THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

EQUITY & DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Tuesday, April 6, 2016
4:30 p.m.
Committee Room

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEMS

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

   Pages 1 - 8
   (1) Meeting minutes from February 10, 2015.

7. DELEGATIONS/SPEAKERS

8. PRESENTATIONS

9. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS ON THE AGENDA

   (1) Multi-Cultural Reference Group. Phil Rose-Donahoe**,** Manager of Cultural Services, to provide a verbal update.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

    Pages 9 - 11
    (1) Ontario Acting to End Violence Against Indigenous Women

    Pages 12 – 13
    (2) Ontario Apologizes for 1912 Law on French in Schools

    Pages 14 – 15
    (3) Ontario Establishing an Anti-Racism Directorate

    Pages 16 - 18
    (4) Ontario Helping Refugees Resettle Integrate and Contribute

Pages 19 - 21

(5) Ontario Implementing New Indigenous Training and Education Requirements

Pages 22 - 23

(6) Governments of Canada and Ontario Announce an Agreement Towards Improving Pensions for Canadians

Pages 24 – 26

(7) Improving Access to Services for Young Children and Their Families

Pages 27 - 28

(8) Applications for Parents Reaching Out Grants Now Open

Pages 29 - 30

(9) Ontario Investing $1 6 Million in Sports Centre for At-Risk Youth

Pages 31 - 33

(10) Ontario Investing $92 Million to Create Jobs and Retrofit Social Housing

Pages 34 - 35

(11) Province Seeking Public Feedback on its Strategy for a Safer Ontario

Pages 36 - 38

(12) Six Nations Polytechnic Aboriginal Institute to Offer Standalone Degree Program

Pages 39 - 41

(13) Bringing the Magic of Indian Film to Ontario

(14) Toronto Star Articles on York Region District School Board

(A) (http://www.thestar.com/yourtoronto/education/2016/02/22/york-region-school-board-directors-10-year-contract-raises-questions.html)

(B) (http://www.thestar.com/yourtoronto/education/2016/02/23/racial-incidents-ignored-by-york-board-families-say.html)

11. OTHER BUSINESS

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(1) Music in the Streets festival June 25, 2016.

(2) Refreshed Diversity PDF (GEDAC Flyer) members are to continue to email Phil Rose-Donahoe**,** Manager of Cultural Services, their suggestions for the flyer.

Pages 43 - 44

(3) Town of Georgina Draft Diversity and Inclusivity Policy for the Committee review comments and Council recommendation.

(4) Team building and other collaboration opportunities, a continued discussion from February 10, 2016 meeting.

(5) Update regarding the endorsement of the request from Sandgate Women's Shelter of York Region. The Selection Committee has endorsed this request. The request is expected to go to Council April 6, 2016.

(6) Personality Test is booked for May 10, 2016. 6 additional people have requested to participate. Councillor Frank Sebo, Chair Paul Nicholls of the Georgina Library Board, and four people from GTTI.

(7) Welcome Campaign quote - pull up banner, posters other formats. Phil Rose-Donahoe**,** Manager of Cultural Services, to provide a verbal update if available.

12. CLOSED SESSION, IF REQUIRED

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN

(1) Personality Test Tuesday, May 10, 2016

(2) Items for next meeting include:

(A) Example Display for GEDAC and Committee discussion, an outstanding item from February 10, 2016.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

EQUITY & DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, February 10, 2015
4:30 PM
Committee Room, second floor

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

The following Committee members were present:
Karen McGill
Heather Kemp
Jeanne Faria
Alicia Lauzon Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Specialist, YRP

The following staff members were in attendance:
Sarah Brislin, Committee Services Coordinator
Phil Rose-Donahoe**,** Manager of Cultural Services

The following Committee members were absent:
Regional Councillor Danny Wheeler
Courtney Baumhard

The following member of the community was present:
Samantha Lindsay, Human Resources and Volunteer Program Coordinator for Sandgate Women's Shelter of York Region Inc.

3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEMS

Chair, Karen McGill requested the addition of a discussion of bursaries under Item 10, Other Business.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Jeanne Faria, Seconded by Alicia Lauzon

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2016-0010

That the February 10, 2016, Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee meeting agenda be approved as presented.

Carried.

5. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF – *None.*

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

(1) Tuesday, January 12, 2016.

Moved by Alicia Lauzon, Seconded by Jeanne Faria

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2016-0011

That the minutes of the Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee for January 12, 2016, meeting be adopted.

Carried.

7. DELEGATIONS/SPEAKERS

(1) Request from Sandgate Women's Shelter of York Region.

Samantha Lindsay, Human Resources and Volunteer Program Coordinator for Sandgate, has emailed regarding their position on the previous GEDAC Committee. Committee Services Coordinator, Sarah Brislin advised that the Committee's Terms of Reference had been changed to reduce the number of members. Sandgate is still very interested in participating and would like the Committee to request Council reinstate a designated member of their organization.

The Committee discussed with Samantha Lindsay the involvement of Sandgate as a member of the former Georgina Equity and Diversity Committee.

Moved by Jeanne Faria, Seconded by Alicia Lauzon

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2016-0012

That Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee endorse Sandgate's interest in participating in the Committee and request that Council amends the current Terms of Reference and reinstate the appointment of a designated member from Sandgate to the Committee.

Carried.

8. PRESENTATIONS - *None.*

9. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS ON THE AGENDA

(1) Multi-Cultural Reference Group. Phil Rose-Donahoe**,** Manager of Cultural Services, to provide a verbal update if available.

Phil Rose-Donahoe**,** Manager of Cultural Services, advised that the minutes have not yet been circulated.

(2) York Region Refugee Sponsorship Info Fair, February 2, 2015.

Committee member, Heather Kemp advised that she attended both the Keswick and Sutton Refugee welcome group & meetings hosted by the Georgina Public Library; and the Sponsorship Information Fair hosted by York Region.

Heather reported back to the Committee, regarding the Keswick and Sutton Refugee welcome group & meetings, the following:

- The meetings were educational regarding the sponsorship program and commitments required, what constitutes adequate housing, and what the boundaries are.

- The meeting provided the opportunity for groups to see what resources and community groups are available in the area.

- The meeting provided the opportunity for groups to see what skills and fundraising opportunities were available in the area.

- That there was the potential for a charitable license and fundraising opportunities to support refugees.

The following was reported to the Committee, regarding the Sponsorship Information Fair hosted by York Region:

- Phil Rose-Donahoe**,** Manager of Cultural Services, had provided material to be handed out.

- Since the meeting, there have been follow-up inquiries from other people who attended the fair.
    - There was particular interest in the ROC and the team building opportunities for refugees and sponsorship families.
    - There was a gentleman hoping to start a College in Georgina; Heather provided him with Economic Development Manager, Karyn Stone’s contact information.

- The York Region Local Immigration Partnership is overseeing the process
    - There is one family from Syria in Georgina.

- It was a valuable experience but also a missed opportunity to display all that Georgina has to offer.
    - Other groups had great displays and presentations demonstrating all that that they offered.

In addition to the verbal report, Heather circulated a map and list of attendees (attached).

The Committee thanked Heather for attending both functions and for her report.

Phil Rose-Donahoe**,** Manager of Cultural Services, suggested he could bring an example of a display to a subsequent meeting and that the GEDAC could work on a display that could be used to better position the Committee for future functions of a similar nature.

