

\$5,000 Grant Helps Paris Port Dover Pipe Band March Forward

Haldimand-Norfolk and Brant County, ON – In April 2022, Paris Port Dover Pipe Band (PPDPB) received a \$5,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation's Resilient Communities Fund. This grant, over 12 months, will help PPDPB recover from the impact of COVID-19 by working on strategic planning to understand and focus on what types of programs will help the band move forward in a different landscape than two years ago. While headquartered in Haldimand-Norfolk, the band rents a practice hall in Brantford-Brant and is active across both communities.

"The Port Dover Paris Pipe Band has been a proud tradition in our local parades for many years; however, their scope in the community goes well beyond these events," said Haldimand-Norfolk MPP Bobbi Ann Brady. "The pandemic has posed unprecedented challenges for groups like the pipe band who lost ability to operate and fundraise. I hope these Trillium dollars allow this wonderful group to march forward."

Will Bouma, MPP for Brantford-Brant, added: "The Paris Port Dover Pipe Band is a unique and integral part of our local music community. I am thankful this grant has provided guidance to enable them to continue their rich contributions to Scottish music and culture."

Thanks to this grant, PPDPB will be able to hire a strategic planning consultant to work with the Board of Directors to understand and develop innovative ways to move forward from COVID-19 and be able to support new students, current members, and the local communities. This will allow the band to explore new innovative ways to deliver our existing program as well as continue instructing students/members from all demographics, ensuring equity and opportunity amongst members, regardless of cultural and socio-economic background. The focus of PPDPB has always been the development of youth in Scottish music and culture. Enabling members to look and sound their best through teaching, mentoring, and providing quality instruments and uniforms fits in with the overall mandate of performing and representing the local community with excellence.

"The Paris Port Dover Pipe Band is extremely grateful for the grant provided by the Ontario Trillium Foundation," said Gord Black, Senior Pipe Major and Executive Director. "As we emerge from the pandemic and reflect on these past few years, there is little doubt that they have had a lasting effect on our organization, and how we do business. The opportunity to update our strategic plan gives us a chance to make short- and long-term adaptations to the important work that we do within our community. This plan will set us up with a path forward that will allow for our collective success into the future."

About the Paris Port Dover Pipe Band

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)

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) mission is to build healthy and vibrant communities across Ontario. As an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's leading granting foundations, 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. Since 2020, OTF has supported Ontario's economic recovery by helping non-profit organizations rebuild and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

Media Contact

Gord Black – Senior Pipe Major and Executive Director, Paris Port Dover Pipe Band
info@parisdover.com