

\$71,600 Grant Helps Paris Port Dover Pipe Band Keep Cool

St George, ON – On Saturday, Paris Port Dover Pipe Band (PPDPB) recognized a \$71,600 Capital stream grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to support the installation of a new cost effective, efficient, and environmentally friendly heating and ventilation system at the St. George Memorial Hall, which the band rents and practices in. While headquartered in Haldimand-Norfolk, the band rents the practice hall in Brantford-Brant and is active across both communities.

“This Trillium grant is a true win-win,” said Haldimand-Norfolk MPP Bobbi Ann Brady. “The money will be used to provide an improved space for the Paris Port Dover Pipe Band to practice and will also provide improvements to the St. George Memorial Hall. Our small towns rely on these groups to keep them active and vibrant.”

Thanks to this generous grant from the OTF, St. George Memorial Hall will get the much-needed HVAC system required to regulate the temperature all year long, with proper heat in the colder months and the much-needed cooler inside temperature during the warmer months. Having the HVAC system will allow the Memorial Hall to be more accessible with comfortable space and cleaner indoor air and will provide much more comfortable year-round band practices as well as more opportunities to involve the local and surrounding communities in many types of events. A new HVAC system will extend and preserve the life of this iconic building, a memorial to the soldiers who fought in World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. It is one of the oldest First World War memorials in Ontario and the oldest in Brant County area.

“I am pleased to see the Ontario Trillium Foundation supporting the Paris Port Dover Pipe Band”, added Brantford-Brant MPP Will Bouma. “This amazing organization not only showcases, teaches and promotes Scottish culture and music, but also assists with various ceremonies, memorials, parades and events through band performances. Well done!”

“The Paris Port Dover Pipe Band is extremely grateful for the very generous grant provided by the Ontario Trillium Foundation,” said Gord Black, Senior Pipe Major, and Executive Director. “The funds from this grant will be used to replace furnaces and install an HVAC system on all three levels throughout the entire building. This will allow the band to practice in comfort throughout every season throughout the entire year in the St. George Memorial Hall. Not only does Paris Port Dover Pipe Band benefit from this grant, the South Dumfries Historical Society, who own the hall, and the local and surrounding communities will also all benefit since the Memorial Hall will be comfortably usable throughout the year and for many years to come. Additionally, the new HVAC system will help preserve the condition of the Memorial Hall, which is designated as a Historical Structure.”

The mandate of the Paris Port Dover Pipe Band is to act as ambassadors of Canada, the Province of Ontario, and the counties of Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk. PPDPB strives to achieve excellence in the performance of Scottish music, to instruct group lessons for young people of any skill level free of charge, provide them with opportunities to play with an accomplished band, develop their character therein, and support local service clubs and non-profit groups at various ceremonies, memorials, parades, and events. For more information on the teaching program or engaging the band’s services, please visit the website at: ppdpb.com.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada’s leading granting foundations celebrates 40 years of grantmaking in Ontario and making a lasting impact in communities. Last year, OTF invested nearly \$209M into 2,042 community projects and partnerships, which included funding for the Government of Ontario’s Community Building Fund. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

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