Karen McGill advised in previous years there were functions which had a team approach with the Committee and Town Staff attending together. The Committee members could respond to inquiries about the GEDAC, and the Town Staff could respond to inquiries about the Town.

Phil Rose-Donahoe advised that he would look into the inquiries on the ROC and potential collaborative efforts with Economic Development and Parks and Recreation.

Moved by Alicia Lauzon, Seconded by Jeanne Faria

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2016-0013

That Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee receive item 9(2) the verbal report from Heather Kemp, member, regarding the Keswick and Sutton Refugee welcome group & meetings and the Sponsorship Information Fair hosted by York Region

Carried.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

(1) Investing in Ontario's Community Agencies

(2) Ontario Formally Recognizing Black History Month.

Pages 11-12

(3) Ontario Helping Northern Rural and Remote Communities Address Violence Against Women

Pages 13-4

(4) Ontario Increasing Wages For Early Childhood Educators

Pages 15-16

(5) Ontario Investing $53 5 Million in Non-Profit Organizations

Pages 17- 19

(6) Province Completes Design of the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan

Pages 20-21

(7) Three Young Leaders Receive Lincoln M Alexander Award

Moved by Jeanne Faria, Seconded by Alicia Lauzon

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2016-0014

That Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee receive communication items 10(1) to (7).

Carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Page 22

(1) The Music in the Streets Festival June 25, 2016. Email from staff member Cathy Tustin, Human Resources Generalist, with a list of potential businesses to approach.

Committee members discussed emailing suggestions to the Committee Service Coordinator for the next meeting.

The Committee discussed the following considerations for the upcoming event

- The importance of keeping the community identity for events celebrating diversity/multi-culturalism, and representing the members who live in the community.
- Continuing to contact the high school dance instructors
- Contacting the Chippewas, and providing a stipend for preforming.
- Using advertising money for banners and posters
- The benefits of inviting experienced performers
- The benefits of inviting new performers.
- Investigating the cost of food.
- Karen McGill, Chair, to supply the tents for the event
- Splitting the groups up throughout the day
- Being inclusive of migrant workers

- Having the LGBTQ display
- Representing the predominant ethnic groups in the community

Moved by Jeanne Faria, Seconded by Alicia Lauzon

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2016-0015

That Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee members email their suggestions to Karen McGill, Chair, to be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

Carried.

(2) Phil Rose-Donahoe to present refreshed Diversity PDF (GEDAC Flyer) if available.

The Committee members were given the updated flyer (attached). Members were asked to review the flyer and submit their comments to Phil Rose-Donahoe**.**

(3) Welcome Campaign quote - pull up banner, posters other formats. Phil Rose-Donahoe to provide a verbal update if available

Phil Rose-Donahoe**,** Manager of Cultural Services, advised that he had not yet received the quotes for the banners.

Committee Services Coordinator advised that Economic Development relayed the message that they would be purchasing new banners and wanted to know if GEDAC wanted to replace their old banners. Economic Development suggested the Committee choose primary colors if they do purchase new banners because the other colors fade quicker. They expect longer use out of flags that are primary colors.

The Committee asked Sarah Brislin, Committee Services Coordinator, to investigate how much the previous banners cost.

(4) Personality Test. Committee members were polled to determine the best date. 6 of the 9 invited participants responded. Based on responses the following dates are deemed to be the best options:

- April 6, 2016
- May 10, 2016
- September 13, 2016
- October 11, 2016

Members were given options of 4:30, 5:00, or 7:00 p.m. Respondents indicated 4:30 p.m. would be the best time for the test to begin.

Moved by Jeanne Faria, Seconded by Alicia Lauzon

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2016-0016

That Karen McGill, Chair, book the Personality Dimensions Test for the Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee for April 6, 2016.

Carried

(5) Karen McGill, Chair, proposed that the Committee consider a new initiative that would grant a Bursary to a graduating high school student. She suggested that the Bursary would not be based on grades like scholarships and other bursaries and that instead, there would be a contest for a reflection paper on personal experience with adversity.

The Committee discussed the idea and considered the following

- Stipulations that would need to be met before the money was released
- The goal would be reaching young people and raising awareness
- The suggested amount was $500.00 to come potentially from the advertising budget.
- The Committee could advertise on Social Media, the Town Website, and in high schools
- The Committee could see if Rogers or the local papers would cover it.

The Committee suggested Committee members independently research similar bursaries and grants and bring back information for further discussion at a subsequent meeting.

11. CLOSED SESSION - *None.*

12. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Next meeting Tuesday, March 1, 2016

Moved by Jeanne Faria, Seconded by Alicia Lauzon

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2016-0017

That the Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee February 10, 2016, meeting be adjourned at 5:34 PM.

Carried.

_____
Karen McGill
Chair

_____
C. Sarah A. Brislin
Committee Services Coordinator

Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-23-16 10:21 AM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Ontario Acting to End Violence Against Indigenous Women

News Release

Ontario Acting to End Violence Against Indigenous Women

February 23, 2016

Premier Wynne Unveils New Long-Term Strategy

The Ontario government has released *Walking Together: Ontario's Long-Term Strategy to End Violence Against Indigenous Women*. The strategy outlines actions to prevent violence against Indigenous women and reduce its impact on youth, families and communities.

Premier Kathleen Wynne unveiled *Walking Together* today at Queen's Park. The government has committed $100 million over three years in new funding to support implementation of the strategy, which it developed in collaboration with Indigenous partners of Ontario's Joint Working Group on Violence Against Aboriginal Women. The government committed to the strategy as part of *It's Never Okay: An Action Plan to Stop Sexual Violence and Harassment*, released last March.

The new strategy builds on the existing work of Indigenous partners, community organizations and government to raise awareness of and prevent violence; provide more effective programs and community services that reflect the priorities of Indigenous leaders and communities; and improve socio-economic conditions that support healing within Indigenous communities.

Walking Together focuses on six areas of action:

- **Support for children, youth and families**, including launching a new Family Well-Being Program to support Indigenous families in crisis and help communities deal with the effects of intergenerational trauma. Ontario will provide funding to programs that Indigenous communities and organizations will design and deliver to meet their unique needs
- **Community safety and healing**, including developing a survivor-oriented strategy to assist in the identification, intervention and prevention of human trafficking in Ontario. The government will also develop and expand programs that support the health and well-being of Indigenous survivors, families, affected communities and even the perpetrators of violence

- **Policing and justice**, including developing a new police training curriculum
- **Prevention and awareness**, including public education campaigns to change harmful attitudes and norms that perpetuate violence against Indigenous women and girls
- **Leadership, collaboration, alignment and accountability** to continue to build strong relationships with Indigenous partners and the federal government
- **Improved data and research** to guide the partners in developing new programs and policies that fit the needs of Indigenous communities.

The strategy is one of many steps on Ontario's journey of healing and reconciliation with First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. It incorporates a number of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action and reflects the government's commitment to work with Indigenous partners.

The strategy recognizes the important role provinces play in this national conversation, which is why Ontario will continue to support the federal government's National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Walking Together is part of Ontario's plan to provide more security, protection and opportunity for Indigenous women and communities. Indigenous partners in Ontario are leading the way on this strategy, and the Ontario government is honoured to support them on this journey. The strategy will help ensure that everyone in the province can live in safety -- free from the threat, fear or experience of violence.

