
2026 Ontario Budget Earmarks Additional \$300M for Sport and Recreation Infrastructure

Toronto, ON (March 26, 2026) – During the unveiling of the 2026 Ontario Budget at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance, announced an additional \$300 million investment in the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF). Since 2024, the Province has invested \$500 million in CSRIF to support the construction of new sport and recreation facilities, as well as upgrades to existing ones across Ontario.

Ontario's recreation infrastructure assets have served communities long past their expected lifespan, with at least 44% built a minimum of 25 years ago. Modern day recreation facilities are a significant financial investment for any community. Continuing and expanding this fund will ensure that communities are able to provide Ontarians with access to quality sport and recreation experiences.

“Sport and recreation are vital to the health, well-being, and vibrancy of Ontario communities,” says Jeff Pafford, Chair of PRO's Board of Directors. “This additional funding will help municipalities and organizations continue to provide spaces where people of all ages can stay active, connect, and thrive.”

The introduction of the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund in 2024 represented a significant starting point to addressing recreation infrastructure gaps across the province. With continued investment, the parks and recreation sector can better meet the needs of Ontario's growing and changing population.

“Infrastructure investments signal a government's values and priorities” says PRO's Acting Chief Executive Officer, Sarah Ane. “We will continue to collaborate with the provincial government to support ongoing, impactful investment in sport and recreation infrastructure.”

PRO believes every Ontarian can live healthy, active lifestyles and connect with their communities *because of* parks and recreation. As the voice for over 7,000 parks and recreation professionals, PRO is well-positioned to work collaboratively with the Province to ensure all Ontarians can enjoy quality sport and recreation experiences.

For more information, please contact:

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