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MEDIA RELEASE

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\$316,500 Community Building Fund Capital Grant Provided Upgrades to the Tay Community Rink

Port McNicoll, ON: On Friday, Tay Township officials and Leslie Stroud, Constituency Assistant to the Hon. Jill Dunlop, MPP for Simcoe North were at the Tay Community Rink to formally congratulate them on the work done as a result of receiving a \$316,500 Community Building Fund-Capital grant from the Government of Ontario and administered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF). The grant, awarded at the end of 2021, was designed to help with repairs and renovation costs for sports and recreation facilities to ensure people continued to have great community spaces for activities. Funds from the grant were used to convert the Rink's storage room into changerooms, including additional accessible washrooms and shower facilities.

"As MPP for Simcoe North, I am thrilled with our government's significant investment through the OTF grant program to support Tay Township," said Jill Dunlop, MPP. "This funding is instrumental in enhancing the use of the Tay Community Rink, which is enjoyed by so many families in the area."

The Tay Community Rink is an NHL-size, refrigerated, covered, outdoor rink, located in Port McNicoll. In 2023, the Tay Community Rink provided over 28 hours of free public use per week and had over 400 rentals. Thanks to the grant from the province and OTF, additional change rooms and washrooms will better enhance the facilities operational capacity to handle the public and user groups more effectively.

"Increasing the number of changerooms, including accessible washrooms and showers for each, from two to four will also eliminate down time between same gender hockey team rentals, and will provide flexibility and options to support mixed-gender usage, making the facility welcoming and available to individuals of all gender identities," said Ted Walker, Mayor of Tay Township.

"Non-profit organizations across Ontario deliver programming that makes a difference," said Neil Lumsden, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport. "That's why funding that my ministry is providing through the OTF is so important. Our government wants to ensure that these programs and spaces remain the heart of communities across our province."

Tay Township is committed to preserving this space and ensuring that it remains accessible for many community activities over the course of the year. Please visit tay.ca/rinks for more information on the Tay Community Rink and how you can access it all year round.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation's (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 over \$110M into 1,022 community projects and partnerships. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

Tay Township is committed to delivering responsive and cost-effective municipal services and infrastructure that provide for the long-term economic, social and environmental well-being of its residents and community.

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