QUICK FACTS

- Indigenous women in Ontario are three times more likely to be murdered than other women.
- As a consequence of intergenerational trauma, Indigenous children and youth are overrepresented in child protection services.
- At the 2015 National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, Ontario’s delegation tabled 10 Pan-Canadian Actions to address violence against Indigenous women and girls across Canada.
- Later this week, Premier Wynne will join other premiers, the federal government and Indigenous leaders at the second National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, being held in Manitoba.
- Ontario will host the fifth National Aboriginal Women's Summit in the fall of 2016.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Support for: Walking Together: Ontario's Long Term Strategy to End Violence Against Indigenous Women

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Summary of Walking Together: Ontario's Long-Term Strategy to End Violence Against Indigenous Women
- Ontario's Joint Working Group on Violence Against Aboriginal Women
- It's Never Okay: An Action Plan to Stop Sexual Violence and Harassment

QUOTES

"The appalling statistics on violence against Indigenous women reflect a reality that no one should have to endure. The strategy we have developed with Indigenous partners affirms that everyone in Ontario deserves to feel safe in their homes, schools, workplaces and communities. We all have a role to play in putting an end to this violence."

— *Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario*

"First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities are diverse in their cultures, languages, beliefs and traditions. They know the challenges their communities face, and that's why we are increasing our support for their efforts to provide unique solutions to Indigenous women and families."

— *David Zimmer, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs*

"Wherever Indigenous women live, they experience significantly greater rates of domestic violence, assault, homicide and sexual exploitation — and this must stop. This violence echoes through generations, leading to poverty, social isolation and insecurity, and the way forward is through the strong collaboration we are announcing today. This strategy is our collective step with Indigenous partners toward ending violence against Indigenous women for good."

— *Tracy MacCharles, Minister Responsible for Women's Issues*

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Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-22-16 1:37 PM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Ontario Apologizes for 1912 Law on French in Schools

News Release

Ontario Apologizes for 1912 Law on French in Schools

February 22, 2016

Regulation 17 Effectively Banned Public French-Language Education for a Generation

Premier Kathleen Wynne apologized in the Legislative Assembly today on behalf of the Government of Ontario for a 1912 regulation that effectively outlawed public French-language education in primary schools for more than a decade.

The government of the time introduced Regulation 17 with the stated goal of raising the quality of English-language education in "English-French" primary schools. The regulation:

- Prohibited primary schools from using French as a language of instruction or communication beyond grade 2
- Capped the amount of time primary school students could receive instruction in French as a subject to one hour per day
- Required that primary school students receive French-language education only at the parents' request.

Many teachers and schools refused to obey the law. In 1913, the government responded by introducing Regulation 18, which sought to strengthen compliance with the provisions of Regulation 17. Schools that ignored the regulations would lose their funding, and teachers would lose their certification.

Today's apology is part of the government's work to advance equality for all Ontarians, and to promote and protect the vitality and longevity of the Francophone identity in Ontario.

QUICK FACTS

- The Ontario government stopped enforcing Regulation 17 after 1927, but it remained formally in effect until 1944.

- In 1984, Ontario officially recognized the right of all Francophones to receive French-language education in elementary and secondary schools.
- Francophones gained full and exclusive governance of nearly all French-language schools in Ontario in 1998.
- Ontario is home to nearly 612,000 Francophones — the largest population in Canada outside of Quebec. In 2015, Ontario celebrated 400 years of Francophone presence in the province.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Premier Wynne's Statement to the Legislative Assembly apologizing for Regulation 17
- The history of French-language services in Ontario

QUOTES

"On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I apologize to all Franco-Ontarians whose families and communities were affected by Regulation 17. The Franco-Ontarian community has shown tremendous courage and tenacity in its long struggle to ensure that Francophone culture is valued as integral to the vibrant and prosperous Ontario we know today."
— *Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario*

"I am very proud of the work that successive governments — including our own — have done to rebuild our relationship with the Francophone community. Today further demonstrates the commitment of the Ontario government to recognize the Franco-Ontarian community as an integral part of Ontario's history, accomplishments and future. I look forward to continuing our work with our partners in the Franco-Ontarian community to ensure that all Ontario students continue to receive quality teaching and that the specific needs of Francophone students are met."
— *Madeleine Meilleur, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Francophone Affairs*

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Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-16-16 9:49 AM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Ontario Establishing an Anti-Racism Directorate

News Release

Ontario Establishing an Anti-Racism Directorate

February 16, 2016

Government Working to Advance Equality for All Ontarians

Premier Kathleen Wynne announced today that Ontario will establish an Anti-Racism Directorate to address racism in all its forms -- including individual, systemic and cultural.

Michael Coteau will oversee the Anti-Racism Directorate as Minister Responsible for Anti-Racism and continue as Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

The Directorate will work with key partners such as business, community organizations, educational institutions and the Ontario Human Rights Commission. The Directorate will aim to:

- Increase public education and awareness of racism to create a more inclusive province, and;
- Apply an anti-racism lens in developing, implementing and evaluating government policies, programs and services.

The Anti-Racism Directorate is part of the government's commitment to fight discrimination and ensure that everyone in Ontario has the opportunity to fulfill their potential and participate equally in society.

QUICK FACTS

- Today the government will introduce legislation that, if passed, would formally and permanently establish February as Black History Month in Ontario on an annual basis.
- Since 2003, the Ontario Trillium Foundation has awarded seven grants for a total of $171,100 in support of Black History Month. In addition, 14 other grants have been awarded for a total of $829,900 in support of black history initiatives.

- The Ontario Public Service (OPS) launched the first OPS Anti-Racism Action Plan last November. It focuses on preventing race-based discrimination and harassment; further diversifying the public service at every level, including senior management; and increasing OPS employees' awareness of racism and its impacts.
- Public servants use a tool called the OPS Inclusion Lens to identify and address potential barriers in designing policies or delivering services. The lens addresses 17 dimensions of diversity, including race, age, gender and disability.
- Every year, the province awards the Lincoln M. Alexander Award to youth who have demonstrated leadership in eliminating racial discrimination in Ontario.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Proclamation of Black History Month for February 2016

QUOTES

"We know in our hearts that deeply entrenched biases are still at work, disadvantaging entire communities. I have fought for equality my entire life, and I know that government needs to play a leading role in the fight against racial discrimination and inequality. That is why we are establishing an Anti-Racism Directorate to advance racial equality across Ontario."
— *Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario*

"Despite all our progress towards building an inclusive society, racial minorities in Ontario continue to face economic and social barriers. I am honoured to assume this new role, and as Minister Responsible for Anti-Racism I will work to make our province a place where everyone has an equal opportunity to flourish."
— *Michael Coteau, Minister Responsible for Anti-Racism and Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport*

"The Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) welcomes the establishment of the Anti-Racism Directorate. The OHRC has long recognized that government must play a leadership role in the fight against systemic discrimination. We are excited to work closely with Minister Coteau to advance our shared goal of a province where racialized Ontarians are able to realize their full potential free from discrimination."
— *Renu Mandhane, Chief Commissioner, Ontario Human Rights Commission*

Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-08-16 12:35 PM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Ontario Helping Refugees Resettle, Integrate and Contribute

News Release

Ontario Helping Refugees Resettle, Integrate and Contribute

February 8, 2016

Coordinated Provincial Support Helping Newcomers Contribute to Ontario Society

Ontario is helping to ensure seamless and coordinated support for the thousands of refugees settling in the province. By supporting settlement agencies and sponsorship organizations, the province is helping ensure the availability of services critical for refugees to start their new lives, contribute to economic growth and enrich the province's cultural fabric.

