# Safe Restart Agreement supports municipalities in Nipissing-Timiskaming For immediate release

December 18th, 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has put new pressure on municipalities. They are at the front line of the pandemic response, as they need to put in place precautions to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and manage public spaces and services.

The federal government recognized the important role played by municipalities in keeping Canadians healthy and safe and chose to support them in these difficult times through the Safe Restart Agreement.

In September 2020, the federal government announced it was providing the government of Ontario with over \$776 million in funding, matched by the province, to support municipalities throughout the province. In total, over \$5 billion were transferred to the government of Ontario to help keep people safe and healthy through the second wave.

Today, the government of Ontario along with the Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development announced how \$695 million of this fund will be allocated to municipalities across the province.

Municipalities in Nipissing-Timiskaming will receive \$581,000 to help them operate as they continue their important work of delivering key services and keeping the people in the riding healthy and safe

#### Quotes

"The residents of Nipissing-Timiskaming have done a tremendous job of keeping COVID-19 cases low by following all the protocols. We must remain vigilant as we are not done with this pandemic, however this funding will help protect constituents from a future outbreak, support the capacity of our health care systems and assist with obtaining more personal protective equipment for our essential workers."

-Hon. Anthony Rota, Member of Parliament Nipissing-Timiskaming

"Fighting COVID-19 and safely restarting our economy requires a Team Canada approach. We will continue to work together with provinces and territories to keep Canadians safe and healthy, and to build a more resilient Canada."

—The Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

## **Quick Facts**

 On July 16, 2020, the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister announced an agreement to safely restart the economy that involved over \$19 billion in funding from



- the federal government. The Safe Restart Agreement focuses on measures over six to eight months to restart the economy while protecting the health of Canadians.
- Over \$5 billions in federal investments were allocated to the government of Ontario to support them in their delivery and management of COVID-related response under seven key priorities:
  - o Testing, contact tracing, and data management
  - o Health care capacity, including mental health and substance use
  - o Protecting vulnerable populations, including seniors in long-term care facilities
  - Securing personal protective equipment
  - Child care for returning workers
  - o Support for municipalities, including for public transit
  - Sick leave
- In September 2020, the federal government transferred over \$4.8 billions of the Safe Restart Agreement funds to the government of Ontario.
- Total federal funding for municipalities and transit systems in Ontario is \$1,776 billion (\$1B for transit and \$776M for municipalities). With the provincial cost-match, this means a total of over \$3.5 billions are available to support municipalities, including transit systems
- On December 16<sup>th</sup> 2020, the Government of Ontario announced their decision on the second round of funding allocation to municipalities - a total of \$695 millions.
  - \$229 million is allocated across all 444 municipalities in Ontario, as operating budgets are being finalized.
  - \$396 million is also allocated to 48 municipalities that have been hit the hardest with additional operating costs due to COVID-19.

### **Associated Links**

- Safe Restart Agreement letter from Premier Ford
- Safe Restart Agreement
- More support for Canadians through the Safe Restart Agreement
- Joint Communiqué Safe Restart Agreement

# **Contact**

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