

Today's News - Monday, November 6, 2017

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Today's News **Monday, November 6, 2017**

Ontario is supporting hundreds of not-for-profit community organizations to help provide opportunities for newcomers and ethno-cultural communities to participate fully in the civic, cultural, social and economic life of the province. Laura Albanese, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, was at the Regent Park Focus Youth Media Arts Centre today to announce the first recipients of the Multicultural Community Capacity Grant program. Minister Albanese also announced that applications for next year are now open. Regent Park Focus Youth Media Arts Centre is receiving support through the program for a civic engagement project to engage newcomer youth through multimedia resources that promote social inclusion and participation in community life. Other projects receiving funding this year include events to connect people with employers, cultural and recreational programming, mentoring and tutoring for children and youth and parenting support groups for newcomer women.

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Also Today:

- **Ontario is marking the second annual Treaties Recognition Week by honouring the importance of treaties and helping people learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships. This morning, David Zimmer, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, joined Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Patrick Wedaseh Madahabee in Whitefish River First Nation to attend a Living Library event and the launch of two children's books on treaties. More than 50 Indigenous speakers, including elected leaders, Elders and knowledge keepers are participating in more than 200 Living Library events across the province this week to share their perspectives on the important role treaties played in the founding of Ontario and how they are still relevant today. Through the Living Library program, public schools, libraries and universities have invited Indigenous speakers to share their knowledge and perspectives on treaties in more than 60 communities across the province. Those who hear these perspectives will walk away with a better understanding of the whole history of Canada, and the importance of honouring treaty obligations.**

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- **Ontario is boosting access to resources for exporters with the new Magnet Export Business Portal, the first of its kind in Canada. This new web portal will help connect Ontario exporters with the tools and content they need to succeed in international markets. The web portal will use highly intelligent,**

scalable, and leading technology to:

- o Eliminate the need for businesses to search through multiple websites, portals and programs saving them time, money and resources.
- o Remove the guesswork by delivering information that is targeted to the specific needs of each business.
- o Serve as a centralized trade hub in Ontario by bringing together export programs and services onto one platform.

As a key component of Ontario's Global Trade Strategy, the new Magnet Export Business Portal will make it easier for businesses to navigate through Ontario's trade ecosystem. By leveraging existing and emerging technologies to increase business intelligence, the province is driving diversification for all sectors through innovative programs and services.

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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.