Premier Kathleen Wynne was at the City Adult Learning Centre in Toronto today to highlight the support being provided to refugees to learn English and upgrade their skills to meet the needs of Ontario's job market. The Premier also announced two further investments to help refugees settle and integrate into Ontario. The funding of about $626,000 over two years is part of the government's commitment of $8.5 million over two and a half years to support refugees.

The Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants is receiving about $343,000 to launch a public education campaign that will create a welcoming environment for refugees and Ontario's Muslim communities; conduct province-wide trauma and mental health training for front-line staff working with refugees; and assess the settlement sector's capacity to help refugees. COSTI Immigrant Services is receiving $283,000 to develop orientation resources; deliver workshops to refugees about living in Ontario; and increase support to the Armenian Community Centre, which is sponsoring 2,600 refugees.

Ontario is collaborating with federal and municipal governments, as well as community partners, on refugee settlement and integration. The province has undertaken a variety of initiatives to provide refugees with critical support. These include:

- The Ministry of Education has trained a group of educators to help district school boards assess the math and literacy skills of newly arrived Syrian children and youth to ensure appropriate school placement.

- The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is working to ensure that refugees have access to health services such as immunizations and primary care. A small Emergency Medical Assistance Team is meeting flights at Toronto Pearson International Airport to provide primary care services.
- Youth outreach workers at community agencies funded by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services will be engaging with refugee youth to build trusting relationships.

QUICK FACTS

- About 7,000 refugees from the Syrian conflict have settled in Ontario since December 10, 2015.
- Most of the refugees will be settled in communities that account for over 90 per cent of immigrant and refugee landings in the province: Hamilton, Kitchener-Waterloo, London, Ottawa, Toronto and Windsor.
- The federal government is responsible for selecting and screening refugees, and for providing settlement services, including finding interim lodging.
- Ontario's commitment of $8.5 million over two and a half years is providing settlement and integration support for refugees and support for private refugee sponsors such as individuals, faith-based groups and community organizations.
- The province is encouraging Ontarians to post or find volunteer opportunities to help welcome refugees at SPARK Ontario, or to learn about refugees from the Syrian conflict.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Ontario's Response to the Syrian Refugee Crisis

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Ontario's Newcomer Support Program

QUOTES

"Through their outpouring of support, the people of Ontario have upheld our province's long tradition of welcoming those fleeing war and oppression. Our government is working to help newcomers acquire the education and skills training that they need to succeed here. We know how critical the supports we are

providing to refugees from Syria — and around the world — are to helping them achieve their dreams of working and raising a family in Canada. As they do, our economy and our society are forever enriched."
— *Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario*

"The compassion and support that Ontarians have demonstrated during this crisis is extraordinary. As refugees continue arriving to warm welcomes in communities across Ontario, we continue to provide ongoing support on many fronts to help them settle and integrate into our neighbourhoods."
— *Michael Chan, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade*

"Our government has a long and proud history of accepting and supporting refugees. Ontario's hospitals, public health units, dentists, mental health agencies and community health centres have been tremendous partners. These two new investments will help ensure that we continue to meet the needs of refugees."
— *Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care*

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99 Wellesley Street West 4th floor, Room 4620 Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-17-16 4:47 PM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Ontario Implementing New Indigenous Training and Education Requirements

News Release

Ontario Implementing New Indigenous Training and Education Requirements

February 17, 2016

Province Committed to Working with Partners to Address Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action

The provincial government is taking steps to address the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's (TRC) Calls to Action regarding education and training, including introducing mandatory Indigenous cultural competency and anti-racism training for every employee in the Ontario Public Service (OPS) and implementing mandatory learning expectations in Ontario's public education system curriculum.

Premier Kathleen Wynne made the announcement today at an Indigenous cultural competency event for OPS employees.

The new employee training will help public servants partner with Indigenous people to ensure that culturally relevant and appropriate policies and programs will work to actively redress the legacy of residential schools, advance the process of reconciliation with Indigenous communities and make a real difference in the lives of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people.

All public servants will complete training that includes:

- Participating in interactive activities about culture, stereotyping, and the consequences and legacies of colonization
- Learning about tools that can help develop more effective communications and relationship-building skills to promote positive partnerships with Indigenous people
- Exploring how to enhance services to Indigenous people

The training will include topics such as terminology, diversity, aspects of colonial history such as residential schools and Indian hospitals, and contexts for understanding social disparities and inequities. It will also include a focus on violence against Indigenous women.

In collaboration with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities and education partners, the Ministry of Education is developing a comprehensive plan to ensure that the impact of residential schools, the history of colonization and the importance of treaties is incorporated into mandatory learning expectations in Ontario's public education system curriculum. As of September 2015, Ontario's Faculties of Education are required to provide mandatory content that includes First Nation, Métis and Inuit histories, cultures, perspectives and ways of knowing.

New training and education for Ontarians is one of many steps on Ontario's journey of healing and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. It reflects the government's commitment to work with Indigenous partners to create a better future for everyone in the province.

QUICK FACTS

- The TRC report included 94 Calls to Action to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation.
- OPS employees are also required to complete other mandatory training, including workplace violence prevention and workplace discrimination and harassment prevention, as well as Ontario’s Human Rights Code and Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act requirements that apply to persons with disabilities.
- Ontario’s Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs will also work with First Nations, Métis and Inuit partners and relevant ministries to support the delivery of Indigenous cultural competency training for employees across the broader public sector.
- On August 24, 2015, Ontario signed a historic Political Accord that represents a renewal of the relationship between First Nations and Ontario.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Political Accord Between First Nations and the Government of Ontario
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Final Report

QUOTES

"We cannot build a brighter future unless we first understand how the historical treatment of Indigenous peoples in Canada has created unfair circumstances and harsh realities in Indigenous peoples' lives today. By making changes to our public school curriculum and introducing mandatory training in Indigenous cultural competency for Ontario's public servants, we are taking an important step on the path to reconciliation. Our government is committed to working with Indigenous partners to provide programs that respond to the real needs of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people."

— *Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario*

"I am pleased to see that all Ontario Public Service staff will now be required to take cultural competency training. This training will help ensure our public service staff have the understanding and perspective they need to execute the Indigenous priorities that touch upon so much of what we do. We are committed to working together with First Nations, Inuit and Métis people in the spirit of mutual respect and collaboration."

— *David Zimmer, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs*

"The cultural competency training is a proactive initiative by the Ontario government. Premier Wynne and her colleagues in the Ontario Government are once again demonstrating leadership with the introduction of this training. Acting quickly on the TRC recommendations and the Political Accord, Ontario is solidifying its relationship with First Nations. Enabling public servants to become more aware of First Nation perspectives will foster better decision-making and understanding of First Nation issues."

— *Patrick Madahbee, Grand Council Chief, Union of Ontario Indians*

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Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-16-16 1:31 PM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Governments of Canada and Ontario Announce an Agreement Towards Improving Pensions for Canadians

Bulletin

Governments of Canada and Ontario Announce an Agreement Towards Improving Pensions for Canadians

February 16, 2016

Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance of the Government of Canada, Charles Sousa, Minister of Finance for the Government of Ontario and Mitzie Hunter, Associate Minister of Finance for the Government of Ontario, today announced they have reached an agreement to work together to achieve their mutual goal of improving pensions for Canadians.

Many Canadians are not saving adequately for retirement and, unless action is taken, will face a decline in their standard of living when they retire. The governments of Canada and Ontario have both prioritized improving retirement income security.

