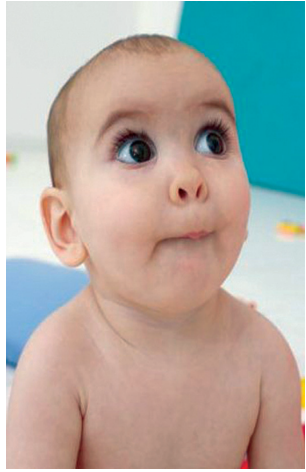


INVEST DURHAM ANNOUNCES THE RETURN OF THE 1855 MASTERCLASS SERIES

Whitby, Ontario – Invest Durham, in collaboration with 1855 Accelerator and Ontario Tech University, is thrilled to announce the relaunch of the popular 1855 MASTERCLASS series. The educational initiative aims to empower local businesses, entrepreneurs, and tech enthusiasts by providing access to thought-provoking



insights, expert knowledge, and networking opportunities. Initially launched in 2019, the 1855 MASTERCLASS series provides access to some of the most visionary and disruptive leaders in technology. In the first 1855 MASTERCLASS event of 2024, Sid Paquette, Head of RBCx, the technology and innovation arm of the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) is the speaker. Paquette's expertise lies in supporting Canadian tech companies at every stage of their growth journey. His team connects startups to relevant advice, ecosystem partners, and financial solutions, enabling them to scale successfully. "Durham Region is a community with momentum. We are proud to be recognized for our vision for this region, a community where talented, smart, diverse, and ambitious people bring access to world markets, insights, invention and

traditions." – John Henry, Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer for The Regional Municipality of Durham "At Invest Durham we are committed to accelerating economic growth and fostering a vibrant, sustainable community where businesses thrive, and residents prosper. The 1855 MASTERCLASS series highlights the role the innovation community plays in supporting the evolution of Durham Region's business ecosystem." – Simon Gill, Director, Economic Development and Tourism; Invest Durham "Ontario Tech proudly supports the 1855 Masterclass series and the advancement of technology thought leadership, within the community and beyond. We are committed to developing and graduating the tech talent needed to drive innovation."

– Dr. Carolyn McGregor AM, Dean, Faculty of Business and Information Technology, Ontario Tech University "Founders, innovators and investors in the Canadian tech ecosystem have undergone significant pivots over the last 18 months to adapt to economic conditions, new market opportunities, and flow of talent and funding. I look forward to connecting with diverse tech community members at this event, where we can dive deeper into some of the trends shaping the ecosystem today and discuss what it means for the industry's growth and competitive potential going forward." – Sid Paquette, Head of RBCx "1855 Masterclass is not just an event; it's a transformative experience where entrepreneurs, communities, and partners unite. It's a beacon of learning from the journeys of

others, a nexus for building meaningful connections, and a catalyst for impactful conversations. An event all should attend to embrace growth, both personally and professionally, as we strive to elevate ourselves and our community in the vibrant landscape of Durham Region." – Jason Atkins, CEO and Founder of 360Insights and co-founder of 1855 Technology Accelerator "We are so excited for the return of an in-person 1855 Masterclass! One of the wonderful things about 1855 is the sense of community. 1855 is a place where founders are learning and growing every day. This event is a great opportunity in Durham Region to listen, learn and create synergies amongst new and old friends!" – Kaila Dimopoulos, Manager, 1855 Technology Accelerator

About Invest Durham Durham Region makes up the eastern side of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA). With a rich business history leading industry transformation and energy innovation, investors are able to tap into a diverse business ecosystem and a talent pipeline with the agility to meet today's business demands. **About 1855 Accelerator** 1855 Accelerator is a dynamic business hub in downtown Whitby that provides thought leadership, mentorship, and networking opportunities. 1855's goal is to empower entrepreneurs to accelerate their growth to the global stage, supporting startups and established businesses to achieve sustainable growth and success.

ONTARIO REWARDS KAWARTHA LAKES WITH MORE THAN \$1.5 MILLION FOR MAKING PROGRESS TOWARDS 2023 HOUSING TARGETS

Kawartha Lakes — Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, announced Ontario is providing Kawartha Lakes with \$1,566,177 in funding through the Building Faster Fund after the municipality made substantial progress towards meeting its 2023 housing target, breaking ground on a total of 431 new housing units last year. "I want to congratulate Kawartha Lakes and all municipalities that have worked hard to get shovels in the ground faster," said Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. "Our challenge to these municipalities now is to redouble their efforts to build more homes than ever before so we can improve affordability and keep the dream of homeownership alive in Ontario. Our government will be there to support you every step of the way, including through our recent budget investment of more than \$1.8 billion in housing-enabling infrastructure."

Housing Pledge Team, which includes both staff and council members, united to achieve 90 per cent of our housing target," said Doug Elmslie, Mayor of Kawartha Lakes. "We remain steadfast in our commitment to meet this year's goal and to approve housing solutions for needs across the entire housing spectrum. Thanks to the \$1.5 million in funding from our provincial partner and MPP Laurie Scott, we are now in a strong position to advance the necessary infrastructure to facilitate housing approvals." The Building Faster Fund includes \$120 million for small, rural and northern municipalities to help build housing-enabling infrastructure and prioritize projects that speed up the increase of housing supply. Ontario is investing historic amounts in housing- and community-enabling infrastructure to get more homes built across the province including the Building Faster Fund and the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund. The province recently announced a new \$1 billion Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program as well as a quadrupling of the provincial Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund to \$825 million.

changing single family homes into multi-unit residences or converting commercial office space into residential use – and nearly 10,000 new and upgraded long-term care beds. "I applaud the work being done by Kawartha Lakes and all the other municipalities that are making substantial progress towards their housing targets and I'm proud to see these communities helping lead the province when it comes to building homes. Our government is committed to reaching our goal of building 1.5 million homes by 2031 to make sure that everyone has an affordable place to call home." - Paul Calandra Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing "Our government is proud to provide over \$1.5 million to the City of Kawartha Lakes for making such progress toward their housing targets and contributing to the province's goal of building more homes faster in our community. I'd like to thank and congratulate the City of Kawartha Lakes for working hard to get shovels in the round." - Laurie Scott MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock

Announced in August 2023, the Building Faster Fund is a three-year, \$1.2 billion program that is designed to encourage municipalities to address the housing supply crisis. The fund rewards municipalities that make significant progress against their targets by providing funding for housing-enabling and community-enabling infrastructure. Funding is provided to municipalities that have reached at least 80 per cent of their provincially assigned housing target for the year with increased funding for municipalities that exceed their target.

"In 2023, our dedicated



"Where Quality and Service Come First!"

"Where Quality and Service Come First!"

Furniture, Loose Rugs

Wall to Wall Carpet!

Durham's ONLY Rug Cleaning Plant

Pick-Up & Delivery Available!

Serving Oshawa and Durham Since 1959

174 Mary Street N
(Just South of Adelaide)

SPECIALIZING IN CLEANING OF ORIENTAL RUGS

905-576-6222

OPEN MON - FRI: 9:00AM - 4PM

SPRING SPECIAL

SAVE 10%

By Booking Before May 1st, 2024

C & R PAVING INC.

COMMERCIAL ~ RESIDENTIAL

ASHPHALT DRIVEWAYS & PARKING LOTS
CONCRETE CURBS, SIDEWALKS & PATIOS
NATURAL & INTERLOCKING STONE
LANDSCAPE DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

AFFORDABLE - CUSTOM DESIGNED QUALITY WORKMANSHIP

(905)427-6282

www.crpaving.com

Celebrating Our 46th Year Anniversary