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Golden Horseshoe Hub takes part in Healthy Communities Initiative

\$1.8 million in funding available to transform public spaces in response to COVID-19

Oakville, Ont., February 10, 2021 - The Golden Horseshoe Hub in Southern Ontario announced today they will work together to distribute \$1,840,190 to transform public spaces in response to COVID-19. Funding will flow over two application rounds.

The Hub is led by the Oakville Community Foundation and includes: Brampton and Caledon Community Foundation, Brant County Community Foundation, Burlington Foundation, Community Foundation of Halton North, Hamilton Community Foundation, Community Foundation of Mississauga and Niagara Community Foundation.

This funding is part of the Government of Canada's new \$31 million Healthy Communities Initiative and will support community-led organizations in developing local, small-scale infrastructure projects that respond to the immediate needs arising from COVID-19, while building towards a more pandemic-resilient future.

Starting today, organizations are invited to apply for funding between \$5,000 and \$250,000 to lead projects that help create safe and vibrant public spaces, improve mobility options, and provide digital solutions to help their neighbourhoods or communities navigate the pandemic and look to build back better in the COVID-19 recovery. This could include projects that adapt crosswalks and access to public transport to allow for safe physical distancing, the creation of community gardens, and art installations, and free wifi in targeted public spaces. A variety of community-led organizations are eligible to apply, including local governments, charities, Indigenous communities, and registered non-profit organizations.

Organizations can apply [here](#) for First Round funding from February 9, 2021 until March 9, 2021, at 8:00 PM EST. A second application period for funding will start in May 2021.

"Public spaces are so important to our communities: they encourage a feeling of belonging. They are a big part of what makes communities safe, vibrant and connected," said Wendy Rinella, CEO, Oakville Community Foundation. "We look forward to supporting projects that will create inclusive and engaging spaces through small-scale infrastructure solutions, programming and services."

The Golden Horseshoe Hub is working alongside [Community Foundations of Canada](#), the [Canadian Urban Institute](#) and other partners to serve communities across Canada, including equity-seeking groups interested in applying.

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Golden Horseshoe Hub

The **Canada Healthy Communities Initiative (CHCI)** is a national initiative funded by the Government of Canada to create and adapt public spaces to respond to the new realities of the COVID-19 pandemic. The **Golden Horseshoe Hub** is led by the [Oakville Community Foundation](#) and is a consortium of eight community foundations including: [Brampton and Caledon Community Foundation](#), [Brant County Community Foundation](#), [Burlington Foundation](#), [Community Foundation of Halton North](#), [Hamilton Community Foundation](#), [Community Foundation of Mississauga](#) and [Niagara Community Foundation](#).

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