Ontario welcomes the federal government's leadership in renewing a national dialogue to enhance the Canada Pension Plan (CPP), and is committed to continuing to work collaboratively with the federal government, provinces and territories to make progress on a national solution that addresses the needs of future retirees.

To provide more time for discussion among provinces and the federal government, Ontario is proposing to phase-in the launch of the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan (ORPP) by starting enrollment in January 2017, one year later than the original start date, and by starting the first phase of contributions in January, 2018. This will give businesses more time to enroll, and provide about 400 businesses with the additional time they have been seeking.

Over the coming months, Ontario and the federal government will be working intensively with other jurisdictions to explore a range of potential CPP enhancements designed to improve Canadians' retirement income security. To this end, the governments of Canada and Ontario will work with other provinces and territories to develop options for CPP enhancements by the end of May - in time for the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Finance Ministers meeting in June, 2016.

In the spirit of collaboration, the federal government acknowledges that the Ontario Government has made important first strides in establishing the ORPP. If provincial agreement on CPP enhancement is not reached, the federal government acknowledges the Government of Ontario's objective to move forward with the ORPP. As such, the federal government has agreed to facilitate plan registration and data sharing arrangements, and will work with Ontario to ensure that key elements of plan administration, such as the collection of employer and employee contributions, are completed efficiently and cost-effectively.

QUOTES

"The Government of Ontario remains committed to finding a solution which will allow the needs of Ontario employees to be met under a national framework. Our main objective is to intensively look at ways to meet the goals of the ORPP in an enhanced CPP framework, while preserving our ability to implement the ORPP, should that not be possible."

— *Charles Sousa, Minister of Finance, Ontario*

"We believe in a Canada where people who work hard can look forward to a good standard of living, a secure retirement, and better prospects for future generations. Working with provinces and territories expeditiously to enhance the Canada Pension Plan is part of our government’s commitment to the middle class and those who have been working hard their whole lives to earn a secure and dignified retirement. We know Canada works best when we all work together. For this reason, we will continue to work with Ontario on ORPP administration while pursuing our ultimate goal of one national uniform enhancement to the CPP."

— *Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance, Canada*

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Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-19-16 1:12 PM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Improving Access to Services for Young Children and Their Families

News Release

Improving Access to Services for Young Children and Their Families

February 19, 2016

Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres to Offer a Full Suite of Services

Ontario is delivering on its commitment to make access to child and family programs easier by announcing the launch of Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres. These hubs will offer parents and their children a suite of high-quality early years programs, as well as local services tailored to their communities.

Premier Kathleen Wynne was at the White Oaks Family Centre in London to announce the creation of Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres. The province currently funds four programs that offer a variety of services at different locations:

- Ontario Early Years Centres
- Parenting and Family Literacy Centres
- Child Care Resource Centres
- Better Beginnings, Better Futures

These four programs will be transformed and combined into one suite of integrated services as part of Ontario's early years modernization plan. Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres will be more convenient to use and easier to navigate. They will provide a common set of core services, as well as the flexibility to provide additional, customized services to meet local needs. The transformation process will start immediately, with Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres in place in 2018. Until then, families will still be able to access current services.

These centres will offer parents and children:

- Enriching early learning experiences for children under 7 and their families and caregivers, with trained staff and a variety of engaging materials on site
- Family programs and workshops on topics such as child development, parenting and post-partum support

- Engaging drop-in programs where children and families can connect with friends and neighbours from their communities
- Information and referrals to specialized community services.

Helping families access high-quality support programs is part of the government's four-part plan for Ontario and delivers on its number-one priority to grow the economy and create jobs. The four-part plan includes investing in people's talents and skills, making the largest investment in public infrastructure in the province's history, creating a dynamic, supportive environment where business thrives and building a secure retirement savings plan.

QUICK FACTS

- The government currently invests more than $97 million annually in child and family programs in Ontario.
- Since 2004, the government has doubled child care funding to more than $1 billion annually.
- Since 2003, the number of licensed child care spaces in Ontario has grown to nearly 351,000 — an increase of 87 per cent.
- In April 2015, the province announced $120 million over three years in new funding dedicated to building safe, high-quality, licensed child care spaces in schools across the province.
- The province has already allocated more than $80 million of this funding, resulting in 2,901 new licensed child care spaces coming to communities across Ontario.
- In August, the Child Care and Early Years Act was proclaimed to strengthen oversight of the province's unlicensed child care sector and increase access to licensed child care options.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Transforming Ontario's Early Years Child and Family Programs
- Child and Family Programs in Ontario
- Modernizing Child Care in Ontario
- Child care in Ontario
- Ontario Early Years Policy Framework

QUOTES

"The early years can be the most rewarding — and the most stressful — for a young family. As Premier, one of my essential duties is building an Ontario where everyone has the opportunity to flourish at every stage of life. By making access to programs and resources more convenient and easier to use, we are investing in the hopes, dreams and aspirations of parents and caregivers, and building a more prosperous future for our children."

— *Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario*

"We want to give children the best possible start in life — and we're committed to supporting parents so their children can learn, grow, and develop. Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres will help build an early years system that is high quality, seamless and accessible for children and families."

— *Liz Sandals, Minister of Education*

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Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-16-16 12:20 PM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Applications for Parents Reaching Out Grants Now Open

News Release

Applications for Parents Reaching Out Grants Now Open

February 16, 2016

Ontario Supporting School Councils and Community Group Projects

Ontario is helping parents get more involved in their children's education by supporting local parent-led projects that encourage student learning and promote well-being.

Grant applications for the 2016-17 school year are now open and will be accepted until May 29, 2016.

In the 2015-16 school year, the province funded more than 2,200 projects that helped identify barriers to parent engagement and found local solutions to help more parents be engaged in their children's learning. Projects included:

- Workshops and parent resources on mental health and well-being, cyber bullying and healthy living
- Parent information sessions on strategies to support their children's math learning at home and at school
- Family Science Nights to encourage parents to learn about science alongside their children
- Biidaaban Community Service Learning program to support Indigenous adult learners and their families.

Encouraging parents to get involved in their children's education is part of the government's economic plan for Ontario and deliver on its number-one priority to grow the economy and create jobs. The four-part plan is building Ontario up by investing in people's talents and skills, making the largest investment in public infrastructure in Ontario's history, creating a dynamic and innovative environment where business thrives, and building a secure retirement savings plan.

QUICK FACTS

- Since 2006, the province has awarded more than 17,000 Parents Reaching Out Grants to school councils and more than 680 regional/provincial grants - a total investment of more than $27.5 million to help increase parent engagement.

