

Today's News - Wednesday, November 1, 2017

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Date: Wed, 01 Nov 2017 13:07:03 -0400

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Ontario is transforming surplus provincial land into a new residential community with plans to build hundreds of mixed-income homes in Toronto's Thistletown neighbourhood — giving more people access to safe, affordable housing. Premier Kathleen Wynne was joined by Mayor John Tory and Minister of Housing Peter Milczyn at the Grosvenor Street YMCA to announce that the land will be made available for development and the plan to launch the process to secure a developer. The provincially owned site at Kipling and Finch avenues will become home to a new mixed-income community with a mix of affordable housing for rent or sale, as well as housing for sale at market rates. The rest of the site will be protected as green space for future residents to enjoy. The new community will be fully accessible by transit, and the Thistletown development will also be convenient to the Finch West LRT, slated to open in 2022. As part of [Ontario's Fair Housing Plan](#), the government is leveraging the value of surplus provincial land across Ontario to develop new housing units for individuals, families and seniors, starting with sites in Toronto. Up to 35 per cent of the units will be dedicated to various types of much-needed affordable housing. Developing these sites will increase the housing supply and pave the way to create flourishing mixed-income communities in areas close to transit and employment.

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Also Today:

- Ontario is partnering with small and medium-sized auto parts companies to help them invest in technology and grow their business. The province **will partner with 21 auto parts companies to support projects that will help companies** adopt industry leading software, hardware and/or provide training to improve processes and boost competitiveness in Ontario through the [Automotive Supplier Competitiveness Improvement Program \(ASCIP\)](#). These projects support:
 - o Investment in special planning and management software that helps companies manage workflow, inventory and tenders for projects.
 - o Advanced 3D scanning and printing technology that facilitates the design and fabrication of more complicated components.
 - o Computer Aided Design (CAD) and custom robotics systems that reduce costs and improve quality.

The auto parts companies the province is partnering with on these projects are among the hundreds of Ontario businesses that play an integral role in the North American automotive supply chain. The auto sector is a critically important part of Ontario's economy, and its success relies on free trade and open borders. The province will continue to protect Ontario auto workers in the face of uncertainty and defend Ontario's position in the North American automotive sector.

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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.