



## News Release

For Immediate Release

# Government of Canada invests \$769,902 to enhance tourism and community infrastructure in Scarborough— Rouge Park

*FedDev Ontario supports the Toronto Zoo to drive community revitalization, tourism and local economic growth*

March, 15, 2023 – Toronto, Ontario

The Government of Canada is committed to supporting tourism and community infrastructure in southern Ontario by ensuring local businesses, and the organizations that support them, have the tools they need to position themselves for a strong and resilient economic future.

Today, on behalf of the Honourable Filomena Tassi, Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario ([FedDev Ontario](#)), Gary Anandasangaree, Member of Parliament for Scarborough— Rouge Park, announced a total combined investment of \$769,902 to support 3 projects in Scarborough— Rouge Park under the [Tourism Relief Fund \(TRF\)](#) and the [Canada Community Revitalization Fund \(CCRF\)](#).

The announcement was made at an event hosted by the Toronto Zoo, which is receiving a non-repayable contribution of \$769,902 under the Tourism Relief Fund (TRF)/Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF), to provide year-round access to greenhouses, increase accessibility for persons with disabilities, and adapt operations to meet COVID-19 health and safety regulations.

## Quotes

“Community spaces and tourist attractions are what make our communities the important gathering places they are. Government of Canada investments are helping enhance existing community infrastructure and events across the region, boosting jobs and revenue across Ontario.”

- *The Honourable Filomena Tassi, Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario*

“The Toronto Zoo is one of the largest and most used public outdoor spaces in our city. I am proud to announce this critical infrastructure investment to further improve the quality of life for Scarborough— Rouge Park residents”.

- *Gary Anandasangaree, Member of Parliament for Scarborough—Rouge Park*

“As Deputy Mayor and the local councillor for Scarborough-Rouge Park, I am thrilled to see Scarborough receive these new investments. Together, combined with the City’s ongoing investments in parks and the Toronto Zoo through the 2023 City budget, these investments will help make our community more accessible and environmentally sustainable.”

- *Jennifer McKelvie, Deputy Mayor of Toronto*

“As a leading conservation tourism organization, we are extremely grateful to receive this funding from the Government of Canada. It will support projects that enhance guest experience for more than 1.2 million guests who visit your world-class educational centre each year. Your Toronto Zoo’s mission is to connect people, animals and conservation science to fight extinction, these improvements will help guests from all walks of life connect to our work helping wildlife– from species reintroduction to reproductive research.”

- *Dolf DeJong, CEO, Toronto Zoo*



## Quick Facts

- The Toronto Zoo receives approximately 1.3 million visitors per year.
- The Toronto Zoo employs 273 permanent full-time staff and over 330 part-time and seasonal employees.
- With a national investment of \$500 million over two years, the [Canada Community Revitalization Fund](#) supports projects that build new community infrastructure and revitalize existing assets, bring people back to public spaces safely and stimulate local economies. This includes \$139 million for projects in southern Ontario, delivered by FedDev Ontario.
- The Government of Canada's [\\$500-million Tourism Relief Fund](#) is helping tourism-oriented businesses and organizations recover from the pandemic and prepare for future growth, with a minimum of \$50 million of the Fund allocated to supporting Indigenous-led projects or Indigenous-focused projects. FedDev Ontario is delivering nearly \$120 million of the [Tourism Relief Fund](#) across southern Ontario.

## Associated Links:

- [Toronto Zoo](#)
- [FedDev Ontario](#)
- [Canada Community Revitalization Fund](#)
- [Tourism Relief Fund \(TRF\)](#)

## Contacts

Edward Hutchinson

Press Secretary

Office of the Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario

[Edward.Hutchinson@feddevontario.gc.ca](mailto:Edward.Hutchinson@feddevontario.gc.ca)

Media Relations

FedDev Ontario

[fdo.mediarel-relmedias.fdo@feddevontario.gc.ca](mailto:fdo.mediarel-relmedias.fdo@feddevontario.gc.ca)

## Stay Connected

Subscribe to FedDev Ontario's [Southern Ontario Spotlight newsletter](#), featuring economic development news and updates from across the region.

Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for more information on how we are growing businesses, cultivating partnerships and building strong communities in southern Ontario.