- Since 2005, Ontario has invested more than $62 million to support parent engagement across the province – including funding for Parent Involvement Committees and school councils, and for local projects like family math nights and resources to welcome parents who are new to Ontario's publicly-funded education system.
- Ontario also provides parents with resources to help them support their children's learning, including factsheets and information on important topics like bullying, child care, the new Health and Physical Education curriculum and supporting student learning at home. Find more information at: http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/
- Parents Reaching Out Grants support the four key goals of the government's renewed vision for education in Ontario – ensuring equity, promoting well-being, achieving excellence and enhancing public confidence.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Apply for a 2016-17 PRO Grant
- Last year's approved projects
- Tips and tools for parents to get involved
- Resources for parents in different languages
- More tips and resources at tvoparents.com

QUOTES

"Engaged parents play a crucial role in student achievement and well-being. With their guidance and support, students are typically more motivated, earn higher grades and have better behaviour and social skills – making them ready to reach their full potential and enjoy a bright future."
— *Liz Sandals, Minister of Education*

"Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants allow Parent Involvement Committees (PICs) and school councils to be innovative in creating a local approach to meet the diverse needs of many parents. Through PRO Grants, we have been more successful in engaging families and communities."
— *Sean Jackson, Parent Involvement Committee Chair, and, Cathy Philpott, Chair, Ottawa Catholic School Parents' Association, Ottawa Catholic District School Board*

Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-11-16 1:52 PM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Ontario Investing $1.6 Million in Sports Centre for At-Risk Youth

News Release

Ontario Investing $1.6 Million in Sports Centre for At-Risk Youth

February 11, 2016

Innovative MLSE LaunchPad Will Help Young People Reach Their Full Potential

Ontario is investing $1.6 million over four years in a new facility -- the first of its kind in North America -- that will combine sport, education and research to help at-risk youth build a brighter future.

Premier Kathleen Wynne made the announcement today with Tracy MacCharles, Minister of Children and Youth Services, at the construction site for MLSE LaunchPad in Moss Park in downtown Toronto. Ontario's investment will help support evaluation and research efforts aligned with Ontario's Youth Strategy, Stepping Up, and will enhance non-profit organizations' capacity to serve youth.

MLSE LaunchPad will give 200,000 young people aged 6 to 25 from underserviced communities in the Greater Toronto Area access to a multipurpose gymnasium, classrooms and teaching kitchen. The facility will encourage teamwork, resilience and striving for excellence; promote a healthy and active lifestyle; provide education on nutrition to encourage healthy eating habits; and teach life skills to prepare young people for school and work. It is set to open in 2017.

The funding builds on the government's $55-million enhanced Ontario Youth Action Plan, which supports at-risk youth to help them reach their full potential.

Making sure the province's young people have the best possible start in life is part of the government's plan to build Ontario up and deliver on its number-one priority to grow the economy and create jobs. The four-part plan includes investing in people's talents and skills, making the largest investment in public infrastructure in the province's history, creating a dynamic, supportive environment where business thrives and building a secure retirement savings plan.

QUICK FACTS

- MLSE LaunchPad — a partnership among the MLSE Foundation, Toronto Community Housing Corporation and City of Toronto — will transform a space at 261 Jarvis Street that has been vacant for two decades.
- Ontario's $1.6 million investment will support evaluation and research team staffing, training and support for non-profit organizations to develop their youth service capacity and the development of measurement indicators and baseline metrics.
- In addition, the Ministry of Children and Youth Services is providing, at maturity, close to $3.1 million to Toronto community organizations through the enhanced Ontario Youth Action Plan. These investments will promote youth mentorship, restorative justice and gang prevention programs.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Enhanced Ontario Youth Action Plan
- Stepping Up: A Strategic Framework to Help Ontario's Youth Succeed

QUOTES

"MLSE LaunchPad will encourage teamwork and give young people the discipline and determination to help them tackle any challenge they face in life. Our government is pleased to support these innovative programs, which will help youth develop the skills and habits they need to reach their full potential."
— *Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario*

"The Ministry of Children and Youth Services is pleased to provide funding for research efforts at MLSE LaunchPad. This research will have a far-reaching impact. Not only will it show evidence-based ways to improve and deliver effective programming for youth, it will be shared with grassroots organizations across Ontario to help them achieve even better results for our young people."
— *Tracy MacCharles, Minister of Children and Youth Services*

"The funding from the Province of Ontario means MLSE LaunchPad will be able to leverage its sport, education and research capabilities to help move the needle on social issues affecting youth in the communities we serve and beyond."
— *Aris Kaplanis, Chair of the MLSE Foundation*

Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-12-16 12:01 PM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Ontario Investing $92 Million to Create Jobs and Retrofit Social Housing

News Release

Ontario Investing $92 Million to Create Jobs and Retrofit Social Housing

February 12, 2016

Green Investment Fund Fighting Climate Change, Growing Ontario's Economy

Ontario continues to put its new Climate Change Strategy into action by investing $92 million from the Green Investment Fund into social housing retrofits to take advantage of the economic opportunities in clean technologies, improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Most of Ontario's social housing towers were constructed in the 1960s and 1970s and can use up to 25 per cent more energy per square metre than a house. To help ensure that these buildings can better meet the challenges of climate change, the province is investing $82 million toward energy retrofits for high-rise social housing towers of 150 units or more. The retrofits will include installing energy-efficient boilers, insulating outer walls and mechanical systems, and installing more energy efficient windows and lighting. At an average cost of $3.5 - $5.5 million for each high-rise project, the funding could help retrofit between 16 and 23 buildings.

Ontario will also invest a further $10 million to help improve electricity efficiency in approximately 1,300 single social housing homes, which are often found in smaller and rural communities.

Starting this month, eligible social housing service managers and the Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services Corporation may submit expressions of interest for funding to the province. The selected service managers will distribute funds starting this spring to the most appropriate projects in their communities.

Ontario's new Green Investment Fund is a $325-million down payment on the province's cap and trade program to strengthen the economy, create jobs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This $92-million investment will help lower greenhouse gas emissions by about 3,600 tonnes over a 20-year period and create approximately 1,650 job years.

Fighting climate change while supporting growth, efficiency and productivity is part of the government's plan to build Ontario up and deliver on its number-one priority to grow the economy and create jobs. The four-part plan includes

investing in people's talents and skills, making the largest investment in public infrastructure in Ontario's history, creating a dynamic, innovative environment where business thrives, and building a secure retirement savings plan.

QUICK FACTS

- In Toronto, high-rise social housing buildings account for 23 per cent of all residential greenhouse gas emissions.
- A 2012 Deutsche Bank study found that every $1 million invested in energy efficiency-related retrofits in multi-family affordable housing buildings generated between $1.3 million and $3.9 million in energy savings and increased Gross Domestic Product.
- High density social housing that will be eligible for retrofits can be found in many communities, including Toronto, Windsor, London, Hamilton, Thunder Bay, Sudbury and Ottawa.
- Funded projects will be required to carry out a detailed energy audit before and after the retrofits take place.
- The province's new $325 million Green Investment Fund was announced in the 2015 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review.
- In May 2015, Ontario became the first province in Canada to set a mid-term greenhouse gas pollution reduction target of 37 per cent below the 1990 level by 2030.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Support for: Ontario Investing $92 Million to Retrofit Social Housing

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Ontario's Climate Change Strategy
- Green Investment Fund
- Ontario's 2013 Long-Term Energy Plan

QUOTES

"This new program will support needed upgrades to older, energy inefficient buildings to reduce their energy costs and better serve their tenants, while simultaneously helping Ontario meet the climate challenges of today and tomorrow."
— *Ted McMeekin, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing*

"This investment will help to grow the economy, lower operating costs for social housing and tackle climate change — a triple win that will help Ontario prepare to transition to a low carbon economy."
— *Deb Matthews, Deputy Premier of Ontario and Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy*

"Today Ontario is taking another important step in its journey toward a low carbon future. Greenhouse gas emissions from buildings are one of the most significant contributors to climate change in Ontario. Many social housing buildings were built at a time when climate change was not considered a threat and energy efficiency was not a concern. By investing in retrofits for these buildings, Ontario is helping building owners reduce their carbon footprints and update these residences to reflect the realities we face today."
— *Glen Murray, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change*

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Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-12-16 1:58 PM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Province Seeking Public Feedback on its Strategy for a Safer Ontario

News Release

Province Seeking Public Feedback on its Strategy for a Safer Ontario

February 12, 2016

Ontario to Modernize the Delivery of Community Safety

Ontario is launching public consultations across the province on the development of its Strategy for a Safer Ontario - a new blueprint for effective, sustainable, and community-based policing.

