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Members of EXIM's 2019 Advisory Committee and Sub-Saharan Africa Committee

The Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) convened meetings of the EXIM Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) and EXIM Sub-Saharan Africa Advisory Committee (SAAC) today at the agency's headquarters. All meetings were open to the public. The Honorable Stevan Pearce, a small business owner and former member of the U.S. House of Representatives and the New Mexico House of Representatives, chairs the Advisory Committee. Daniel Runde, senior vice president and William A. Schreyer Chair in Global Analysis at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, chairs the SAAC. After observing a moment of silence in observance of 9/11, the two committees held their first-ever joint session on priority topics and updates, including on EXIM's programs, reforms, re-insurance pilot program, and Congressional reauthorization process as the agency's charter lapses on September 30. During a working lunch on the topic of "Economic Security is National Security," the focus turned to the United States, China, and the competitive global landscape. Participants were SAAC Chairman Runde; Jim Cruse, EXIM senior vice president for the Office of

Policy Analysis and International Relations; Larry Goodman, Advisory Committee member and president and founder of the Center for Financial Stability; and Jamal Ware, senior advisor on national security. Over the past 10 years, the world's official export credit marketplace has changed dramatically and fundamentally. China has prioritized its use of export credit financing as part of its industrial strategy to create an alternative international finance/trade system. Members of both committees also actively engaged on the importance of supporting small businesses and how the agency is working to fulfill its mission of supporting American jobs by leveling the playing field for U.S. businesses in the competitive global trade environment. "The Export-Import Bank of the United States is a tool in the economic and strategic toolbox at a time when global competition has never been more intense," said EXIM Advisory Committee Chair the Honorable Stevan Pearce. "With more than 100 export credit agencies in operation around the world, it is imperative that EXIM be reauthorized to help position American private industry to compete effectively in the

global marketplace. This is not only an economic issue, but a national security issue as well. The world loves 'Made in the USA' products and that's how we compete first and foremost, through the full faith and credit of the United States." "The Export-Import Bank of the United States' projects have touched all corners of the globe, including Sub-Saharan Africa, which EXIM has a congressional mandate to serve," said EXIM Sub-Saharan Africa Advisory Committee Chair Daniel Runde. "It is critical to reauthorize the agency as EXIM plays a key role in supporting economic growth and development in Africa through the export of 'Made in the USA' good and services. Countries want to do business with the U.S. and

EXIM Advisory and Sub-Saharan Africa Advisory Committees Participate in Joint Meeting on Agency's Mandate to Sustain American Jobs through Increased U.S. Exports

buy from American exporters, which delivers mutual benefits to the United States and our partners in Africa." "Re-establishing these Congressionally-mandated advisory committees, which have not convened since 2015, was a top priority for me," said EXIM President and Chairman Kimberly A. Reed. "I look forward to working with both committees as to how EXIM can better serve American companies and their workers while also protecting the interests of U.S. taxpayers. President Trump asked me to do great things at EXIM and, as we work hard to transform the agency, today's focus – particularly on the topic of China and competitiveness – was invaluable." Stephen Renna, EXIM's chief banking officer, assessed EXIM's programs since the

nation's only export credit agency was restored to full financing capacity earlier this year. The U.S. Senate re-established a quorum May 8 when it approved Chairman Reed and two additional members of EXIM's board of directors, Spencer Bachus III and Judith D. Pryor. The committee members also received updates from EXIM leaders Lisa Terry, senior vice president and chief ethics officer; David Slade, general counsel; Jim Burrows, senior vice president, Office of Small Business; David Sena, senior vice president, Office of Board Authorized Finance; Ross Branson, senior vice president, Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs; David Fogel, chief of staff; Lauren Fuller, senior advisor to the chairman; and Mark Klein, regional director.

PRIORITY INVITATION



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MERIDIAN CELEBRATES 30 YEARS OF JET CHARTER



The flight operations team of Meridian Air Charter poses with the original air carrier certificate to celebrate its 30th anniversary.

Meridian, the award-winning private aviation company, is proud to celebrate the 30th anniversary of its jet charter business. General Aviation Flying Service, as the charter company was originally known, was formed in 1983. In September 1989, it added its first jet, a Citation SII, to its fleet of piston aircraft. In 1986, General Aviation Flying Service became Million Air Charter Teterboro when its FBO joined the aviation franchise. In 2004, the company evolved into Meridian Air Charter, as it is known today.

“We officially entered the jet age in 1989 when the owner of one of the piston aircraft we managed acquired a jet,” said Ken Forester, Meridian’s CEO. “From there we continued to



grow and add additional aircraft, as well as open our FAA-approved repair station.”

In 1997, the company began operating a Gulfstream II, marking its entry into the large cabin charter business. Today, Meridian Air Charter has a diverse fleet of aircraft, ranging from ultralong-range to midsize and light jets.

