

Today's News - Monday, February 26, 2018

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The Premier is speaking at the Empire Club today to discuss the steps Ontario is taken to create fairness and opportunity for workers and families during this period of rapid economic change. Watch the live stream [here](#).

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Also Today:

Ontario is celebrating the outstanding achievements of its athletes who helped Canada earn a new national medal record at the 2018 Olympic Winter Games, with Ontario athletes winning eight medals in team and pair events, out of 29 medals for Team Canada. This year, 70 Ontario athletes were part of the largest Canadian team ever to be sent to a Winter Olympics — competing in 10 of 15 sports in PyeongChang, South Korea. In total, 28 Ontario athletes reached the highest level of their sport by securing a spot on the Olympic podium for Team Canada. Ontario athletes who represented Canada on the world stage and won top honours include:

- o Tessa Virtue from London and Scott Moir from Ilderton won two gold medals in figure skating, making them the most decorated figure skaters in Olympic history.
- o Six out of the seven athletes on Canada's gold winning figure skating team are from Ontario including Patrick Chan, Gabrielle Daleman, Meagan Duhamel and Eric Radford, Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir.
- o John Morris from Ottawa took home gold in curling mixed doubles, while Meagan Duhamel from Lively and Eric Radford from Balmertown added to their medal count with a bronze medal in pairs figure skating.
- o Eleven out of the 23 athletes on the silver medal winning women's hockey team are from Ontario including Meghan Agosta, Renata Fast, Laura Fortino, Haley Irwin, Brienne Jenner, Rebecca Johnston, Geneviève Lacasse, Sarah Nurse, Natalie Spooner, Laura Stacey and Jennifer Wakefield.
- o Eight out of the 25 athletes on the bronze winning men's hockey team are from Ontario including Cody Goloubef, Chris Kelly, Chris Lee, Eric O'Dell, Justin Peters, Derek Roy, Christian Thomas and Wojtek Wolski
- o Phylisia George from Markham won bronze in women's bobsleigh, and Alex Kopacz from London won gold in two man bobsleigh.

The province's Quest for Gold program supports over 1,300 athletes from over 50 sports, while also supporting programs that enhance coaching and training to help athletes reach their full potential. Eighteen athletes who won medals at the 2018 Winter Olympics are Quest for Gold recipients.

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Our government's plan to build a stronger, healthier Ontario includes **historic new investments in health care**, including **free medications for everyone 24 and under through OHIP+: Children and Youth Pharmacare**, providing **free tuition to over 210,000 students** and on-the-job learning opportunities to help land a great job, helping 100,000 kids access quality, licensed child care and making it more affordable for families, making everyday life more affordable by **reducing electricity costs by 25 per cent on average** through our Fair Hydro Plan, and taking action to **make housing more affordable** for homebuyers and renters through our Fair Housing Plan.