The nature of policing and the role of police officers have changed since the Police Services Act was written in 1990. Policing has evolved as a result of advancements in technology, the increasing frequency of police interactions with vulnerable individuals, such as those suffering with mental health or addiction issues, and Ontarians' enhanced expectations about oversight and accountability of law enforcement.

The new Strategy for a Safer Ontario will include updating the Police Services Act. Consultations will seek input on how to:

- Promote collaborative partnerships between police, the public and other sectors such as education, health care and social services, to ensure that those in need of help receive the right response, at the right time, and by the right service provider
- Improve interactions between police and vulnerable Ontarians, including enhancing frontline responses to those in crisis
- Clarify police duties, modernize training programs and deliver services using a range of public safety personnel
- Enhance accountability and strengthen civilian governance of police services boards as well as ensure police oversight bodies are effective and have clear mandates

In addition, Ontario will also be developing a framework for First Nations policing to ensure equitable and culturally responsive policing for the province's First Nations communities.

The province encourages all Ontarians to help transform policing by participating in public consultations beginning on February 18, 2016 or by providing feedback through an online survey.

Supporting safe, healthy communities is part of the government's plan to build Ontario up and deliver on its number-one priority to grow the economy and create jobs. The four-part plan includes investing in people's talents and skills, making the largest investment in public infrastructure in Ontario's history, creating a dynamic, innovative environment where business thrives, and building a secure retirement savings plan.

QUICK FACTS

- Public meetings will be held in Cobourg, London, Newmarket, Hamilton, Thunder Bay, Ottawa, Sault Ste. Marie, and Toronto.
- Police services in the province are governed by the Police Services Act, which has not been substantially updated since 1990.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Read Minister Naqvi's August 2015 speech to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) on the strategy.

QUOTES

"Our new Strategy for a Safer Ontario is about finding smarter, better ways to build even safer communities. It will build a policing model for the 21st century by rewriting the Police Services Act – representing the biggest transformation of policing in Ontario in 25 years. We look forward to hearing directly from local communities as we move forward on our new framework to build an even stronger, safer Ontario."
— *Yasir Naqvi, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services*

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Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-08-16 10:58 AM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Six Nations Polytechnic Aboriginal Institute to Offer Standalone Degree Program

News Release

Six Nations Polytechnic Aboriginal Institute to Offer Standalone Degree Program

February 8, 2016

Ontario Helping to Expand Postsecondary Options for Indigenous Students

Ontario is helping to improve access to culturally appropriate postsecondary education and training opportunities for Indigenous learners by making it possible for Six Nations Polytechnic, an Aboriginal Institute, to offer a standalone degree program.

For the first time, the province will make it possible for an Aboriginal Institute, an organization that is run and governed by Indigenous communities, to offer a standalone degree program. As of January 2016, students at Six Nations Polytechnic Aboriginal Institute in Ohsweken can obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree in Ogwehoweh (Cayuga and Mohawk) Languages.

This degree will help promote and protect Ogwehoweh languages and make it possible for students to complete their degree at one institution, closer to home. It also will help students build on their linguistic skills and cultural knowledge as well as expand their opportunities to participate in the labour market. This standalone degree also supports the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which called for postsecondary institutions to create degree programs in Indigenous languages.

Investing in the talent and skills of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit learners is one of many steps on Ontario's journey of healing and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. It reflects the government's commitment to work with Indigenous partners, creating a better future for everyone in the province.

QUICK FACTS

- Aboriginal Institutes provide opportunities for students to start and complete postsecondary education credentials in a culturally appropriate and safe learning environments close to home and are completely run and governed by Indigenous communities.

- The Ogwehoweh (Cayuga and Mohawk) Languages degree builds on the strong foundation of the current language diploma program offered in partnership with McMaster University.
- Six Nations Polytechnic is an Aboriginal postsecondary education and training institute located in Ohsweken, a community on Six Nations of the Grand River Territory near Brantford, Ontario.
- Six Nations Polytechnic applied for and was granted consent to offer a Bachelor of Arts degree in Ogwehoweh (Cayuga and Mohawk) Languages.
- Ontario provides $1.5 million in annual funding through the Aboriginal Student Bursary Fund to help Indigenous learners with financial needs participate in postsecondary education and training.
- In June 2015 the province committed stable funding of Indigenous postsecondary education totaling $97 million over three years, including an additional $5 million to support the sustainability of Ontario's nine Indigenous-owned and operated postsecondary education and training institutes located throughout the province. In 2013-14, about 16,036 self-identified Indigenous learners attended college and university in Ontario, an increase of about nine per cent or 1,472 learners since 2009-10.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Aboriginal Postsecondary Education and Training Bursary
- Aboriginal Institutes
- Aboriginal Postsecondary Education and Training Policy Framework
- Aboriginal Education Strategy

QUOTES

"Our government has made a clear commitment to learn from the past, build on our success stories, and increase our efforts to help Indigenous learners get the education and training they need. Six Nations Polytechnic is committed to creating an Indigenous environment that is grounded in culture and community, language, research, and academic quality, and this new degree program will help improve Indigenous learners' access to, participation in, and completion of postsecondary education and training programs in Ontario."

— *Reza Moridi, Minister of Training Colleges and Universities*

"I want to thank Six Nations Polytechnic for the leadership and guidance they have provided. Today's announcement provides a tangible illustration of Ontario's journey along the path of reconciliation. We will continue to rely on Indigenous partners as we chart a way forward that will produce tangible results."
— *David Zimmer, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs*

"Language preservation and protection are at the core values of Six Nations Polytechnic. That's why we have always had the intention of having our Ogwehoweh Language Diploma Program become a language degree program."
— *Rebecca Jamieson, President Six Nations Polytechnic*

"Congratulations to Rebecca and her entire team. They have worked tirelessly to bring about the expansion of Six Nations Polytechnic programming. Education is the cornerstone of the future successes of our local Indigenous students."
— *Dave Levac, Member of Provincial Parliament, Brant*

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Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-05-16 2:25 PM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Bringing the Magic of Indian Film to Ontario

News Release

Bringing the Magic of Indian Film to Ontario

February 5, 2016

Agreements Open Up New Opportunities for Ontario and India's Film Industries

Premier Kathleen Wynne attended a Bollywood-style event in Mumbai today, where two new agreements were announced that will benefit Ontario's film sector.

The City of Toronto and the Maharashtra Film Stage and Cultural Development Corporation signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work together on common interests in the creative screen industries, including studio production, post-production, visual effects and interactive/digital media. The Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) and the Mumbai Academy of Moving Image (MAMI) highlighted their collaboration on a boot camp to help Indian filmmakers bring their work to international film festivals.

These new partnerships will enhance the relationship between Ontario and India's film industries and pave the way for more collaboration between producers, directors and artists from both regions.

The Premier also met with leaders from India's film industry at the event to promote Ontario as an ideal location for future productions. Ontario is a leading North American film and TV production centre that offers decades of experience, high-quality infrastructure and generous tax credits.

