

5 Things Friday



What your government did for you this week.

2017 Canada Summer Games

Some 450 athletes, coaches, managers, support staff, technicians and mission staff from across Ontario are set to represent the province at the 2017 Canada Summer Games in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Competing at the Canada Summer Games allows Ontario's athletes to gain the elite competition experience that they need to excel on the world stage. More than 4,000 athletes from all of Canada's provinces and territories will compete in 16 sports at this year's Games, which take place from July 28th to August 13th, 2017. Ontario's year-round support for its high performance amateur athletes is part of Game ON: The Ontario Government's Sport Plan. 105 athletes competing at this year's Canada Summer Games are receiving funding.



Ontario Partnering with Legend 3D Inc

 Ontario has partnered with [Legend 3D, Inc.](#) to help grow the company's major Canadian studio. The company will nearly double its current workforce, creating 271 new jobs and retaining 280 positions in Toronto. Legend 3D is a global leader in visual effects for movies, television and the virtual reality sector with notable clients such as Sony Pictures, Marvel Studios, Warner Bros., Paramount Pictures and Walt Disney Studios. Funding from Ontario's [Jobs and Prosperity Fund](#) will support hiring and training employees, as well as research and development and equipment and facility upgrades. The bulk of the 551 jobs will focus on post production, special effects and 2D to 3D conversion, as well as research and development for software.

Investment and Innovation

Premier Kathleen Wynne will lead a delegation to China and Vietnam this fall to strengthen trade partnerships and promote Ontario as a key centre for investment and innovation. This is the first-ever Ontario Premier's mission to Vietnam, and Premier Wynne's third mission to China. These meetings will be an opportunity to promote Ontario as an ideal trading partner and one of the best places in the world to invest and open up new markets for Ontario businesses. As part of Ontario's strategy to forge diverse trading relationships around the globe and create opportunities for businesses at home, this mission will focus on exploring further partnerships in the medical technologies, science and technology, and agri-food sectors.



Gender Equality



Ontario is taking action to close the gender gap and give women and girls equal access to opportunities in the sport and recreation sector. The plan outlines actions that the province will take to increase the number of women and girls who are athletes, coaches and sport administrators across the province. These include requiring all before and after school program staff to be trained in diversity and establishing an advisory group to identify actions that will remove barriers to women and girls participating in sport and physical activity. Creating equitable opportunities in sport for women and girls can lead to higher self-confidence, better grades, and enhanced leadership and career opportunities.

30x30 Challenge

Ontario Parks is encouraging people in Ontario to participate in the 30x30 Challenge, a concept created by the David Suzuki Foundation, which challenges people to reconnect with nature by spending 30 minutes a day outside for 30 days. Time spent outdoors can help boost your immune system, decrease stress, and help alleviate symptoms of some mental health issues. If you're looking for a change of scenery, Ontario Parks can be a great starting place. On August 16, all provincial parks across Ontario will be offering free day use to help re-energize and complete the last half of the 30x30 Challenge!