

Nipissing Point of View

FALL 2021



Vic Fedeli MPP



The Year in Review

And what a year it has been, so far! The COVID-19 pandemic has been front and centre in all our lives, and as Fall is upon us, this is a good time to take stock. We begin with a thank you! Thank you to our frontline healthcare workers for all you have done. Thank you to our emergency responders for keeping our families safe. And thank you to everyone who has reached out to support family and friends in need of assistance. As a community, we simply could not be where we are without all of that love and support. And thank you for literally rolling up your sleeves – over 85% of Ontarians 12+ have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine! We also want to take stock of the many supports the provincial government has put in place in response to all of your needs. So far this year, \$150 million in new/additional funding has been delivered into Nipissing.

\$17.6 Million to Support Our Most Vulnerable

During 2020, in response to increased pressure on the vulnerable population, the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board received \$8 million from the Province (compared to \$1.5 million in 2019). This enabled the first low barrier shelter – 16 units of transitional housing and 20 units of supportive housing. In addition, a Mobile Nurse Practitioner pilot was established to provide primary care to those living in shelters and social housing.

In 2021, the DNSSAB was allocated \$7.1 million in Provincial funding for homelessness. This funding has supported 10 different community agencies to mitigate the risks of homelessness. Some of these initiatives include food security programs, rent and utility relief, a rent bank program, youth homelessness supports and programming, Indigenous homelessness programs, and street outreach programs. This includes \$2.9 million to be used to implement longer-term solutions for the emergency shelter capacity issues.



In addition, the Ontario government invested over \$2.5 million with the North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre to give people who are homeless, or at risk of being homeless, the housing and support services they need. Under construction now are 17 new apartments, located on Cassells Street.

\$25 Million for Broadband

Reliable, high-speed internet is on its way to a further 8,500 homes in our area. **\$25 million** has been announced in a joint provincial-federal agreement to support large-scale, fibre-based projects. "Having a reliable internet connection will help boost the economic prosperity of our communities and region," said MPP Vic Fedeli. "For too long, our Northern and rural families and businesses have lacked access to fast and reliable high-speed Internet, impacting their ability to work, learn, and keep in touch with family and friends. The COVID-19 pandemic has made addressing this divide even more urgent." The communities include Bonfield, Callander, Calvin, East Ferris, Nipissing, Powassan, Mattawa, North Bay, and Trout Creek.

In addition, a \$425,000 project to upgrade broadband infrastructure for 200 homes and businesses in Chisholm was announced. The government of Ontario is investing \$267,473 while Spectrum Group is providing \$127,368 and the Township of Chisholm is contributing \$29,719 to support the project.

Finally, an innovative, high-performance broadband initiative will bring access to underserved residents located across multiple communities within Nipissing First Nation. It will serve as a model for other communities across the province looking to extend high performance internet service to underserved areas that are greater than 5 km from well-served locations.

CONSTITUENCY OFFICE:

219 Main Street East, North Bay, Ontario P1B 1B2 • Phone: 705-474-8340 • Email: vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org

Seniors



New Long-term Care Home for Trout Creek

A new 96-bed long-term care home has been approved for the community of Trout Creek. It is part of the Ontario government's historic investment in 80 new long-term care projects. These spaces are part of the government's delivery of 30,000 much-needed long-term care spaces over ten years. "Families in Nipissing have been eagerly awaiting this announcement, replacing the 66-bed facility that was closed a number of years ago," said MPP Vic Fedeli.

\$5 million for Eastholme in Powassan

Eastholme long-term care home in Powassan received \$5,322,947 in Provincial and Federal funding to improve air flow, providing care, comfort, and safety to residents. "This investment will benefit many of the most vulnerable people in our community, providing them with the comfortable and safe living spaces they deserve," said MPP Vic Fedeli.

Expanding Community Paramedicine

The Ontario government has invested over \$3.2 million to expand the Community Paramedicine for Long-Term Care program in North Bay. This initiative will help more seniors on long-term care waitlists stay safe while living in the comfort of their own homes for longer. "Individuals eligible for long-term care homes in North Bay will receive 24/7, non-emergency support, through home visits and remote monitoring that is responsive to changes or escalation in their health conditions," said MPP Vic Fedeli.

