



# Ontario Investing \$151.5 Million in Durham College

DURHAM — The Ontario government is taking decisive action to protect post-secondary students' access to the education they need to launch successful careers by investing \$151,500,000 in Durham College. This investment is part of the government's new funding model, which will bring an additional \$6.4 billion to universities, colleges and Indigenous Institutes across the province to build long-term sustainability in the sector.

"Under the leadership of Premier Ford and Minister Quinn, our government is making critical investments to strengthen postsecondary education," said Lorne Coe, MPP Whitby, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence, and Security. "This investment will help

ensure that students at Durham College have access to high-quality education and the skills they need to succeed in today's in-demand careers, while supporting continued economic growth across our region."

This investment will ensure that Durham College can keep preparing students for rewarding, in-demand careers that meet labour market demands for generations to come.

Operating funding for the sector will increase by 30 per cent to \$7 billion in fall 2026, with a focus on delivering programs that align with student demand as well as regional and provincial labour-market demands. The model also includes specialized funding for small, rural, northern and French institutions, so that students in all corners of the province have access to a world class education.

"In order to protect our

province, it is imperative that we continue to train a strong, highly skilled workforce for Ontario for decades to come," said Nolan Quinn, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security. "Through these changes, including \$6.4 billion in new funding for the postsecondary sector, our government is not only ensuring the sustainability of our colleges, universities and Indigenous Institutes, but also preparing our graduates with the in-demand skills they need to meaningfully find good-paying, rewarding careers, while continuing to keep education accessible and keep costs down for students and their families."

Through this new model, the government is investing \$1.7 billion to fund 70,000 in-demand seats across the province. This investment will expand enrollment in health care, skilled trades,

teaching and STEM programs to build the highly skilled workforce businesses and communities depend on. A call for proposals to access this funding will launch this spring, with seats opening in fall 2026. "Strong local institutions are the foundation of a stronger and more resilient province," the Hon. Todd McCarthy, MPP for Durham stated. "This record investment gives Durham College the predictable funding it needs to ensure students can access education, training, and succeed in the careers of tomorrow. By expanding opportunities in high-demand fields, our government is building a stronger workforce, supporting local employers and strengthening our community here in Durham."

"It is more important than ever that we manage Ontario's finances responsibly – to build a more resilient and self-reliant economy to

secure long-term prosperity," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. "Postsecondary education is one of Ontario's most important long-term investments – and this announcement helps ensure that investment remains strong, responsible and sustainable for years to come."

This historic funding will protect student access to the education they need to land rewarding, in-demand careers that strengthen communities across the province.

"The Ontario government's investment in Durham College, as part of its broader \$6.4 billion commitment to postsecondary education, is a significant step toward ensuring long-term sustainability and student success at Durham College. We are grateful for this investment, which strengthens our ability to deliver high-quality, industry-aligned programming that prepares our students

with the in-demand skills needed to thrive in today's evolving workforce, while supporting the economic growth of Durham Region and Ontario."

— Dr. Elaine Popp, President, Durham College

- Since 2024, the government has invested over \$2 billion in additional funding for colleges, universities and Indigenous Institutes, which is on top of the \$5 billion Ontario invests in the sector every year.
- Under the new funding model, base per student funding at colleges and universities will increase by 6 per cent for full-time students and 30 per cent for college part-time students.
- The province is making its own administration more efficient by streamlining over 400 transfer payment agreements into 45, five-year Strategic Mandate Agreements with colleges and universities, saving institutions time and money.



## Canada a 1-1 draw against Bosnia and Herzegovina

Pickering Mayor Kevin Ashe - Wished Pickering's own Dayne St. Clair, goalkeeper for Team Canada, all the best for Canada's first kick-off game at today's FIFA match. Our entire community—and country—are cheering you on!

Meet Dayne St. Clair.

The 2025 MLS Goalkeeper of the Year has proven his ability at club level and now aims to help lead Canada at the 2026 FIFA World Cup. St. Clair will compete for the starting job with fellow MLS goalkeeper Maxime Crépeau (Orlando City). **Age: 29 - Hometown: Pickering, Ontario.**

Before joining Inter Miami CF ahead of the 2026 season, St. Clair spent his entire MLS career with Minnesota United FC (2019-25) while becoming the club's all-time leader in wins and shutouts. Last season was the best of St. Clair's career, notching a league-leading 77.93 save percentage and 10 clean sheets in 30 appearances (all starts) en route to claiming MLS Goalkeeper of the Year honors. St. Clair capitalized on his success by signing with defending MLS Cup presented by Audi champions Inter Miami, putting himself in the spotlight ahead of the World Cup. 39 clean sheets in 149 MLS appearances. 2x MLS All-Star (2022, '25). 2025 MLS Best XI - 2025 MLS Goalkeeper of the Year

# Introducing Oshawa's 2026 Junior Fire Chief

Oshawa Fire Services is pleased to announce Robert, a Grade 5 student from St. Christopher Catholic School, as Oshawa's 2026 Junior Fire Chief.

The Junior Fire Chief contest invited Oshawa students in Grades 5 and 6 to showcase their creativity by submitting either a short video or a comic strip conveying a clear and impactful fire safety message, such as the importance of working smoke alarms or having a home escape plan. In his role as Junior Fire Chief, Robert will act as a fire safety ambassador within his school, home, and community, inspiring his peers through positive leadership.

Oshawa Fire Services announced Robert's achievement on Tuesday, June 9, during a school assembly attended by his teachers, fellow students, members of council, the Fire Chief, fire services personnel, and other distinguished guests. A video highlighting his fire safety message was shared with all those in attendance, followed by the presentation of several prizes, including:

- Laptop courtesy of Best Buy
- Bicycle and helmet from Canadian Tire
- Custom jersey from the Oshawa Generals
- Oshawa Fire Services sweater and gift bag
- Ride in a fire truck followed by a tour of Oshawa Fire Services Headquarters
- Dinner for the winner's family at McDonald's
- Pizza party for his class courtesy of Domino's Pizza

Throughout the year, Robert will participate in community activities alongside Oshawa Fire Services

