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**The Golden Horseshoe Hub provides over \$1.1 million to community-led infrastructure projects**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Oakville, Ont., March 16, 2022-** The Golden Horseshoe Hub in Southern Ontario announced today they will work together to distribute \$1,104,114 to transform public spaces in response to COVID-19 in the second round of the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative.

The Hub is led by [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](#).

The Hub will support 26 projects in the Peel, Brant, Halton, Hamilton, Brampton and Niagara regions as part of the second round of the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative. Through this initiative, the Government of Canada, alongside Community Foundations of Canada, is working to build safer spaces and ensure a high quality of life for people across the country, by helping communities adapt to the challenges of COVID-19.

**The Golden Horseshoe Hub** is supporting the following projects as part of The Initiative:

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Town of Caledon Public Library	Southfields Village Reading Garden	\$91,910.00
Town of Caledon	Enhancing public spaces and increasing access to Downtown Bolton	\$60,000.00
Brampton Public Library	Mobile Device Lending Kits	\$40,330.00
County of Brant	Free Mesh WiFi and Charging Benches in Public Parks	\$48,851.23

Six Nations Polytechnic	Creating Safe, Healthy and Active Spaces for Community	\$65,000.00
BurlingtonGreen Environmental Association	Clean Up Green Up- Expanding Vulnerable Community Connections	\$14,209.00
Burlington Public Library	Connection For All- Post Covid Technology Access	\$19,650.00
Milton Public Library	Be Inspired. Indigenous-Centered Knowledge	\$50,000.00
The Canadian Arabic Orchestra	The Multicultural Pop-Up Festival in the Park	\$25,000.00
The Dam- Develop Assist Mentor	What's Next? An inclusive post-secondary education digital guide	\$75,644.00
City of Hamilton	Public Spaces and Park Wi-Fi Connectivity	\$99,999.00
Hamilton Olympic Club	Ray Lewis Track & Field Centre- COVID-19 Shade Structure Project	\$50,000.00
Cobalt Connects Creativity	All Our Relations- Youth Engagement	\$45,000.00
Welland Public Library	Bridging the Digital Divide: Connectivity & Digital Device Lending Program	\$10,518.00
Downtown Port Colborne BIA	Public Spaces for Everybody	\$35,000.00
Downtown Beamsville Business Improvement Area	Downtown Alleyway Art Gallery and Sensory Maze	\$25,000.00
Recreation and Culture Department: City of Welland	A Place For Everyone- A Community Meeting Place	\$20,000.00
Town of Pelham Public Library	Lendable WiFi Hotspots with Unlimited Data	\$5,050.00
Advancing Crystal Beach Community	100% Inclusive in Crystal Beach	\$18,000.00

Development Organization		
FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre	Digital Placemaking in St. Catharines- creating safe public art engagement	\$48,573.00
Rotary Club of Oakville Trafalgar	Adult and Senior Fitness Equipment to Memorial Park	\$50,000.00
Canadian Mental Health Association Halton Region Branch	Coping Skills for Change Virtual Groups	\$48,559.00
Bridgeway Family Centre	Arabic Healthy Start	\$44,000.00
Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Services of Halton (SAVIS)	Crisis Line Support	\$10,000.00
Hospital for Sick Children	Co-designing a peer-led social media-based food literacy program for youth	\$75,362.00
Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA)	Indigenous Community Advisory Circle	\$28,458.00

The Initiative was designed to fund eligible projects between \$5,000 and \$250,000 that fall under three main themes: creating safe and vibrant public spaces, improving mobility options, and digital solutions.

“Inclusive, accessible public spaces are the heart of any community, and vital to healthy, vibrant, safe and successful communities that are better equipped to restore growth, create jobs, build a greener, more competitive and resilient economy and repair the damage done by the pandemic. Together, the federal government and its provincial and municipal partners are working hard to ensure strategic investments in community infrastructure upgrades create inclusive communal spaces for everyone to enjoy.”

-- Pam Damoff, Member of Parliament for Oakville North-Burlington

“Public spaces are the glue to our communities: they enable a feeling of belonging and of social cohesion. They are a big part of what makes communities safe, vibrant and connected,” said Wendy Rinella, CEO of the Oakville Community Foundation. “As our region faces increased isolation due to COVID-19, these projects from the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative will

help our community to connect safely and will benefit the mental and physical well-being of our residents.”

Community Foundations of Canada together with its partners, including the Canadian Urban Institute, is working with community foundations across the country to manage the funding process and serve the distinct needs of communities across Canada, including equity-seeking groups, interested in applying.

To learn more about the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative, visit <https://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/chci-iccs/index-eng.htm>

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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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