\$1 Million for Long-Term Care Homes

The Ontario government invested over \$1 million additional dollars to increase prevention and containment efforts in long-term care homes in Nipissing.

- Waters Edge Care Community received an additional \$384,200 bringing their total to \$1,092,400
- Eastholme Home for the Aged received an additional \$253,400 bringing their total to \$882,000
- Algonquin Nursing Home received an additional \$176,800 bringing their total to \$438,000
- Cassellholme received an additional \$152,000 bringing their total to \$1,199,000
- Nipissing Manor Nursing Care Center received an additional \$46,000 bringing their total to \$1,092,400

Creating Jobs in Our Care Sector

The Ontario government is investing \$296,502 to fill in-demand jobs in the long-term care sector. Yes Employment has developed a SkillsAdvance Ontario training program that will help 27 unemployed job seekers find rewarding work in long-term care as personal support workers and dietary staff.

Keeping Seniors Safe

The Ontario government has invested \$163,266 to support four Seniors Active Living Centres to deliver new virtual initiatives to help keep seniors safe and socially connected.

- \$54,014 Municipality of East Ferris/Club Action 50+
- \$54,014 North Bay Golden Age Club
- \$44,637 Mattawa Seniors Citizen Club
- \$10,600 Callander Royal Canadian Legion/Branch 445

Additional Protection for Retirement Homes

The Ontario government has invested over \$160,000 for four local retirement homes to help them cover COVID-19 related costs such as hiring, training and testing additional staff, sanitizing residences, and purchasing supplies to prevent and contain the spread of infection.

- \$33,396 Barclay House Retirement Residence
- \$58,073 Empire Living Centre
- \$48,040 Marina Point Village
- \$20,921 Nipissing Manor Retirement Home

Keeping Seniors Safe and Connected

MPP Vic Fedeli announced \$39,730 in funding for three local organizations to help seniors in Nipissing by providing programming that will help them maintain their physical, mental, and social well-being throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

- \$21,868 Near North Palliative Care
- \$13,800 Municipality of Powassan
- \$4,062 Callander Public Library

Municipal Supports

Over \$3 Million for Municipalities

All 11 area municipalities received more than \$3.3M to address local community infrastructure needs. The Ontario government continues to support municipalities as they build and repair roads, bridges, water, and wastewater infrastructure.

- \$50,000 Bonfield
- \$76,402 Callander
- \$50,000 Calvin
- \$88,423 Chisholm
- \$50,000 East Ferris
- \$98,263 Mattawa
- \$50,000 Mattawan
- \$95,150 Nipissing
- \$2,632,581 North Bay
- \$50,000 Papineau-Cameron
- \$50,000 Powassan



\$1.7 million for 10 Area Municipalities

Ten area municipalities are receiving \$1,675,806 for 12 infrastructure projects. This investment is being made through the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

- \$100,000 Callander
- \$100,000 Calvin
- \$100,000 Chisholm
- \$100,000 East Ferris
- \$100,000 Mattawa
- \$100,000 Mattawan
- \$55,000 Nipissing
- \$876,606 North Bay
- \$100,000 Papineau-Cameron
- \$44,200 Powassan



\$1.1 Million in Funding for Critical Municipal Services

The Ontario government provided \$1.1 million to 11 area municipalities that were struggling with the costs of Covid and needed assistance in keeping capital projects on track. This new funding relief will help ensure the delivery of critical services.

- \$39,371 Bonfield
- \$54,699 Callander
- \$21,256 Calvin
- \$29,627 Chisholm
- \$65,845 East Ferris
- \$37,780 Mattawa
- \$17,572 Mattawan
- \$43,818 Nipissing
- \$747,129 North Bay
- \$27,055 Papineau-Cameron
- \$47,393 Powassan



Transit Funding for North Bay

MPP Vic Fedeli announced \$912,567 in funding to the City of North Bay through Ontario's Gas Tax program. This news was followed three months later with an announcement of increased transit support for North Bay. The City was provided \$1,162,221 in funding to help address the financial impacts on its transit system from the COVID-19 pandemic.

