

Ontario Investing \$5.6 Million to Support Non-Profits in Southwestern Ontario

Funding will help upgrade sports and recreation facilities and support community organizations

NEWS

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STRATHROY — The Ontario government is investing \$5.6 million to support municipalities and non-profit groups in Middlesex, Elgin, Chatham-Kent, Lambton and Essex, who are experiencing financial pressures due to COVID-19.

Funding will go toward repairing the roof in Strathroy-Caradoc, installing accessible bleachers at the Dawn Euphemia sports complex, the construction of a new multi-purpose facility in the Chippewas of the Thames Nation, and improving safety and accessibility of the boardwalks in the St. Region Conservation Authority.



"Sports are not just for the pursuit of individual and team accomplishments – they bring people and communities together in competition and celebration," said Monte McNaughton, MPP for Lambton–Kent–Middlesex. "That is why our government continues to ensure the organizations and facilities that make southwestern Ontario so special have the support they need to serve our families."

Funding through the Community Building Fund's capital stream will allow for organizations to complete infrastructure repairs – including retrofits and rehabilitations– to ensure they can continue to provide programs and services vital to their communities once public health measures are lifted.

"Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, our government has supported those struggling the most," said Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries. "These capital grants will help municipalities, Indigenous communities and non-profit organizations make repairs or upgrades needed to their sport and recreation facilities to adapt to the pressures of the pandemic so they can continue to deliver programming critical to the economic and social well-being of communities across the province once their doors reopen."

In total, the province's Community Building Fund is investing \$105 million to support community arts and culture, heritage, tourism, sport and recreation organizations that are experiencing significant financial pressures due to COVID-19. The fund is administered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) and is providing organizations across the province with support for:

- Construction or renovation expenses, such as materials, labour for construction and/or installation.
- Fixed equipment costs, such as large-scale fixed equipment for installation (examples include heating systems, exhaust and air conditioning systems).
- Developmental costs or project management costs.

"I am extremely pleased that the Sarnia-Lambton community will be benefiting from this investment of \$1,086,700 by the Ontario Trillium Foundation in three great local projects," said Bob Bailey, MPP for Sarnia-Lambton. "These investments will ensure residents and visitors alike can enjoy Sarnia-Lambton's great community spaces for years to come."

For a full list of Community Building Fund: Capital stream recipients, visit the Ontario Trillium Foundation's <u>website</u>.

"Since its launch, Ontario has provided 834 Community Building Fund grants to community organizations, municipalities, Indigenous communities and non-profit sport and recreation organizations – enhancing the quality of life for people across the province and supporting local jobs," said Minister MacLeod.

GRANT AMOUNTS IN SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO

•	Municipality of Chatham-Kent	\$429,600
•	Municipality of Leamington	\$325,100
•	Oneida Nation of the Thames	\$494,700
•	Kettle Creek Conservation Authority	\$71,700
•	Central Elgin	\$425,000
•	Maidstone Recreation Centre	\$62,000
•	Town of Essex	\$76,600
•	Town of LaSalle	\$398,200
•	Essex Region Conservation Authority	\$161,800
•	Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc	\$54,200
•	Township of Dawn Euphemia	<mark>\$43,000</mark>
•	Chippewas of the Thames First Nation	\$496,500
•	St. Clair Region Conservation Authority	\$246,500
•	Boys & Girls Club of London	\$84,600
•	Western Fair Association	\$498,800
•	Township of Enniskillen	\$218,800
•	Corporation of the City of Sarnia	\$367,900
•	Township of St. Clair	\$500,000
•	Rose City Athletic Organization	\$35,000
•	Filipino Community Centre	\$82,000
•	Cavaliers Cricket Club of Windsor	\$23,900
•	Tecumseh Thunder Baseball Club	\$72,800
•	Windsor Rogues Rugby Club	\$500,000