

Ontario Expanding Trails in Time for the “People’s Games”

People Across the Province Will Benefit from the 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games

NEWS

October 3, 2013

Premier Kathleen Wynne announced today that Ontario is expanding its world-class trails system as a key legacy initiative of the 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games. This will help complete 250 kilometres in gaps in Ontario’s Trans Canada Trail and connect communities from Ottawa to Windsor and Fort Erie to Huntsville.

The province is investing more than \$3.5 million in Pan Am/Parapan Am Trails to help create a continuous trail of more than 2,000 kilometres.

Investing in infrastructure for the 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games is part of the Ontario government’s three-part plan to grow the economy. The government is also focused on investing in people and fostering a dynamic, innovative business environment. Investments related to the Games will create 26,000 jobs.

QUOTES

“I want to ensure that all of the people of this province benefit from our investments in the Pan Am and Parapan Am Games, because that is how we can grow as One Ontario. Extending our trails system and connecting more communities is a great way for the excitement of the Games to live on well beyond 2015.”

—Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario

“The Pan Am and Parapan Am Trails will connect communities beyond the Golden Horseshoe to the 2015 Games, and connect residents and visitors alike with the spirit of the Games come 2015 and beyond. An incredible legacy, the Pan Am and Parapan Am Trails will promote healthy lifestyles while providing valuable recreational and active transportation opportunities for Ontarians of all ages and abilities to enjoy while exploring and experiencing the natural beauty that is synonymous with Ontario.”

— Michael Chan, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport and Minister Responsible for the 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games

“I know the people of Ajax-Pickering and across Ontario will utilize these trails for years to come. The trail extensions will ensure our communities are connected like never before. Not only will they enjoy year-round hiking trails, trout fishing and picnic and recreation opportunities, but they will also be connected culturally to our beloved Pickering museum.”

— Joe Dickson, MPP, Ajax-Pickering

“The Trans Canada Trail and its provincial partner Trans Canada Trail Ontario are delighted to work with the provincial government to connect Ontario communities. These new trails will bridge gaps in our national trail, bringing us closer to our goal of linking Canadians from coast to coast to coast by 2017. This section of the Trans Canada Trail will extend the benefits of the Pan Am/Parapan Am Games to millions of Ontarians.”

— Valerie Pringle, Trans Canada Trail Ontario Co-Chair

QUICK FACTS

- Ontario has more than 80,000 km of trails that support recreation, tourism and active transportation.
- The Pan Am and Parapan Am Trails are part of Ontario's Promotion, Celebration and Legacy Strategy for the Games.
- The province will work with First Nation and Métis communities and organizations to incorporate Aboriginal markers along the trails to honour the history and culture of Aboriginal communities in Ontario.
- Trails will connect to four major Pan Am and Parapan Am Games venues – CIBC Pan Am/Parapan Am Athletes' Village, CIBC Pan Am Park, CIBC Hamilton Soccer Stadium and Pan Am/Parapan Am Fields.
- All consultations related to Pan Am/Parapan Am trails will address accessibility requirements under the new Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

LEARN MORE

[Read about Ontario's promotion, celebration and legacy plans for the 2015 Games.](#)