



NEWS RELEASE

Port Hawkesbury creating entrepreneurial opportunities with waterfront revitalization project

Government of Canada supports efforts to strengthen community, spur tourism



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Fostering economic development, boosting tourism, and promoting Atlantic Canada's unique places and experiences are key to building strong communities. The Government of Canada is investing in the [Town of Port Hawkesbury](#) to re-invigorate its waterfront, creating new business opportunities and a welcoming, accessible space for residents and visitors to explore.

Today, Mike Kelloway, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard and Member of Parliament for Cape Breton–Canso, announced a non-repayable contribution of \$189,909, through ACOA's Innovative Communities Fund (ICF), to the Town of Port Hawkesbury. The announcement was made on behalf of the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Official Languages and Minister responsible for ACOA.

The investment supports Phase 1 of the Town's Waterfront Strategic Plan. This project includes the development of a waterfront park, retail and rental kiosks for businesses, signage, and a public art installation, all of which will be accessible. These improvements will help make the town a more inviting place to work, live and visit, boosting the local economy and increasing the area's tourism potential.

Quotes

"Initiatives that build on our existing strengths and natural assets are major economic drivers in Atlantic Canada. We are redoubling our efforts to support initiatives that lead to long-term employment and a stronger local economy as well as projects that help communities take advantage of new opportunities. Today's announcement demonstrates our continued commitment to working with communities to build a stronger and more inclusive economy."

- *The Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Official Languages and Minister responsible for ACOA*



“Great things are happening here in Port Hawkesbury and this project is a thrilling step forward in taking full advantage of the waterfront. It is an exciting new opportunity for business ventures and will also play a role in showcasing the town’s reputation as a must-see destination, furthering its economic potential and making the waterfront more safe and accessible.”

- *Mike Kelloway, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard and Member of Parliament for Cape Breton–Canso*

“Investing in beautification projects and ensuring community spaces are accessible for all to enjoy helps make our communities more vibrant, fosters local pride and encourages economic development. We’re pleased to support local governments as they work to renew public spaces for residents and support growth.”

- *The Honourable John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Province of Nova Scotia*

“Development of our waterfront and port is a top priority of the Town of Port Hawkesbury Council. The funding announced today provides us the opportunity needed to advance our vision for waterfront renewal. Our Waterfront Advisory Committee has worked diligently to work with community stakeholders and envision facilities to attract tourism, and advance initiative from business and industry. The waterfront and port define Port Hawkesbury and investment in our facilities will benefit residents of the Town and Strait Area.”

- *Brenda Chisholm-Beaton, Mayor of Port Hawkesbury*

Quick facts

- In 2020, the Town of Port Hawkesbury consulted with the community and stakeholders resulting in a refresh of a Waterfront Development Strategy outlining new ideas and projects that will attract more residents, entrepreneurs, tourists and investment to the waterfront.
- The Province of Nova Scotia also contributed \$35,000 to the project through the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing.
- Another complementary Active Transportation project [announced in June 2021](#) will add seven kilometres of pathways, including a connector to the waterfront.

Associated links

- [Town of Port Hawkesbury](#)
- [Innovative Communities Fund \(ICF\)](#)

Contacts

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