

Cross Ministry Funders Forum

Cornwall Ontario - 10/07/2025



Territorial Acknowledgement

Agenda

- MRA- Alex de Wit
- MLITSD – Pina Gilmour
- MEDJCT – Denis Lapierre
- MTCG – Regional Development Advisor
- OMAFA – Magloire Ngnitedem

Rural Ontario Development (ROD) program

Information Session

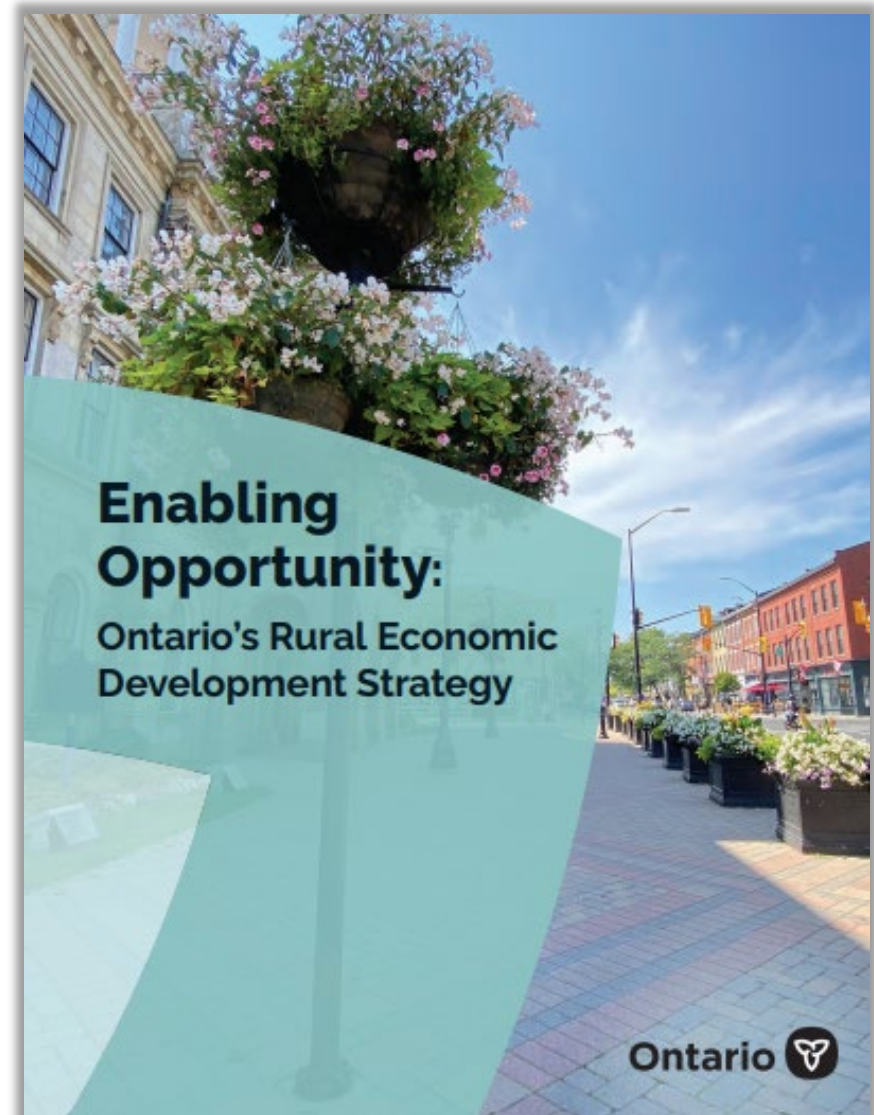
Overview

The Rural Ontario Development (ROD) program replaces the Rural Economic Development (RED) program.

This modernized and enhanced program will offer \$20 million in funding over 2 years.

The ROD program supports the objectives of Enabling Opportunity: Ontario's Rural Economic Development Strategy.

