

Maple Park receives over \$300K in federal funding for washrooms, enhancements, and storage replacement

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Welland, ON – Today, the federal government announced \$313,797 in funding for significant enhancements to Welland's Maple Park as part of the Canada Community Revitalization Fund. The total project is estimated at \$418,396.

The Maple Park enhancements provide three critical upgrades to a well-used public park washroom over 60 years old. These enhancements include:

1. Construction of new accessible washrooms and separate storage space;
2. Installation of a hard-surface pathway to the washroom from the adjacent splash pad and nearby street; and
3. Enhanced beautification of the area for safe outdoor public enjoyment by installing garbage/recycle bins, trees, and "Let's Chat" benches to support age-friendly interaction.

"Investment in our City ensures we grow as a community and that we maintain our well-visited public spaces," said Mayor Frank Campion. "As municipal leaders, it is our responsibility to seek funding opportunities that create more fulsome communities for our residents, and the federal government, through this grant, acknowledges the importance of Welland's parks and public spaces."

The park's enhancement of the washroom, storage, pathway, and benches, creates access to the restroom, as the facility is not currently equipped at this time under the Accessibility for Ontarians Disabilities Act (AODA) standards. Additionally, the enhancements promote increased accessibility among Welland seniors to engage and visit the park and families using the washrooms as needed.

"As a former mayor, I've experienced first-hand the positive results when we invest in our communities," said member of Parliament for Niagara Centre Vance Badawey. "We attract new investments from the private sector and ensure the businesses that already thrive in our municipalities can attract and keep qualified employees who contribute to a stronger local economy, while offering improved amenities for those who already call Niagara Centre home. As we finish our fight with COVID-19, it's crucial we look to the future and restart the process of strengthening the Niagara brand."

Construction for this project is estimated to begin September 29, 2021. While under construction, portable washrooms will be installed so that the public continues to have access to accommodations.

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