More Municipal Support

Space in this newsletter prevents a complete listing and details of all the Covid supports. A short list includes:

- \$484,303 to rehabilitate and expand Corbeil Park – this is part of a three-government-level investment funding stream
- \$365,000 to improve road safety – an interesting guard rail project that reduces the severity of crashes in the event of a collision
- \$170,000 to help improve the delivery of critical programs and services for the City of North Bay and the Township of Chisholm
- \$17,500 for The City of North Bay to install and implement a Bench Dedication Program
- \$71,400 to help Fire Services in all 11 Nipissing communities address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

Schools



\$315 Million for Nipissing Schools – an increase of over \$7 million

The government of Ontario is providing Nipissing's four local school boards a combined total of over \$300 million for the school year – an increase of \$7,080,000 over last year. In addition, the Boards will receive a further \$15 million for COVID-19 Supports. "This announcement is terrific news for students and hard-working Nipissing families," said MPP Vic Fedeli. "There is a record-level of support for mental health and learning recovery included as part of this historic investment."

- Near North District School Board – \$144.8 million in funding; an increase of \$3 million over last year.
- Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board – \$46.6 million in funding; an increase of \$480,000 over last year.
- Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est – \$53 million in funding; an increase of \$2.3 million over last year.
- Conseil scolaire catholique Franco-Nord – \$56.8 million in funding; an increase of \$1.3 million over last year, including.

\$13 Million More for Local Schools

Over \$13 million to Nipissing's four local school board to upgrade infrastructure at local schools to protect against COVID-19 and keep students and staff safe has been announced. The funding is being provided by both the provincial and federal governments.

"Supporting air-quality and other infrastructure projects in Nipissing schools helps to protect our communities, making them stronger, healthier and safer today, and for years to come," said MPP Vic Fedeli. "These are extremely important investments that will upgrade our school's infrastructure and systems – all part of the COVID-19 response," added Fedeli. Local School board allocations:

- \$6,223,200 Near North District School Board
- \$4,583,000 Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board
- \$1,877,000 Conseil scolaire catholique Franco-Nord
- \$755,500 Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est

Additional \$17 Million for Schools

The four local school boards in our area will receive almost \$15 million to keep Nipissing students, school staff and their families safe from COVID-19. In addition, MPP Vic Fedeli announced an investment of \$2.24 million to support HVAC systems, PPE, Student Transportation, and Technologic Devices.

- Near North District School Board \$6.5 million for COVID-19 \$1.08 million for HVAC
- Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board \$2.7 million for COVID-19 \$402,000 for HVAC
- Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est \$2.7 million for COVID-19 \$411,000 for HVAC
- Conseil scolaire catholique Franco-Nord \$2.9 million for COVID-19 \$347,000 for HVAC

Business



\$12.5 Million in Grants for Small Businesses

Over 500 businesses in Bonfield, Callander, Calvin, East Ferris, Mattawa, Powassan, Nipissing and North Bay received \$12,650,570 through the Ontario Small Business Support Grant. The grant delivered two rounds of direct payments of \$10,000 to \$20,000 each to over 110,000 small businesses across the province, totalling nearly \$3 billion in funding. This helped business owners get through one of the toughest periods in our province's history. "This funding has saved local businesses and helped them get back on the road to economic recovery," said MPP Vic Fedeli.

\$80,000 to Support Area Legions

Four local Legions, that were required to shut their restaurants and halls down, were part of the Ontario Small Business Support Grant funding. "We recognize the tremendous value Legions provide to our Veterans and families by providing support and local community services," said MPP Vic Fedeli.

- \$26,111 West Ferris Legion, Branch 599
- \$23,684 Callander Legion, Branch 445
- \$20,000 Powassan Legion, Branch 453
- \$20,000 Mattawa Legion, Branch 254

College/University

Mental Health Funding for Nipissing and Canadore

MPP Vic Fedeli has announced that the Ontario government is providing a total of \$647,758 to help increase access to mental health and addiction services for students at Nipissing University and Canadore College. The funding will strengthen community partnerships, increase the number of mental health workers and programs, and immediately expand access for students to the provincial mental health and addictions system during COVID-19.

Funding for Training of Personal Support Workers

MPP Vic Fedeli has announced that the Ontario government is providing Canadore College with \$295,500 to connect 20 unemployed jobseekers from the local Ontario Works caseload with Personal Support Worker (PSW) training. This funding will ensure Ontario has more PSWs to provide the best care for seniors and residents in long-term care homes, while connecting people with meaningful work.

