; Joe de Mora, President Kingston General Hospital; Minister Caplan; Ed Zarichny, Board Chair Hotel Dieu Hospital and John Hudson, Board Chair Kingston General Hospital.

From L to R, front row: Susan Coe, cancer patient; Cathy Dunne, Resident Providence Continuing Care Centre; and Sister Rosemarie Kugel, President of the Religious Hospitallers of Hotel Dieu.

The provincial government's ambitious plan to facilitate the single largest investment in hospitals in well over a generation took another step with funding announced for new health care facilities in Kingston and Windsor, and the selection of the builder for Ottawa's Hôpital Montfort. That brings the total number of new hospital projects announced to date to 34.

Hôpital Montfort

The plans to double the size of Hôpital Montfort and improve access to healthcare for Ottawa residents took another step forward with the selection of EllisDon Corporation to develop the project.

The two new wings to the hospital will increase Hôpital Montfort's size to 70,000 square metres, giving the hospital 289 inpatient and 128 long-term care beds. By providing healthcare in both official languages, and serving as a Francophone training hospital, this project is crucial for Ontario's Francophone community.

"After more than fifty years serving Franco-Ontarians, we are about to turn the page on a

new chapter in the history of our hospital and the francophone community," said Gérald R. Savoie, President and CEO, Hôpital Montfort. "Our bold vision was to essentially build a brand new Hôpital Montfort and now, with construction about to begin, we can truly look forward to that dream becoming

a reality.”

The expansion will also include a facility to provide top quality health care delivery to the 9,000 Canadian Forces members who are located in the national capital region and those across the country in need of the services of specialized clinics. It will be funded by the federal government.

Construction is expected to start this month with completion scheduled for 2009.

Kingston Cancer Centre

Patients – including children with cancer – will get better care with the renovation and new construction at the Cancer Centre of Southeastern Ontario at Kingston General Hospital. The existing space will be renovated to suit new functional requirements for chemotherapy, provide clinic support space and create a new children's cancer treatment centre – one of only five centres in the province offering cancer treatment services to children. Two new radiation bunkers will take up two new floors with five state-of-the-art treatment machines. Construction is slated to start in 2008-09. The existing cancer centre at Kingston General Hospital was built in 1977. Approximately 8,500 patients use the services of the centre each year.

Windsor Regional Hospital

A new facility will house up to 59 long-term mental health beds at the hospital's western campus. Two existing buildings will be renovated to accommodate complex continuing care and rehabilitation. Outdated buildings will be demolished before building of the new facility begins, tentatively, in 2008-2009. Windsor Regional Hospital is a multi-site health care facility operating from two campuses and serving a population of over 350,000 people in Windsor and Essex County.

The McGuinty government is on the side of families who want the best health care.

- Expanded access to doctors, nurses and other health care professionals: 3,062 new nursing positions, 150 family health teams, which when fully operational will provide better care for more than 2.5 million Ontarians, providing new training and assessment positions for up to 200 international medical graduates each year, and expanding our medical school enrolment by 23 per cent.
- Increasing funding for existing MRI machines, replacing seven machines and adding seven new machines, and replacing 31 old CT scanners with 64 new ones.
- Reduced wait times by funding 31,000 additional surgical procedures: 24 per cent more MRI exams, seven per cent more cancer surgeries, 20 per cent more hip and knee replacements, 15 per cent more cataract surgeries and seven per cent more cardiac procedures.

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LCBO expands agency stores



For people living in some of Ontario's smaller communities, buying wine for dinner or beer to share on the deck should be getting easier.

The Ontario government has given the LCBO approval to expand its agency stores program in 20 communities in southern Ontario.

The LCBO agency store program, in effect since 1962, allows small communities without LCBO service to have a local retail store sell alcoholic beverages in conjunction with other goods.

Communities are selected based on a number of criteria including local requests for service, the distance to the nearest LCBO and The Beer Store outlets, and the impact that the new agency outlet would have on existing LCBO operations and employees.

All agency stores must follow the LCBO's standards for socially responsible sales of wines, beers and spirits and agree to keep prices at the same level as the rest of the province.

