



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**March 10, 2017**

**\$250,000 Ontario150 grant announced  
for restoration of Canada's First Railway Tunnel**

**Brockville, Ontario** — The City of Brockville Railway Tunnel Committee has received a grant of \$250,000 from the Ontario150 Community Capital Program to support the restoration of Canada's First Railway Tunnel. On Friday, local MPP Steve Clark met with representatives and friends of the Tunnel Committee, as well as with City Councillor David LeSueur, who's also the Chair of the Committee, to officially congratulate them on receiving the grant.

"Brockville's historic Tunnel is a wonderful asset to preserve for the recreational use and enjoyment of local residents and visitors alike. As a former Brockville Mayor, I am pleased to see something so special happening with our Tunnel and I congratulate Tunnel Committee members for their vision and perseverance in making this project happen this year," said Steve Clark, MPP for Leeds-Grenville.

Administered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Ontario150 Community Capital Program grants will help with the costs of installing a new paved concrete floor to enable pedestrians, cyclists, and people in wheelchairs to travel north through the Tunnel to connect to a planned new section of the Brock Trail under the CN railway corridor. It will also help with the costs of new lighting to highlight the Tunnel's architecture and geology, as well as safety, security, drainage and ventilation systems.

Originally completed in 1860 for the Brockville and Ottawa Railway, and later owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway until 1983, the newly-restored Tunnel - phase one of Brockville's new Railway Tunnel Park - is on schedule to open on Saturday, August 12, 2017 during Brockville's Canada 150 celebrations.

"We are most grateful for this generous vote of support from the Government of Ontario and the Ontario Trillium Foundation. It appears that everyone wants to see our Tunnel open and so we welcome all to visit Brockville for our official opening on August 12, to share in our accomplishment as we celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday," said David LeSueur.

To learn more about the Brockville Railway Tunnel, please visit: [www.brockvillerrailwaytunnel.com](http://www.brockvillerrailwaytunnel.com)

Administered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, which is an agency of the Government of Ontario, this one-time, Ontario150 grant has been designed to help honour the province's past, showcase the present and inspire future generations. For more information on the Ontario Trillium Foundation, please visit: [www.otf.ca](http://www.otf.ca)

- 30 -

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