Deadline to apply in this intake is
Sept. 24, 2025 at 5 pm



Program Outcomes

The ROD program has eight outcomes :



Increased capacity and effectiveness for rural economic development



Jobs attracted or retained



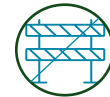
Workforce development challenges addressed



Transformed or modernized community assets that drive economic growth and resiliency



Regional partnerships that strengthen local economies and resiliency



Economic barriers addressed in rural Ontario, including those of Indigenous communities







Businesses attracted, retained and expanded



Investment attracted or retained

ROD Program Funding Overview

Streams	Economic Diversification, Competitiveness, and Capacity Building 	Workforce Development, Attraction and Retention 	Community Infrastructure Enhancements 	Business Development 
Audience	Municipalities, Not-for-Profit organizations, Indigenous communities and non-profit organizations and Local Services Boards			Small businesses in Rural Ontario
Description	Projects that support communities to build economic development capacity and implement strategies that increase competitiveness to retain businesses, attract investment and enhance growth	Projects that support communities to implement strategies and/or to undertake initiatives for attracting and retaining workers	Projects that update or transform community assets that have been identified as important to the community's economy	Projects to support small businesses to be economically sustainable, competitive and diversify their markets
Sub-streams and provincial cost-share	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Diversification and Competitiveness – 50% cost-share up to \$150,000 Strategies & Plans - 50% cost-share up to \$50,000 Capacity Building Events – 35% cost-share up to \$10,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% and cost-share up to \$150,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large projects - 35% cost share up to \$250,000 Small projects - 35% cost share up to \$25,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35% cost share up to \$10,000
Assessment process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects are selected using a competitive merit-based process 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligibility Funds will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis

Intake Periods

Intake	Intake period*	Application deadline
Intake 1	June 24, 2025 – September 24, 2025	September 24, 2025, at 5 p.m. ET.
Intake 2	January 19, 2026 – February 26, 2026	February 26, 2026, at 5 p.m. ET.
Intake 3	August 17, 2026 – October 1, 2026	October 1, 2026, at 5 p.m. ET.
Intake 4	January 18, 2027 – February 25, 2027	February 25, 2027, at 5 p.m. ET.

*dates maybe subject to change

Resources and Supports

Program Materials

www.ontario.ca/RODprogram

- Program Guidelines
- Applications
- Recording of this session will be shared with participants

Rural and Urban Areas [Map](#)

Questions General ROD Program

1-877-424-1300

RODprogram@ontario.ca

Virtual Coaching

- Community Development Projects ONLY* - Appointments with MRA advisors can be scheduled at this [link](#)

*Questions related to business stream projects may be directed to the General ROD program email/phone number noted above

Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development

Skills Development Fund

**Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
Employment Training Division**

**Summer Funders Series
Employment Training Division - MLITSD
Summer 2025**

Skills Development Fund (SDF) Training Stream

The **Skills Development Fund (SDF) Training Stream** launched in **February 2021** and supports projects intended to focus on economic growth, ensure a resilient workforce by supporting access into the labour market, encourage partnerships to enhance the development of a skilled workforce, and support in-demand sectors.

The most recent call for applications (Round 5) was launched on **July 29, 2024**, and was closed on **October 11, 2024**.

Skills Development Fund (SDF) Training Stream

Economic Growth

SDF Training Stream continues to address skill and workforce development challenges in the labour market, encouraging partnerships across the economy to align education, training and skills development with the needs of the local labour market and employers, with a focus on:

Supporting employee upskilling/training, the development of tools/supports for employers to enhance development of a skilled workforce.

Enabling market driven solutions and unlock economic potential of skilled trades and broader workforce development initiatives.

Improving the capacity of communities to respond to labour market shocks.

Areas of Focus / Eligible Activities



Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship
Projects



Employer/Organization Focus



Research/Prototyping and
Development Projects



Workforce Development

SDF Eligibility

Eligible Organizations

- Employers in Ontario (other than Educational organizations listed)
- Minister-approved non-college apprenticeship Training Delivery Agents (TDAs)
- Non-profit organizations, including Indigenous Band offices and Indigenous Skills and Employment Training agreement holders
- Professional/Industry/Employer associations
- Trade unions or union-affiliated organizations
- Municipalities, District Social Services Administration Boards, Consolidated Municipal Service Managers, hospitals

Ineligible Organizations

- District School Boards
- Publicly assisted colleges, universities or Indigenous Institutes in Ontario
- Career colleges registered under the Ontario Career Colleges Act, 2005

www.ontario.ca/page/skills-development-fund

Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

Funding Programs

- Ontario Together Trade Fund (OTTF)
- Eastern Ontario Development Fund (EODF)
- Advanced Manufacturing and Innovative Competitiveness Fund (AMIC)
- Trade Impacted Communities Program (TICP)

Ontario Together Trade Fund (OTTF)

OTTF provides financial support to help Ontario businesses make near-term investments, so they can serve more interprovincial customers, develop new markets and re-shore critical supply chains in the face of **U.S. tariffs**.