"Expansion of the agency stores program fills a market need by providing residents and visitors with convenient service," said David Caplan, who as Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal is responsible

for the LCBO. "With increased service, people in these communities are likely to shop with local retailers which will help spur economic growth in the area."

There are currently 194 LCBO agency stores in Ontario. The 20 communities eligible to join them are: Amberley, Brigden, Castleton, Chaffey's Lock, Clear Creek, Dashwood, Erieau/Erie Beach, Flesherton/Eugenia, Gobles/Princeton, Lighthouse Cove, Lowbanks/Long Beach, McArthur Mills, McGregor, Melbourne, North Augusta, Oil Springs, Port Franks, Rockton, Walters Falls and White Lake.

Ads will be placed in the communities inviting proposals from local businesses that would like to become an LCBO agent. The LCBO will choose the successful applicants after an evaluation process.

LCBO and partners help bring Atlantic salmon back to Lake Ontario

LCBO, Banrock Station Wines and government partners have launched a five-year project to help restore native Atlantic salmon to Lake Ontario, after an absence of more than 100 years due to habitat loss at the time of early settlement.

Australian wine maker Banrock Station is contributing \$1.25 million to one of the most significant species restoration projects in the world. The LCBO will also contribute approximately \$250,000 over five years from its Natural Heritage Fund to the Atlantic salmon restoration project. The partners include the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

Sales of Ontario Craft Beers Increase by 33 per cent in LCBO Stores

Just one year after the formation of the Ontario Craft Brewers' (OCB) marketing cooperative and Government of Ontario announcement of \$5 million in funding over five years, sales of premium Ontario craft beers in LCBO stores have jumped 33 per cent. Ontario craft beers now own five per cent of the hotly competitive Ontario beer market, and the OCB aims to increase that to 12 per cent by 2014.

The McGuinty government is on the side of families in rural Ontario

- Investing in rural health care, including 17 new community health centres and seven satellite CHCs that serve rural communities.
- Recognizing the unique needs of rural schools with \$230 million for school repairs, library books and transition programs.
- Reducing the pressure on property taxes by picking up more of the tab for land ambulance and public health.
- Investing \$520 million in the Ontario Ethanol Growth Fund to expand ethanol production in Ontario.
- Investing over \$6 million in agricultural drainage infrastructure.



From L to R: Minister David Caplan; Minister Joseph Cordiano, and LCBO Acting Chair Phillip Olsson at the Ontario Craft Brewers announcement. (Photo: CPimages)

“The exceptional growth in Ontario craft beer sales in LCBO stores over the past year is a clear indication of both the quality and future potential of Ontario craft beers.”

Public Infrastructure
Renewal Minister David
Caplan

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Ontario Trillium Foundation invests in infrastructure to build healthy and vibrant communities



Magnus Theatre Company Northwest Incorporated was one of the recipients of the Ontario Trillium Foundation's latest round of grants. The company is receiving \$200,200 over four years to develop strategic and funding plans, attract and train volunteers and establish administrative processes.

From L to R: Donna Gilhooly, OTF Board of Directors; Michael Gravelle, MPP Thunder Bay - Superior North; Barb Eccles, President of the Magnus Theatre Northwest; Guy O'Brien, then Chair of OTF's Northwestern Grant Review Team.

Four hundred and sixty-four organizations across Ontario will receive almost \$32 million through the Ontario Trillium Foundation's (OTF) latest round of grants. The OTF, which receives \$100 million annually from the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation's charity casino initiative, helps build healthy and vibrant communities throughout Ontario by strengthening the capacity of the volunteer sector through investments in community-based initiatives.

"The Ontario Trillium Foundation is a catalyst that enables Ontarians to work together to enhance the quality of life in their communities," said David Caplan, Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal, who is responsible for the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation. "These grants help build healthy and vibrant communities throughout Ontario by strengthening the capacity of the voluntary sector through investments in community-based initiatives."

Part of building vibrant communities is building infrastructure. In the last 12 months alone, the

OTF has granted close to \$24.3 million for capital expenditures to 733 charitable or not-for-profit organizations across the province. Their successful initiatives provide affordable space and equipment for local groups to work together, share ideas and resources and continue to serve the needs of local residents.