\$8.4 Million for Post-Secondary Institutions

The Ontario government is providing an investment of \$8.4 million to help Canadore College and Nipissing University address the financial impacts of COVID-19. This investment will support the sustainability of postsecondary education in North Bay and help ensure students get the skills and education they need for the in-demand jobs of today and tomorrow.

- \$5.5 million Canadore College
- \$2.9 million Nipissing University

Expanding Mental Health Services at Canadore College

MPP Vic Fedeli announced that the Ontario government is providing \$375,621 to help improve mental health services for students at Canadore College. The funding will help ensure students receive the support they need when and where they need it. "This investment supports new projects that will help build better services and partnerships for virtual and on-campus mental health supports," said MPP Vic Fedeli.

\$700,000 for Innovative Virtual Learning

The Ontario government is providing over \$700,000 to support five innovative virtual learning projects at Canadore College and Nipissing University, to help provide students with more choice and access to high-quality postsecondary education and retraining opportunities. "By increasing virtual course offerings, we're helping the next generation of workers, innovators, researchers, and leaders develop the skills and training they need to succeed in their careers, when and where they need it most," said MPP Vic Fedeli.

Training PSW Workers at CTS Career College

MPP Vic Fedeli announced an investment of \$134,524 with the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON) for Canada for their 'Personal Support Worker with Professional Skills Training' program through the Canada-Ontario Job Grant. This funding will help train 35 VON workers through CTS Canadian Career College to gain the skills and expertise needed by the healthcare sector. The VON – Ontario Branch is contributing matching cash and in-kind contributions valued at \$134,525 for a total project value of \$269,049.



\$3 Million in Recovery Funding for 145 Businesses

MPP Vic Fedeli announced \$2,916,403 for 145 Nipissing businesses through the Northern Ontario Recovery Program (NORP). These NORP grants were exclusive to Northern businesses and were application-based. They support necessary upgrades and improvements to protect employees, customers, and the community from the spread of COVID-19.

Digital Main Street Program Supports Small Businesses

MPP Vic Fedeli announced that \$50,000 has been awarded to local small businesses through Ontario's Digital Main Street Program. The program helps local businesses put their product or service online so they can market globally. Ten small businesses received Digital Transformation Grants of \$2,500. A further \$25,000 funded Student Digital Service Squads, a group of hired local students, who assisted many businesses with going digital and increasing their e-commerce sales. "The Digital Service Squads are helping our businesses transition online, allowing them to access new customers safely and reliably," said MPP Vic Fedeli.



Vic Fedeli MPP

Delivering for all of Nipissing

There simply isn't enough space in this newsletter to fully outline every important investment from the Province of Ontario. For this last page, we present a list of the projects and their total dollars. Please contact if you would like more details on any of these; they were all fully announced throughout this year, and news releases are available at fedeli.com

\$1.8 Million to Support the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit

\$1,792,400 in one-time mitigation funding to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit. This investment builds on the funding provided in previous years and will ensure Ontario's public health units have the financial stability they need to continue to deliver key services during this critical time.

Supporting Victims of Crime

\$363,000 for the Victim Services of Nipissing District to provide new supports and services for victims of crime and their families.

Mental Health Services for Children and Youth

\$328,800 to four area organizations, to help improve access to specialized mental health treatment services, reduce waitlists and wait times, and support the mental health and wellbeing of children and youth by addressing the increased demand for services during COVID-19.

- \$296,900 Algonquin Child and Family Services
- \$16,500 Nipissing First Nation
- \$8,300 North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre
- \$7,100 Community Counselling Centre of Nipissing

Support for Children and Youth with Special Needs

\$1,307,740 into two North Bay organizations which will increase access to critical rehabilitation services and outcomes for children and youth with special needs and their families across Nipissing.

- \$1,141,145 One Kids Place
- \$166,595 North Bay Regional Health Centre

Support for Non-Profits

\$440,600 Ontario Trillium Foundation grants to six local non-profit organizations help to rebuild and recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- \$111,100 One Kids Place
- \$92,100 Les Compagnon des francs loisirs
- \$85,500 Brain Injury Association of North Bay and Area
- \$75,000 Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Bay and District
- \$56,800 Victim Services of Nipissing District
- \$20,100 Creative Industries North Bay Inc.