“We’ve seen a lot of growth over the last 30 years, both with our charter division and with the rest of the company,” added Forester. “I’m proud of what we have accomplished and look forward to serving

our customers for many years to come.”

Meridian currently manages a wide range of aircraft types that are available for private charter. Our extensive fleet includes the Global 5000, Gulfstream G550, Falcon 7X, Gulfstream GIV-SP, Falcon 900EX EASy, Challenger 650, Challenger 605, Challenger 604, Falcon 2000EX EASy, Gulfstream G200, and Hawker 900XP. In addition, other aircraft types are available through Meridian’s extensive network of qualified operators.

Vertis adds Falcon 900EX to support growing demand for mid-range charters

Switzerland-headquartered Vertis Aviation, the bespoke charter specialist, has added a Dassault Falcon 900EX to its Vertis Charter Management Programme, VCMP. The latest addition to the virtual roster of aircraft is managed and operated by a UK AOC holder and is now exclusively marketed through Vertis. Based at London Farnborough Airport the Falcon 900EX is available for international charter immediately through any of the Vertis offices in Boston, Dubai, Cape Town, and the headquarters in Zug. The Falcon 900EX is configured to seat up to 12 passengers. Its recently refurbished interior features neutral tones and richly veneered wooden cabinetry, with two cabin seating areas conducive to either working or relaxing, a forward galley and two lavatories. An option for two berths is available for sleeping on longer or overnight flights. Inflight connectivity is delivered by cabin-WiFi, while movies and TV series are available through a DVD and video system offering a variety of entertainment opportunities. Vertis anticipates the aircraft will be used by a mix of corporate and private charters owing to the versatility of its operating capabilities, cabin comfort and competitive pricing. With a range of up to 4500 nautical miles the aircraft is well suited for trans-continental and trans-Atlantic routes. In addition, equipped with three engines the 900EX is not subject to Extended Twin Operations (ETOPS) regulations, which serves to widen operating parameters and extend charter range. City pairs including London to New York or London to Dubai are

all easily within the aircraft capability. “In addition to the benefits delivered by tri-engine operations, the aircraft is a great option for customers looking for long-range, short-field performance and operational flexibility. We anticipate it will be a popular addition to our portfolio and are already receiving a variety of requests from single charter to block-hour inquiries,” said Vertis Aviation Chairman, Julian Burrell. “More recently we have seen an uptick towards mid to large-cabin charter and a decrease in demand for executive airliner charter. In response to these changes we are working with a number of owners and operators to increase our offering in this sector. One of the major benefits of our VCMP business model is the ability to adjust and transform our collection to support market needs, and right now that is moving towards exactly this type of aircraft. The operator chose to work with Vertis as our business model has a proven track of offering professional charter marketing services which genuinely add value for the owner.”

The current Vertis fleet includes the Dassault Falcon 900EX, a Bombardier Global 6000, a Challenger 350, a BBJ and an Airbus A319CJ. The VCMP, Vertis Charter Management Programme, supports owners and operators by offering exclusive outsourced charter sales management and is ideal for individual owners, small fleet operators, or aircraft management companies looking for innovative ways of supporting owners’ assets.



JOIN YOUR INDUSTRY WHEN COACH & BUS UK RETURNS TO THE NEC BIRMINGHAM ON 2-3 OCTOBER 2019.



Weston Aviation appoints Ruth Tootill as Aviation Fuel Manager



Photo of Weston Aviation CEO Nick Weston (left of photo) Western Aviation Managing Director Becky Carver (right of photo) and Ruth Tootill (centre of photo)

Weston Aviation, the UK and Ireland FBO and business aviation resource company, has appointed Ruth Tootill as Aviation Fuel Manager for the group. Formerly with Air BP, Ruth was Account Manager of GA Fuels sales in the UK and brings to Weston Aviation 23 years of experience within the oil industry, and 8 years within aviation, building relationships and networks worldwide during management of fuel tenders and expansion of Air BP's fuel reseller network.

Speaking of the appointment, CEO, Nick Weston said, "We are absolutely delighted to welcome Ruth to the Weston Aviation team and through her vast experience of fuel contracts and reseller

arrangements, it is an exciting new phase of development of the wide ranging services that we now offer to our customers and airports".

Commenting on the move, Ruth Tootill said "After many years with Air BP, I was looking for a different and exciting challenge in which I can develop and use my extensive knowledge of aviation fuel operations and Weston Aviation was the one company that I had in mind, so I am delighted to be joining Nick, Becky and the team across our four offices"

Weston Aviation operates its own network of FBO locations at Cornwall Airport Newquay, Gloucestershire Airport, Humberside Airport

and Cork Airport in Ireland. In addition, its portfolio of services also includes cargo and private jet charter sales, fuel provision and contracting, and business aviation regional airport development support and consultancy.