Ontario communities benefit when OTF grants are used to repair or upgrade community halls, sports facilities and libraries, or to preserve heritage buildings. OTF grants help create opportunities. For example, a recent \$73,700 grant will help the St. Joseph Island Hunters and Anglers Association renovate a local building to house the Algoma Conservation Centre. It will offer educational conservation and wildlife management programs in the Lake Huron's St. Joseph Island and Sault Ste. Marie areas.

Similarly, the Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Office in Toronto is using its \$199,100 to renovate a space within East York Town Centre for homework clubs, recreational activities and leadership development for youth.

Every year, the OTF approves approximately 1,500 grants that assist not only capital infrastructure initiatives, but also go towards operating or specific project costs in support of four sectors: arts and culture, environment, human and social services and sports and recreation.

[Click here](#) for a list of all grant recipients.

Some recent grants from the Trillium Foundation:

- Canadian Mental Health Association: \$150,000 over three years to expand the CMHA Mental Health Works workplace-training program.
- Community Literacy of Ontario: \$54,000 over two years to build the capacity of local community-based literacy organizations across the province.
- Let's Talk Science: \$200,000 over 30 months to establish a volunteer program for Let's Talk Science alumni to reach youth across Ontario.
- Mushkegowuk Council: \$261,600 over two years to build a culture-based learning community for Mushkegowuk territory youth and improve connections between youth and community elders.
- Ontario Association of Food Banks: \$413,400 over three years to develop a provincial food-distribution network.
- Ontario Lacrosse Association: \$348,300 over three years to provide training and development to coaches, officials and volunteers.
- TourGreen Network in Ontario c/o Green Tourism Association: \$90,300 over one year to stimulate the development of environmentally sustainable tourism.

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Walkerton six years later - the rising tide of water protection



Walkerton was a terrible water tragedy – it should never have occurred and must not occur again.

There has been a concerted effort in the past six years since the Walkerton tragedy to preserve water quality through new legislation and regulations and with investment in research infrastructure projects.

The McGuinty government is committed to ensuring that Ontarians have safe, clean, affordable drinking water now and for future generations.

“ *I promise you – the residents of Walkerton, and Ontarians everywhere – we will work hard to ensure the events of May 2000 never happen again, here or in any other community in Ontario.* ”

Chair, Walkerton Clean Water Centre
Murray Elston

The following article outlines the initiatives the government has introduced to ensure that Ontario's water is safe, clean, plentiful and protected.

Keeping It Plentiful

Great Lakes Charter Annex

Ontario is renowned for its wealth of water– and the Ministry of Natural Resources is helping safeguard that wealth. On December 13, 2005, Ontario signed a historic agreement with Quebec and the eight Great Lakes states that will strengthen protection for the water of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin. The agreement virtually bans diversions to better protect the Great Lakes.

Keeping It Clean

The Clean Water Act

Protecting water at its source is the first step in ensuring safe drinking water. The proposed Clean Water Act was introduced on December 5, 2005. For the first time, communities will work together on a watershed-basis to develop and execute plans to protect their drinking water sources.

Municipal Source Protection Planning

Municipalities play a strong role in protecting water. Through an initiative announced by Environment Minister Laurel Broten announced on April 21, 2006, 193 municipalities will share in \$10 million in grants this year to support their source protection efforts.

Drinking Water Quality Management Standard

On-going standards are essential to safeguarding the quality of water. The Ontario Ministry of the Environment is proposing a “made in Ontario” Drinking Water Quality Management Standard to assist owners and operating authorities effectively manage and operate their municipal residential drinking water systems.

The Walkerton Clean Water Centre

The Walkerton Clean Water Centre is one more resource that is available to help Ontario municipalities protect their drinking water. It helps water systems operators across the province meet Ontario’s tough certification and training requirements.

The Re-Certification of Grandparented Drinking Water System Operators

The re-certification of grandparented operators by examination by May 14, 2006 was a significant step in meeting Justice O’Connor’s vision for thoroughly trained, knowledgeable and competent operators, and an essential component of a safe drinking water system.

Keeping It Flowing

Water Strategy Expert Panel

The McGuinty government established a Water Strategy Expert Panel to review all aspects of investment, financing, pricing, organization and governance of the province’s municipal water and wastewater systems. The panel consulted extensively across the province.