Improving Community and Recreational Infrastructure

\$374,265 into three infrastructure projects. These are a part of a three-government-level investment funding stream to support community, culture and recreation.

- \$202,063 for the Rotary Club of North Bay's Camp Tillicum Renewal Project
- \$109,393 for the Near North Trail Association/North Bay Snowmobile Club/West Nipissing Snowmobile Clubs District 11 Near North Trail Association Snowmobile Trail Improvements
- \$62,809 for the Municipality of Powassan's project to address accessibility deficiencies at the Trout Creek Community Centre

Museum Receives Provincial Funding

\$10,950 for the North Bay Museum help restore the Bickle Fire Engine. The funding is coming from the Ontario Rural Economic Development (RED) program.

Supporting Local Festivals & Events

\$138,377 for three local festivals/events through the Reconnect Festival and Event Program. Funding will support festival and event organizers to deliver innovative experiences that allow people to safely reconnect with their communities.

- \$93,000 Smoke'N'Spurs Festival
- \$24,377 Capitol Centre's Bluesfest
- \$21,000 Les Compagnons 2022 Carnaval

Agricultural and Horticultural Societies Receive Funding

\$29,238 to five local Agricultural and Horticultural societies. This funding will help offset losses due to the cancellation of fall fairs, exhibits, and other revenue generating activities due to Covid-19.

- \$11,807 Powassan Agricultural Society
- \$7,707 Bonfield Agricultural Society
- \$7,443 Trout Creek Agricultural Society
- \$1,140 Callander Horticultural Society
- \$1,140 North Bay Horticultural Society

Additional Supports for Agricultural and Horticultural Societies

\$10,500 to five local Agricultural and Horticultural societies to offset membership losses and revenue so they can continue to meet their immediate financial needs and work towards planning future events within health and safety guidelines.

- \$3,377 Powassan Agricultural Society
- \$3,000 Trout Creek Agricultural Society
- \$2,124 Bonfield Agricultural Society
- \$1,000 Callander Horticultural Society
- \$1,000 North Bay Horticultural Society

Supporting Local Horse Businesses

The Equine Hardship Program will provide individual businesses offering horse-related experiences up to **\$2,500** per horse, up to a maximum of **\$20,000** in financial support to help cover direct costs for feed, water, veterinary care, and farrier services needed to maintain horses. During the pandemic many horse activities, such as riding schools, trail ride operations, and horse camps have been unable to operate, which has put these businesses and their horses in jeopardy.

Improving Accessibility at YMCAs

\$231,000 into the renovation and renewal of the elevators at both the North Bay and Sudbury YMCA locations. This funding will increase community accessibility to those facilities. The new elevator at the North Bay location will accommodate more than one person at a time and is modernized to meet the participants' needs.

Investments in the Mining Sector

\$563,000 into three local mining and manufacturing businesses through the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund.

- \$243,280 Drillco Mining and Exploration
- \$120,413 Wagg's Petroleum Equipment Limited
- \$199,247 Mincon Canada

\$2 Million for Film and Television Industry

\$2 million to support 4 projects in the film and television industry through the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund.

- \$750,000 Stratagem RX to produce the feature film Lakewood
- \$500,000 Christmas Films 2020
- \$500,000 DNV Productions
- \$200,000 Game Theory Films Inc. to establish a space for film productions

We're Here to Help!

The constituency office is open Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5 p.m. You can reach us with any issue you may have, as we are here to help you. We can help you with your health card, birth certificate, celebratory scrolls, social services, and a multitude of other issues.

Nous sommes à votre disposition!

Le bureau de circonscription est ouvert du lundi au vendredi, de 9h à 17h. N'hésitez pas à nous contacter si vous avez la moindre question. Nous pouvons répondre à vos questions notamment celles portant sur les cartes Santé, les certificats de naissance, les certificats de félicitations, les services sociaux, et maints autres besoins.

Vic Fedeli, MPP Nipissing Constituency Office:

219 Main Street East
North Bay
Ontario P1B 1B2

Tel: 705-474-8340
Fax: 705-474-9747
vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org

www.fedeli.com



Pictured from left to right: Patti Giroux (Constituency Assistant), Keri Buttle (Executive Assistant), Vic Fedeli, Nipissing MPP, Kelly Daur (Constituency Assistant).

