

# Province Marks Milestone Year With More Than 2000 Events & Initiatives

TORONTO: Community engagement was at the heart of Ontario's 150th anniversary celebrations, with more than 2,000 events and initiatives that built pride, celebrated inclusivity, promoted innovation and opportunity and boosted local economies.

Throughout 2017, the province supported 698 community groups, municipalities, Indigenous communities and other organizations in marking the 150th anniversary, generating

unique social, economic or cultural impacts and legacies. Highlights include:

- Ontario hosted the third Invictus Games which featured more than 550 competitors from 17 nations competing in 12 adaptive sports. The Games were the largest to date and generated \$42.2 million in economic impact for local communities. Thousands of spectators cheered on competitors, packing into sold-out events such as wheelchair



rugby, wheelchair basketball and the closing ceremony.

- Though three community grant programs, Ontario support-

ed 648 organizations in marking the milestone year by investing in celebration, youth and infrastructure programs meaningful to local communities.

- The ONtour Concert Series stopped in 24 communities across the province, showcasing the province's talent, creativity and diversity by featuring 63 Ontario-based musical artists and entertaining more than 112,000 music-lovers of all ages.

- SESQUI, with its innovative 360° film, HORIZON, generated more than \$15M in economic impact in Ontario through its seven-community cinematic dome tour and its additional tour to another five communities. The project also created other legacies, such as new expertise in Ontario's immersive media sector, and innovations in filmmaking.

#### QUICK FACTS

- A Place to Stand became the unofficial Ontario anthem for a new generation, with more than 70,000 Youtube views and thousands more plays on SoundCloud and Spotify and at events, concerts and class recitals throughout the year.

- The province took another step towards reconciliation by supporting more than 100 application-based projects and major initiatives that were Indigenous-led, had a strong Indigenous focus or showcased Indigenous culture, heritage and traditions.

- Through the Ontario150 Community Capital Program, accessibility improvements were supported at 61 community facilities across the province, helping to meet increasing demands for service.

- The Re-greening Ontario initiative distributed 16,000 white pine seed pods – each containing 10 seeds for Ontario's official tree – with the potential to one day generate up to 125,850,000 kg of offset carbon.

## Peel Police Tips On Crime Prevention

REGION OF PEEL – Peel Regional Police are reminding homeowners to be cautious while away on vacation as there has been an increase of residential break-ins during the holiday season.

With the inclement weather and snow accumulation over the last few weeks, homes are easily identified as being unoccupied and are made for an easy target for a break-in.

If homeowners are planning to be away, Peel Regional Police are reminding homeowners to have trusted neighbours, friends, or family members check on their residence, including the clearing of snow around entrances, driveways, and garages.

Additionally, homeowners should place interior lights on timers, install external motion sensor lights, and have their mail or papers removed from the front of the residence.

If possible, homeowners could also ask a neighbour to park a vehicle in their driveway while they are away. Peel Regional Police has reminded all residents to be vigilant in keeping an eye on their neighbourhoods and to report any suspicious activity to the police. Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or by visiting [www.peelcrimestoppers.ca](http://www.peelcrimestoppers.ca).



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