

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**February 15, 2024**

### **Provincial Grant Gave a Local Community Complex an Upgrade**

**Kirkland Lake, ON** – On Thursday, MPP John Vanthof was at the Joe Mavrinas Community Complex to hear more about the \$465,000 Community Building Fund Capital Grant from the Ontario government and administered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF). The grant, awarded in late 2021, was used for upgrades to the arena, addressing a community need by upgrading ventilation and dehumidification units, replacing the rink’s boards and benches, and improving accessible access to the facility.

“This funding has ensured that the people of Kirkland Lake and the surrounding area have full use and enjoyment of their arena for years to come,” said John Vanthof, MPP for Temiskaming-Cochrane.

In addition to completely rebuilding the original rink board system, emergency exit doors and signage were upgraded, the doors to the main entrance to the arena were replaced with automatic sliding doors, the washrooms were provided with accessible access, electrical sub panels were replaced, and HVAC upgrades were completed. The arena is home to several local clubs and is a busy venue for recreational activities all year round. Thanks to the Ontario government’s \$465,000 grant through the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the life of the building will be extended, and people of all abilities will be able to access the arena.

“The impact of this Ontario government grant is remarkable for the Town of Kirkland Lake,” said Stacy Wight, Mayor. “This grant has allowed us to become a more accessible and age-friendly building. Additionally, the other projects completed with the grant will ensure a safe and enjoyable recreational experience for the thousands of visits the facility receives each month.”

The Joe Mavrinas Community Complex was opened in 1978 and as the only multi purpose recreational facility in the municipality and the surrounding area, is a hub of activity for students, seniors, adults, families, and visitors to Kirkland Lake. The Town of Kirkland Lake is committed to obtaining funding where possible to ensure longevity of its assets. For information on activities at the Joe Mavrinas Community Complex, please visit the municipal website at [www.kirklandlake.ca](http://www.kirklandlake.ca).

“Non-profit organizations across Ontario deliver programming that makes a difference,” said Neil Lumsden, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport. “That’s why funding that my ministry is providing through the OTF is so important. Our government wants to ensure that these programs and spaces remain the heart of communities across our province.”

The Ontario Trillium Foundation’s (OTF) mission is to build healthy and vibrant communities across Ontario. As an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada’s leading granting foundations, last year, OTF invested over \$110M into 1,022 community projects and partnerships. Visit [otf.ca](http://otf.ca) to learn more.

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