Eligibility

- at least three years of operations/financial statements
- employ at least 5 people
- invest at least \$200,000 in the project
- located in, or plan to locate in, a community in Ontario
- **Projects must address the impacts of U.S. trade disruptions on their business.**

Types of Funding

Loans:

- Up to 75% of eligible costs
- Maximum \$5 million
- interest-free for the project period (2 years)
- Up to 30% loan forgiveness

Grants:

- Up to 75% of eligible costs
- Maximum \$5 Million

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-together-trade-fund>

Eastern Ontario Development Fund (EODF)

EODF supports SMEs in the manufacturing sector to **grow**, improve **productivity**, invest in **innovation and skills** development, pursue **new markets**, create good, sustainable **jobs** and generate broad positive **regional impacts**.

Eligibility

- at least three years of operations/financial statements
- employ at least 5 people
- commit to creating at least five new jobs
- invest at least \$500,000 in the project (\$200K in rural areas)
- located in, or plan to locate in, a community in Ontario

Types of Funding

Loans:

- Up to 15% of eligible costs
- Maximum \$5 million
- interest-free for the project period (3-4 years)
- Up to 30% loan forgiveness

Grants:

- Up to 15% of eligible costs
- Maximum \$500,000
- Only available to SMEs with less than 100 FTE in rural areas

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/eastern-ontario-development-fund>

Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Competitiveness (AMIC)

AMIC supports small and medium sized companies seeking to improve their competitiveness by investing in technology, equipment, reshoring manufacturing, or skills.

Eligibility

- at least three years of operations/financial statements
- employ at least 10 people
- commit to creating at least five new jobs and/or upskilling current jobs
- invest at least \$500,000 in the project
- located in, or plan to locate in, a community in Ontario

Types of Funding

Loans:

- Up to 15% of eligible costs
- Maximum \$5 million
- interest-free for the project period (3-4 years)
- Up to 30% loan forgiveness

Grants:

- Up to 15% of eligible costs
- Maximum \$500,000
- **Only available to SMEs with less than 100 FTE in rural areas**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/regional-development-program-advanced-manufacturing-and-innovation-competitiveness-stream>

Trade Impacted Communities Program (TICP) – Stream 1

Stream 1 supports community projects that respond to U.S. trade disruption, including immediate resiliency measures, the development and implementation of local strategies, and efforts to diversify export markets.

Eligibility

- municipal government
- economic development org.
- sector or industry association
- at least 2 years of substantive operational experience
- be operating within Ontario
- be compliant with the AODA

Eligible Project Examples

- local supplier forums
- job fairs
- site selection activities
- asset mapping
- supply-chain studies
- sister-city partnerships
- market intelligence or export development supports
- trade shows

Types of Funding

Grants:

- Up to 100% of eligible costs
- \$250,000 - \$2 Million

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/trade-impacted-communities-program>

Trade Impacted Communities Program (TICP) – Stream 2

Stream 2 supports large-scale, collaborative projects designed to grow and transform local clusters and industrial supply chains to bolster Ontario’s competitiveness and economic resiliency.

Eligibility

- **Joint project applications are required**
- project must have one lead from the list of eligible applicants.
- Other partners could include private sector organizations, post-secondary institutions, labour unions, business accelerators or incubators or other local organizations.

Eligible Project Examples

- reshoring critical supply chains to support the growth of domestic manufacturing capacity
- driving industrial transformation and regional economic diversification
- expanding global partnerships to support market diversification

Types of Funding

Grants:

- Up to 100% of eligible costs
- \$2 - 10 Million
- **Applications only accepted until September 11, 2025**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/trade-impacted-communities-program>

For More Information....

