

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community Building Fund Supports Lions Park Ball Diamond LED Lighting Replacement

Woolwich, ON – In January 2022, the Township of Woolwich received a \$250,000 grant from the Government of Ontario's Community Building Fund – Capital stream. This 12-month grant, delivered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), supports the replacement of the ball diamond lighting at Lions Park in Elmira. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2022 and will provide Township users and local sports organizations improved lighting and playability for years to come.

"Having access to safe and modernized recreational facilities will ensure that the growing families of Woolwich Township can continue to enjoy a healthy and active lifestyle so close to home," said Mike Harris, Member of Provincial Parliament for Kitchener-Conestoga. "The Ontario Trillium Foundation remains one of the best facilitators of local community improvement and I am thrilled that our government is supporting access to sports and recreation in and around Elmira for years to come."

Located at 220 Barnswallow Drive, Lions Park is a Township-wide classified park, a popular destination for residents and home to minor and adult sport organizations. Park amenities include a ball diamond, batting cage, two (2) soccer fields, accessible public washrooms and playground. Since 2019, the park has received capital investment through replacement of the playground and soccer light tower foundations, as well as an accessible renovation of the washroom. Thanks to the \$250,000 grant from Ontario's Community Building Fund, residents and sport teams alike will be able to further enjoy all the amenities with state-of-the-art energy efficient lighting technology.

"The Township of Woolwich is an established, forward-thinking and growing municipality. We are thrilled and appreciate the \$250,000 grant that the Ontario Trillium Foundation has invested in our community. This grant allows us to address our aging infrastructure while continuing to provide our residents with a well-lit and safe recreation space," said Mayor Sandy Shantz.

The Township of Woolwich is committed to preserving, protecting and growing the lifestyle elements and amenities that make Woolwich a desirable community to live, work and play. We are committed to managing and maintaining all municipal infrastructure with an emphasis on continuous improvement and exploring greater efficiencies. To learn more about Township parks and recreation amenities, please visit the website at: www.woolwich.ca.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (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 nearly \$209M into 2,042 community projects and partnerships, which included funding for the Government of Ontario's Community Building Fund. Since 2020, OTF has supported Ontario's economic recovery by helping non-profit organizations rebuild and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

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