

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

QUARTERLY REPORT
FALL 2021



PONT INTERNATIONAL
**GORDIE
HOWE**
INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE

The Community Benefits Plan is a key component of the Gordie Howe International Bridge project. With a commitment to transparent and accountable implementation, the project team is proud to report on Community Benefit Plan activities and accomplishments each quarter. For more information on Community Benefits Plan initiatives visit GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com.

NEIGHBOURHOOD INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION



COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION INVESTMENT

The application period for the **Community Organization Investment (COI)** recently closed with approximately 30 applications received. This initiative is a five-year

commitment to provide an annual investment of **\$100,000** to registered non-profit or charitable organizations located in or serving residents of Sandwich/west Windsor and Delray/Southwest Detroit. Funds are used to support events, programming and infrastructure improvements that benefit these communities.

The 2022 recipients will be announced in late spring. The application window for the 2023 round of funding is anticipated to open in November 2022.

In 2021, **Clark Park Coalition** received **\$3,000** for this year's Winter Carnival in Clark Park. This free event attracted about 2,000 people for winter fun and games.



Photos courtesy of Tomorrow's Memories by Christi

PREVIOUSLY FUNDED COI INITIATIVES

Border City Athletics Club received **\$10,000** to support the Girls Can Summit Series in December 2021. The event provided an opportunity for over 70 BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Colour) girls to be physically active and meet Olympians and elite athletes from different sports.



Over 70 girls enjoyed the Girls Can Summit Series in December.

All investments relating to Community Benefits are noted in Canadian funds.

SANDWICH STREET CONSULTATION

Community members are encouraged to help the project team prioritize how to spend the **\$1 million** enhancements that are part of the larger **Sandwich Street reconstruction project**. The funding is part of the Community Benefits Plan and is intended to help beautify the Sandwich Street business improvement area.

An online survey is available for community members to rank investment areas such as landscaping, active transportation systems, hardscaping and gathering spaces.

Following the close of the survey in early March, the project team will review and identify the investment areas to be incorporated into the Sandwich Street designs. Construction on Sandwich Street is anticipated to begin later this year.

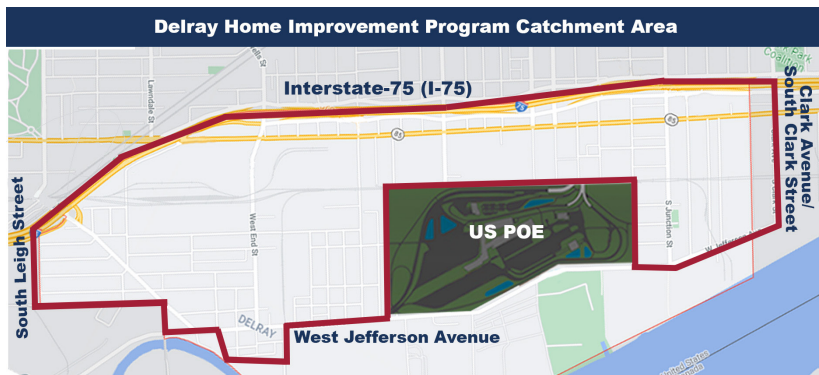
To learn more and to take the survey, visit GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com or call 1-844-322-1773 for more information.

We wish to acknowledge that the land in Canada where the Gordie Howe International Bridge project is being constructed sits on Anishinaabe Territory. The Anishinaabeg in the Windsor area are known as the Three Fires Confederacy which consists of the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi Nations. This land has also served as a place of refuge for the Huron/Wendat people.

DELRAY HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Construction activity continues on Delray homes as part of the **\$4 million** Community Benefits Plan investment in the area. The **Delray Home Improvement Program** is a free home repair program for eligible homes or duplexes in the area surrounding the Gordie Howe International Bridge and US Port of Entry construction site in the Delray, Detroit neighbourhood.

The program's catchment area will expand to include homes within the boundaries of I-75 to West Jefferson Avenue and Clark Street to South Leigh Street.



For more information on the program and how to apply, visit GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com.



The first completed roof replacement of the Delray Home Improvement Program.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The Community Benefits Plan includes a commitment to support business development in Sandwich/west Windsor and Delray/Southwest Detroit. The project team released the second year of funding to delivery partners for the **Sandwich Business Development Program** including **\$20,000** for the **Downtown Windsor Business Accelerator** and **\$50,000** for **WindsorEssex Small Business & Entrepreneurship Centre, A Division of Invest WindsorEssex**.

The final instalment of three-year funding for the **Bridge to Prosperity Program** in Delray was released to **Southwest Detroit Business Association**. In total this represented a **\$250,000** investment in support of southwest Detroit businesses and entrepreneurs.

UNITED WAY INVESTMENT

In November 2021, the Community Benefits team invested **\$40,000** in support of the **United Way Centraide Windsor-Essex County's** Ujima program, which supports Black youth enrolled in United Way's On Track to Success program. The Ujima program is based on feedback from BIPOC youth located within Windsor's west end and the Sandwich community and aims to help BIPOC youth navigate cultural and racial barriers by providing culturally focused supports and programming. This annual donation is part of a larger **\$160,000** investment to be provided to the United Way between 2021-2024, which will directly support programs for Sandwich-area youth.

NEIGHBOURHOOD GREEN IMPROVEMENTS

As part of the Triple Tree Impact Program, the project team helped to collect 62 pounds of garbage at the second Sandwich Litter Cleanup event hosted by **Essex Region Conservation Authority**.

SANDWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK IMPROVEMENTS



In January 2022, the **City of Windsor** received **\$200,000** as part of the Community Benefits Plan initiative to invest in Sandwich-area parks. The investment will support the construction of a new gazebo and improvements to the existing board walkway in McKee Park. These improvements will be carried out by the City. Construction is expected to begin this spring.



McKee Park improvements are expected to begin in spring 2022.

All initiatives are being monitored and evaluated for possible effects on implementation due to COVID-19. The project team intends to implement these initiatives safely while still delivering on our commitments to the community.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND PARTICIPATION STRATEGY

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Between **November 2021** and **January 2022**, the project team participated in the following:

- Hosted virtual meetings of the project's Canadian and US Trades-Specific Workforce Development Steering Committees
- Presented at the New Canadians' Centre of Excellence Mentor Meet and Match event
- Participated in Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc.'s Virtual Job Fair
- Hosted two virtual Community Organization Investment initiative information sessions
- Participated in mock interviews at the Randolph Career Technical Center
- Hosted procurement summits for over 150 participants in Canada and the US to connect subcontractors and businesses and review pathways to working on the project
- Attended a community information and networking session at the Downtown Windsor Business Accelerator

CONSTRUCTION ACADEMY VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

The Gordie Howe International Bridge team presented to more than 700 high school students from the **Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board Construction Academy** in December 2021. Students heard first-hand what it's like working on a once-in-a-generation project from a site superintendent, crane operator, electrician, and mason. Over 33 classes participated in the presentation.



These students from a Construction Academy Plumbing Class were part of 33 classes that took part in a virtual project presentation.

"It was a huge success with our students and teachers who participated. We had great feedback and participation throughout the event," Cory McAiney Teacher Consultant – Pathways, OYAP and Technological Studies, Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board

To book a presentation from the Gordie Howe International Bridge project team contact info@wdbridge.com.

To learn more about employment and procurement opportunities on the project visit GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com.

CUMULATIVE TOTALS FROM SEPTEMBER 2018 TO SEPTEMBER 2021

5360+

individuals oriented to the project in Canada and the US



43%

are local*



*"Local" is defined as being within the City of Detroit or within 100 kilometres of the City of Windsor



210+

pre-apprentices/apprentices assigned to the project

more than

190



local* businesses engaged on the project

As of December 31, 2021,

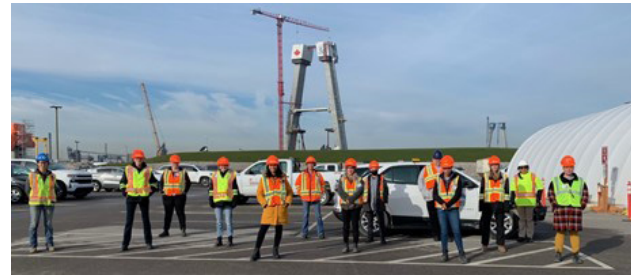
194

co-operative learning experiences have been provided on the project

DEVELOPING THE LOCAL WORKFORCE

In November 2021, the project team hosted an information session and tour for a Women in the Skilled Trades group from **Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc. (WEST)**. Ten students attended a project presentation and toured the Canadian bridge site.

Four women from an earlier WEST training program completed a 10-week trial work placement at the Canadian Port of Entry. One student secured an electrician apprenticeship with a subcontractor through the **International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers**. The others will join an eight-week apprentice training program in March 2022 through the **Labourers' International Union of North America**.



WEST students tour the Canadian POE.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY BENEFITS INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- Sandwich Street Enhancements public consultation
- Expansion of the Delray Home Improvement Program catchment area
- Engagement on Windsor-Detroit Cross-River Tour
- Continuation of the Sandwich Business Development and Bridge to Prosperity Programs
- Construction of the Belanger Park Observation Area
- Engagement with local educational and workforce organizations

ABOUT COMMUNITY BENEFITS

On the Gordie Howe International Bridge project, **community benefits are identified opportunities that can advance economic, social or environmental conditions for local communities**. In developing the Community Benefits Plan, it was key that the initiatives selected for implementation would provide positive outcomes for the Windsor-Detroit region and specifically focus on enhancing the Sandwich and Delray communities, the neighbourhoods closest to the project area.

Community benefits initiatives are delivered by the project team, a collaboration between Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority, Bridging North America and the State of Michigan.

The Community Benefits Plan is comprised of two components:



THE NEIGHBOURHOOD INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY focuses on collaborating with stakeholders and community members through consultation to develop a community betterments strategy based on priorities identified through public consultation, including: community partnerships, community safety and connections, economic benefits, and/or aesthetics and landscaping.



THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND PARTICIPATION STRATEGY is geared toward engaging businesses and focuses on supporting workforce, training and pre-apprenticeship/apprenticeship opportunities.

THE GORDIE HOWE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PROJECT is a once-in-a-generation undertaking. Not only will the project deliver much-needed transportation improvements for international travellers, it will also provide jobs and opportunities for growth to the Windsor, Ontario and Detroit, Michigan region and includes features that make this project truly distinctive. A key project element is the inclusion of a Community Benefits Plan.

The project consists of four components:



THE BRIDGE



CANADIAN PORT OF ENTRY



US PORT OF ENTRY



MICHIGAN INTERCHANGE

For more information about the progress of the Community Benefits Plan connect with us:

- Facebook: @GordieHoweBridge
- Twitter: @GordieHoweBrg
- LinkedIn: WDBA-APWD
- Instagram: @gordiehowebrg
- YouTube: YouTube.com/GordieHoweBridge

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