In its report released in July 2005, the panel estimated an investment need of more than \$30 billion over the next 15 years for Ontario’s municipal water and wastewater infrastructure. The panel recommended:

- the creation of larger water services, based on a business planning process led by municipalities;

- the creation of new municipal water utilities;
- water rates that recover the full cost of providing water and wastewater services; and,
- the creation of an economic regulator to ensure we achieve clean, safe, affordable water.

The government is reviewing the panel's recommendations and will be consulting with stakeholders in the coming months.

Investment in municipal infrastructure - COMRIF

The second round of the Canada-Ontario Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund includes senior government investments of approximately \$155 million for water and wastewater projects.

Ontario Chief Drinking Water Inspector's Annual Report

The first annual report by the province's Chief Drinking Water Inspector was released in April 2006. It sets out information on the quality of water provided by drinking water systems in Ontario and on the inspection program for municipal residential drinking water systems and testing laboratories from April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005. Overall, the province's drinking water is safe and of very high quality. For municipal residential drinking water systems, 99.74 per cent of water quality tests performed in 2004-2005 met Ontario's drinking water standards.

OSIFA

Along with COMRIF, the Ontario Strategic Infrastructure Financing Authority is an important financial resource for municipalities. Since its inception in 2004, the Ontario Strategic Infrastructure Financing Authority has assisted more than 150 cities, towns and regions with over \$1.3 billion in low-cost, longer-term, fixed-rate financing for water and wastewater projects.

An example of OSIFA at work

When residents of Deseronto's Thomas Street appeared before town council to discuss the quality of their water, they would often bring pop bottles they had filled from their taps with rusty orange water. By the end of the meeting, the rust had settled in an inch-thick pile of sediment at the bottom of the bottle.

Pipes in the water system that had been installed in the early 1970s had rusted, leaving residents drinking rust-coloured water and facing a huge bill to correct the problem.

While the water was safe to drink and continuously tested, it did not taste great, and ruined clothing and appliances, including dishwashers and washing machines, according to Clarence Zieman, Mayor of Deseronto.

OSIFA provided a \$345,000 loan to replace about 345 metres of waterlines.

“We are grateful for an organization like OSIFA that could lend us the money we need when we needed it,” said Mayor Zieman.

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Robert Fung praised for his accomplishments as Chair of the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation



Representatives from the Governments of Canada, Ontario and the City of Toronto praised outgoing Toronto Revitalization Corporation (TWRC) Chair Robert Fung for moving the city's waterfront revitalization project from the planning to implementation stage with great skill and insight. His appointment as Chair of the TWRC ended May 15.

"Bob's vision, knowledge and skills have taken the TWRC from ideas to action, said David Caplan, Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal.

"Robert Fung is a visionary whose relentless dedication has secured the future of Toronto's waterfront as a national treasure," said Treasury Board of Canada

President John Baird.

Mayor David Miller called Bob Fung "a tireless champion for Toronto's waterfront."

Mr. Fung was appointed as Chair of the TWRC when it was established, and he was instrumental in getting the organization up and running.

"This has not been a job for me, it has been a passion," Fung said. "The waterfront is our city's future and I feel extremely privileged to have had the opportunity to make a contribution." Peter R. Smith C. M. was selected to serve as the acting chair of the corporation. Smith, the chair of GO Transit, president of Andrin Homes and former chair of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, has been a member of the TWRC board of directors since 2001.

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Development Facilitator's Term Extended



The McGuinty government has extended the term of Alan Wells as Provincial Development Facilitator.

"The government has launched a number of important planning and land use initiatives," said David Caplan, Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal. "That's why I have asked Alan Wells to continue for the next two years as a facilitator and mediator on planning and other issues."

The Office of the Provincial Development Facilitator was established in August 2005 as a voluntary resource to help the province, municipalities, developers and community groups resolve issues related to growth management, land use and infrastructure planning and environmental protection. As an independent entity, the office operates at arm's length from the government.

"This is clearly an exciting time to be involved in Ontario's planning issues as we address the long-term challenges of growth planning," said Wells. "Striking a balance between development, community and environmental issues will be key to promoting sustainable development."

To date, the facilitator has successfully negotiated settlements in several land-use planning cases, avoiding lengthy and costly OMB hearings.

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