Denis Lapierre

Senior Business Advisor

Denis.lapierre@ontario.ca

613.415.8384

- Counties of Prescott & Russell
- Counties of Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry
- Cornwall
- Counties of Leeds & Grenville
- Brockville
- Prescott
- Akwesasne

Kent Fitzhugh

Senior Business Advisor

Kent.Fitzhugh@ontario.ca

613.539.5479

- Kingston,
- Belleville,
- Frontenac County,
- Lennox & Addington County,
- Prince Edward County,
- Quinte West,
- Deseronto,
- Township of Tyendinaga,
- Gananoque

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming

Grants and what we do...

Regional Development Advisor
Regional Services Branch

Regional Services Branch – What we do



Transfer Payment Administration and Program Delivery

Delivers ministry financial and non-financial programs and services to primarily not-for-profit organizations in communities throughout the province



Capacity Building and Organizational Support

Builds and fosters relationships amongst organizations and all levels of government

Provides consultation services and advice to potential applicants for ministry funding programs and monitors projects



Providing Local Intelligence

Shares knowledge such as local issues and community development

Provides information and advice for the development of government programs and policies



PUBLIC RELATIONS

Public Affairs Support

Provides support for public affairs activities which includes the co-ordination and preparation of products for tours and events involving the Premier, Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Assistant Deputy Ministers

Regional Services Branch – Multi-Ministry Support



Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming (MTCG)

MTCG provides funding through grants and investment agencies

Regional Services Branch (RSB) supports and provides program delivery for several Ontario ministries

Festival and event funding

- Experience Ontario
- Marquee Event Program

Summer Employment Opportunities Program

Museums and Libraries

Agencies

Ontario Arts Council (OAC) - [Ontario Arts Council - Home](#)

Ontario Creates - [Homepage](#)

Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund (OCAF) - [Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund](#)

Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) - [Ontario Trillium Foundation](#)

Regional Services Branch – Multi-Ministry Support

Regional Services Branch (RSB) supports and provides program delivery for several Ontario ministries:

Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility (MSAA)	Ministry of Sport	Ministry of Francophone Affairs (MFA)	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM)
Seniors Community Grant	Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund	Francophone Community Grant Program	Racialized and Indigenous Supports for Entrepreneurs Grant
Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone	Ontario Sport Hosting Program		Anti-Hate Security and Prevention Program
Seniors Active Living Centres	Community Aboriginal Recreation Activator		Volunteer Service Awards Ceremonies (Nov. 15 Deadline each year)

2025–26 Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone -EASE

Program Timelines

November 2025 to September 30, 2026

Application Info

Open from July 4 to August 14, 2025 via Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON)

Grant Information

Funding: Up to \$60,000 per project

Eligibility

Municipalities, Not-for-profit organizations (one year +)
Indigenous governing bodies

Who **Cannot** Apply

Individuals, for-profit organizations, schools, hospitals, post-secondary institutions

Regional Services Branch

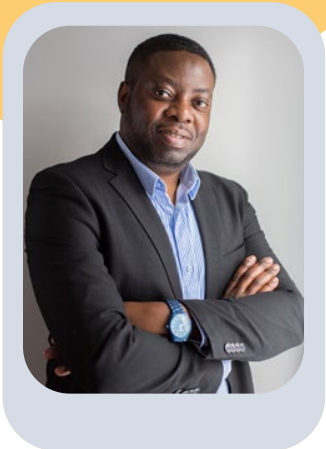
Links

- [Ontario Funding Opportunities](#)
- [Regional development advisors | ontario.ca](#)
- [Ontario Subscriptions](#)

Food & Beverage Advisory Services

2025 Summer Funders Forums Series - Cornwall

July 09, 2025



Magloire Ngnitedem (EN/FR)
Economic and Business Advisor
613-410-6715 | [Newsletter](#)
magloire.ngnitedem@ontario.ca

Domestic Trade and Investment Unit
Labour, Trade and Economic Development Branch
Economic Development Division



Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership

The [Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership](#) (Sustainable CAP) is a \$3.5 billion, 5-year agreement (April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2028) between the federal, provincial and territorial governments. It replaces the Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

- Agri-Tech Innovation Initiative
- Grow Ontario Market Initiative
- Dairy Processing Modernization Initiative
- Meat Processors Capacity Improvement Initiative
- Etc...

More information: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/sustainable-canadian-agricultural-partnership>

Questions

