

Ontario Creating Internship Opportunities in Nipissing*Provincial investment supporting career and skills development in the North***NEWS**

January 26, 2024

NORTH BAY – The Ontario government is providing more than \$942,000 through the [Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation](#) (NOHFC) for 32 job placement opportunities in the Nipissing region. This investment will help businesses expand operations and grow Northern Ontario’s workforce.

“Our government is helping northerners find new opportunities to gain hands-on experience to build careers right here at home,” said Vic Fedeli, MPP for Nipissing. “The variety of companies and organizations taking advantage of the NOHFC grants includes small businesses, not-for-profits, post-secondary institutions and manufacturers, and shows the diversity of the program.”

Internship projects receiving NOHFC funding include:

- \$64,750 for Fabrene Inc. to hire a Construction and Maintenance Electrician Apprentice and an Industrial Mechanic Apprentice to maintain plant equipment, grounds and buildings in the highest operating condition
- \$35,000 for Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Bay and District Inc. to hire a Caseworker to recruit, screen and train volunteer mentors, match mentors to children, establish care plans and provide resources to low-income families
- \$33,742 for Pathways Wellness Clinic Inc. to hire an Advanced Foot Care Nurse to conduct foot and lower limb assessments, provide foot care treatments, teach clients about preventative and restorative strategies and prepare electronic scheduling and documentation

“Through the NOHFC, our government is focused on supporting projects that provide on-the-job career development opportunities while addressing skilled labour shortages in the Northeast,” said Greg Rickford, Minister of Northern Development. “Together with our northern partners, we are creating highly skilled, good-paying jobs that will boost economic growth and prosperity here in Nipissing.”

The Ontario government is supporting local internships through the NOHFC’s [People and Talent Program](#). The program supports a wide variety of internships, including skilled trades, and addresses the unique needs of other in-demand jobs. Program candidates include new entrants into the workforce, those transitioning to a new career, the unemployed and underemployed.

The NOHFC promotes economic prosperity across Northern Ontario by providing financial assistance to projects—big and small, rural and urban—that stimulate growth, job creation and skills development. Since June 2018, the NOHFC has invested more than \$726 million in 6,128 projects in Northern Ontario, leveraging more than \$2.3 billion in investment and creating or sustaining over 9,500 jobs.

Quick Facts

- The Ontario government launched [new and improved NOHFC programs](#) that support more projects in rural northern communities and make it easier for more people and businesses to apply. The programs target existing and emerging markets, provide more work opportunities for Indigenous people and address the skilled labour shortage in the North.
- A list of all 32 Nipissing NOHFC internship program funding recipients is available on the corporation's [website](#).

Additional Resources

- The [NOHFC](#), [Northern Development Offices](#) and [Small Business Enterprise Centres](#) are available to support northern communities, businesses and other stakeholders in identifying economic development opportunities and assist in accessing government funding programs.

Quotes

"This funding marks a pivotal moment for Fabrene as we strive to address the pressing challenges in today's labour market, particularly in the technical trades sector. We believe this collaboration with NOHFC is a testament to our commitment to bridging the skilled labour gap in the market. Together, we are investing in our people, our community, and sustainable economic growth." – Dave May, Site Director, Fabrene Inc.

"The NOHFC People and Talent program has supported Big Brothers Big Sisters in hiring a skilled social worker. This funding has made it possible for hundreds of local children and youth to be matched with a Big Brother or Big Sister or to enrol in our school groups and transitional services." – Darlene Jamieson, Executive Director, Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Bay and District Inc.

"NOHFC funding has been instrumental in creating a full-time nursing position with Pathways. MPP Fedeli's support has been fundamental in empowering Pathways Wellness and Medical Foot Care to elevate our impact on underserved communities. This commitment enables us to provide comprehensive healthcare services and strengthens our resolve to make a positive difference in the lives of those in need

within this great community." – Brittany and Shawn Louiseize, Chief Executive Officers, Pathways Wellness Clinic Inc.

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