



**Results Announcement - Funding awarded to local organizations and businesses to grow their positive impact in Central Ontario through social enterprise.**

**For Immediate Release: Muskoka, ON** — The Muskoka Community Foundation in partnership with The County Foundation and the Barrie Community Foundation is pleased to announce that it has awarded **\$470,400.00** in funding to eight organizations in the Central Ontario region as part of the Government of Canada’s Investment Readiness Program (IRP). This \$50 million renewed investment supports social purpose organizations, such as social enterprises, non-profits, charities and co-operatives, as they strengthen Canada’s social finance market while supporting their communities.

The Central Ontario region received a high volume of applications for the highly competitive program. This funding has supported projects including:

- \$71,500 to fund Fourth Pig Worker Co-op – Baysville, ON
- \$69,900 to fund Muskoka North Good Food Co-operative, Inc. – Huntsville, ON
- \$47,060 to fund Muskoka Community Land Trust – Baysville, ON
- \$17,290 to fund Prince Edward Learning Centre – Picton, ON
- \$75,000 to fund Community Builders Construction – Minesing, ON
- \$75,000 to fund LoveSong Housing – Bloomfield, ON
- \$74,650 to fund Redwood Park Communities – Barrie, ON
- \$40,000 to fund Darkspark – Demorestville, ON

“The Investment Readiness Program has been a catalyst for communities across the country, and we are delighted to be sharing the program’s results today. From coast to coast to coast, social purpose organizations are showcasing bold leadership and rethinking how revenue generation can work alongside increasing community impact. We continue to be inspired by the creativity and solutions that strengthen the resilience of the charitable sector while taking on tough social challenges. We are deeply appreciative of our network of community foundations, the Foundation for Black Communities, and the Government of Canada for their continued collaboration and care.”] says Andrea Dicks, President of Community Foundations of Canada, a national partner in the Investment Readiness Program.

The Investment Readiness Program was open to a diverse range of organizations and businesses, including charities, non-profits, co-ops and social enterprises. The program provided \$10,000 to \$75,000 to create, manage, and expand social enterprises in order to get ready to accept investment.

“There are so many inspiring community leaders looking to make a difference in new and innovative ways,” says Lynn DeCaro, Muskoka Community Foundation Executive Director. “We are looking forward to seeing the IRP help these recipients grow their impact even more.”



The Investment Readiness Program will help social enterprises across Canada grow, and build their capacity to accept investors, and participate in Canada's growing social finance market.

-30-

#### About the Muskoka Community Foundation

The Muskoka Community Foundation is one of 191 Community Foundations in Canada administering over \$1.8 million in endowed and flow-through funds. Since it was founded in 2007, the Muskoka Community Foundation has granted over \$1 million directly to registered charities throughout Muskoka.

#### About the Program

Community Foundations of Canada is a partner in the Investment Readiness Program (IRP) which helps allocate funds from the Government of Canada to social purpose organizations preparing to successfully participate in the social finance market. As a Regional Partner with CFC in delivering the IRP, [Community foundation] will help empower others to unlock innovative solutions to social challenges.