In 2011, Ontario became the first location in North America to host the International Indian Film Academy Weekend and Awards (IIFA). The event drew tens of thousands of visitors to Ontario and showcased the province to hundreds of millions of viewers around the world, while generating millions of dollars for the provincial economy by stimulating tourism, trade and investment. The awards show provided valuable exposure for Ontario by boosting tourism and strengthening the province's business ties with India.

Attracting new investment and helping the province's creative sector compete globally is part of the government's plan to build Ontario up and deliver on its number-one priority to grow the economy and create jobs. The four-part plan is

investing in people's talents and skills, making the largest investment in public infrastructure in Ontario's history, creating a dynamic, innovative environment where business thrives, and building a secure retirement savings plan.

QUICK FACTS

- Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh, star of such acclaimed films as Bajirao Mastani, attended the signing ceremony in Mumbai. Singh has won many awards for his work, including Star Debut of the Year – Male from the International Indian Film Academy Awards in 2011, the year it was hosted in Toronto.
- Ontario is the number one centre for film and TV production in Canada, and the third-largest film production location in North America, behind California and New York.
- In 2014, the Government of Canada signed an audiovisual co-production agreement with India, making it easier for producers from both countries to make films and TV shows together.
- The provincial budget for cultural media tax credits will increase from $399.7 million in 2014–15 to nearly $440 million in 2015–16.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- See how the Ontario Media Development Corporation supports the province’s creative economy
- Learn why Ontario is an ideal place to invest

QUOTES

"Ontario is one of the best locations in the world for film and TV production, and today’s event has reinforced our province’s reputation as a leader in the creative screen arts. With almost 700,000 people of Indian descent living in our province, and world-class production facilities, the partnership between Ontario and India’s film industries is a natural one. The agreements signed at today’s event will help bring Ontario and India closer — both on the screen and off."
— *Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario*

"Toronto is respected as one of the world’s premier filming locations due to the depth of production talent we have built over many years of success. We are delighted to share our best practices and experiences and to learn more from the achievements of India’s creative screen industries."
— *John Tory, Mayor of Toronto, Ontario*

"TIFF has a long history of working with India's film industry, made possible through the support of the City of Toronto and the Province of Ontario. These agreements are an important step towards building even more collaboration between Ontario and India, and we look forward to the exchange of new ideas and to the possibilities this will open up for filmmaking."

— *Cameron Bailey, Artistic Director, Toronto International Film Festival*

"The Toronto International Film Festival is one of the world's most dynamic and prestigious film festivals. I had the good fortune to have my film Dhobi Ghat premiere there and it was a wonderful experience for me. TIFF has always been very generous to MAMI and we are very happy to be growing our association with them. We hope to bring some of the expertise and excellence of TIFF to the Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival with Star."

— *Kiran Rao, Chairperson, Mumbai Academy of Moving Image*

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Sarah Brislin

From: Lauzon, Alicia #5681 <5681@YRP.CA>
Sent: February-18-16 10:40 AM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: RE: Music in the Streets vendors

Not at all. Thank you Sarah.

Alicia Lauzon
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Specialist, #5681
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Bureau

From: Sarah Brislin [mailto:sbrislin@georgina.ca]
Sent: February-18-16 10:39 AM
To: Lauzon, Alicia #5681
Subject: RE: Music in the Streets vendors

I will need a motion for this at the next meeting, is that too late?

From: Lauzon, Alicia #5681 [mailto:5681@YRP.CA]
Sent: February-18-16 10:37 AM
To: Sarah Brislin <sbrislin@georgina.ca>
Subject: Music in the Streets vendors

Hi Sarah,

At the last GEDAC meeting, I asked GEDAC if they would like a couple of members from YRP's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Bureau and a couple of members from YRP Pride (LGBT) to attend. If the whole idea behind inviting participants is for them to showcase their talent in the areas of food and dance, then maybe this is not the right venue for YRP.

If GEDAC is in agreement for YRP to attend, could you let me know, so I can extend the invitation to the specific units. Further, I will need GEDAC to email me a letter of invitation with the details of the event, time, location, etc., so that YRP can officially assign it to the unit and track it.

Thanks,
Alicia

Alicia Lauzon
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Specialist, #5681
York Regional Police
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Bureau
1-866-876-5423 Ext. 7643

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Town of Georgina Diversity and Inclusivity Policy

Our commitment to diversity and inclusivity

At the Town of Georgina, we strive to create an inclusive culture in which difference is recognized and valued. By bringing together men and women from diverse backgrounds and giving each person the opportunity to contribute their skills, experience and perspectives, we believe that we are able to deliver the best solutions to challenges and deliver quality municipal government services to our community residents.

What diversity and inclusion means for the Town of Georgina

- Embracing workforce diversity – age, gender, race, national or ethnic origin, religion, language, political beliefs, sexual orientation, physical and mental abilities.
- Valuing diversity of perspective – leveraging the diverse thinking, skills, experience and working styles of our employees and other stakeholders.
- Building a flexible organization – providing opportunities for work arrangements that accommodate the diverse needs of individuals at different career and life stages.
- Respecting stakeholder diversity – developing strong and sustainable relationships with diverse members of the public, employees, volunteers, customers and suppliers.

Why diversity and inclusion are important

We believe that being a diverse and inclusive organization improves business outcomes and will help the Georgina Equity and Diversity Committee (GEDAC) and the Town, achieve our vision of providing superior service delivery to residents and ratepayers *(or whatever the vision is of the GEDAC)*. Specifically, it helps us to:

- Make good decisions about how we organize and optimise resources and work by eliminating barriers to working together effectively;
- Respect and take into account, the needs and interests of diverse stakeholders in our decision making;
- Deliver strong performance and growth by being able to attract, engage and retain diverse talent;
- Innovate by drawing on the diverse perspectives, skills and experience of our employees and other stakeholders;
- Adapt and respond effectively to changing societal expectations.

How we support diversity and inclusion at the Town of Georgina

Our commitment to diversity and inclusion aligns with our values of accountability, respect, teamwork and integrity.

The Town of Georgina has established this policy and, together with the GEDAC, will guide the development of diversity and inclusion strategy and review progress against measurable objectives and key programmes of work. The GEDAC membership includes representatives from Council, staff, the York Regional Police Diversity & Cultural Bureau, the Chippewas of Georgina Island, Sandgate Women's Shelter, the York Region District School Board, the York Catholic District School Board and citizens of the community. The GEDAC provides direction for diversity and inclusion programmes, promotes an inclusive workplace culture and facilitates sharing of best practice across the organization.

Leaders across the Town of Georgina are expected to build diversity into their teams and to demonstrate, through their behaviours and actions, commitment to fostering workplaces where people feel included, valued and able to contribute their best. In accordance with our values, all of our employees are expected to demonstrate respect for their colleagues and all other stakeholders.

We work to educate employees about the benefits that diversity and inclusion bring to our organization and we will participate in research that aims to further the understanding of and improve diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

We are an equal opportunity employer. We employ on the basis of role requirements and in keeping with Human Rights legislation, we select people to roles based on their qualifications, skills and experience. We do not discriminate unfairly on grounds of age, gender, race, national or ethnic origin, language, religion, political beliefs, sexual orientation or physical or mental ability.

Our recruitment, deployment, reward and development practices, and our approach to working arrangements, are designed to attract and retain diverse talent and to accommodate individual needs at different career development and life stages.

We are committed to developing productive, mutually beneficial and long-term relationships with diverse groups of stakeholders. We work to accommodate the different cultures, lifestyles, heritage and preferences of our local community.