

May 12th ~ 18th, 2026
**Investing in Four
 Festivals and Events in
 Durham Region**
**Funding will help
 attract visitors and
 strengthen Durham
 Region's economy**

DURHAM REGION – Ontario is investing \$150,000 through the 2026 Experience Ontario program to support two festivals and events in Durham Region. This is part of a more than \$20 million government investment to help municipalities and event organizers deliver high-quality programming and experiences for people of all ages.

“From Ontario’s charming small towns to its dazzling urban centres, festivals and events bring people together, create lasting memories and showcase the best of our communities,” said Stan Cho, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming. “As we work to protect Ontario, these home-grown experiences play a vital role in celebrating our shared identity, bolstering main street businesses and ensuring our province remains a place people are inspired to explore — and proud to call home.”

The following local events are receiving funding support:

- Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce: Convergence Music and Art Festival - \$55,000
- Happy Epoch Entertainment Inc.: 2026 North of Nowhere Music Festival - \$55,000
- Central Lake Conservation Authority: Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival - \$20,000
- The Corporation of the City of Oshawa: Peony Festival - \$20,000

“Investing in programs like Experience Ontario 2026 means investing in the people, places, and experiences that bring our communities to life. This program is empowering municipalities and organizers across Durham Region to create memorable, one-of-a-kind experiences for both residents and visitors—inviting everyone to discover and celebrate the very best our province has to offer,” said Todd McCarthy, MPP for Durham. “By supporting festivals and events across the Durham Region, we are strengthening local economies, creating jobs, and celebrating the cultural experiences that bring families, friends, and visitors together,” said Lorne Coe, MPP for Whitby and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, and Children, Community and Social Services. “Experience Ontario 2026 is building opportunity while honouring the traditions that connect us.” Since 2018, the Experience Ontario program (formerly known as Reconnect Ontario and Celebrate Ontario) has supported more than 2,700 Ontario festivals and events.



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