Established in 1995, Weston Aviation is the second largest FBO network in the UK and Ireland in terms of locations with additional FBO facilities at Cornwall Airport Newquay, Humberside International Airport and Cork Airport in Ireland. Weston Aviation also provides aircraft charter services, aircraft leasing and fuel services.



Zeusch Aviation bolsters medevac expertise as King Air B200 operations launch in Spain



Zeusch Aviation, the Netherlands-based aerial services provider, has begun dedicated European medevac operations in Spain using its King Air B200. The G-registered, G-MEDZ, which has been configured in air ambulance format, is operating regular flights in partnership with IAS Medical, the UK-headquartered private air ambulance company which holds the AOC on which the aircraft operates.

Air ambulance services are being provided for the Spanish aviation organization Eliance which specialises in supporting aerial medical transportation, search and rescue and firefighting. Zeusch has repositioned the modified King Air B200 from its home-base in Lelystad to Malaga, where a crew of two, working on a two-week rotation, is also based to support the mission.

The first medevac operation took-off on 10 July 2019, and since launching the King Air B200 has already transported some 40 patients between Melilla and Malaga, Spain. Patient care is administered by a local professional medical team during the thirty-minute flight.

Melilla is a Spanish enclave located on the north coast of Africa, sharing a border Morocco. It has a population of approximately 86,000 and is served by three small hospitals that provide limited healthcare services. The Zeusch flights provide an invaluable service transporting patients to ground

ambulances on mainland Spain, which then transfer patients to clinical centres of excellence.

In its medevac configuration the King Air B200 can carry up to two walking patients or a laying single patient in need of a stretcher. The cabin is equipped with a Lifeport PLUS-system which provides a stretcher, as well as high-tech medical equipment including a vacuum system, compressed air, a three-outlet 1000 watts inverter (230VAC) and a 3500-litre oxygen system with remote filling port.

"Zeusch Aviation is proud to be part of this special operation which is literally life-saving in some cases. These flights not only show the need for specialized equipment and well-trained personnel, but also highlights the capabilities of our King Air B200. Most importantly it also demonstrates the importance of cooperation between entities to fulfil a specific mission," said Zeusch Managing Director, Herman van Kranenburg. "This is enhancing our operational expertise and provides an excellent platform for expanding our medevac operations which we anticipate will widen out across Europe over the next year."

Photo caption: Since operations commenced on July 10th Zeusch Aviation's specially-outfitted King Air B200 has ferried more than 40 patients for medical treatment.



U.S. Air Force Combat System Officers use mixed reality MetaVR based software for training

MetaVR's Virtual Reality Scene Generator forms part of a mixed reality embedded training device on the T-1A Jayhawk aircraft

Optical/Infra-Red (EO/IR) training capability to the aircraft. The U.S. Air Force's Combat Systems Officer training station at Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, FL, has purchased 49 MetaVR VRSG licenses which will be installed on 21 T-1A Jayhawk training

aircraft at the base. VRSG forms part of the T-1A Combat System Officers Training System (CSOTS) embedded training device for the aircraft, which is used to train students in the operation of EO/IR sensors. VRSG generates the visuals for the



MetaVR's Virtual Reality Scene Generator (VRSG) has been integrated into the U.S. Air Force T-1A Jayhawk twin-engine jet trainer aircraft as part of an embedded training device to provide a simulated mixed reality Electro-

JetSolution Aviation Group Attained ISO 9001:2015 Standard Proven Exceptional Quality Management Capabilities

JetSolution Aviation Group, the Hong Kong-based leading business aviation consultancy, proudly announced it has achieved ISO 9001:2015 Quality

Management System Standard awarded by SIS Certifications, in the scope of Aircraft Transactions, Financing and Charter Operations; Aviation and Legal Compliance Advisory; and Aircrew Placement for Business Aviation. By continuous improvement to meet a series of stringent surveillance audit, JetSolution is officially recognized by ISO, one of the most well-regarded standards in the world.

Led by Ms. Jackie Wu who has been a veteran aviation specialist renowned globally, JetSolution leverages its exclusive know-how for the aircraft transaction, financing and charter operations to present practical customer-oriented aviation solutions. Our aviation professionals perform comprehensive aircraft transaction processes compliant to global aviation and legal authorities, which are governed by standardized management systems, defining new standards that justify our performance and efficacy. JetSolution's stop-notch charter flight operations with its flight crew professionally trained in-

house following the Flight Safety International training, which were testified in this ISO 9001:2015



certification standard. "The ISO 9001:2015 certification accomplishment is a remarkable third-party validation proving our quality

of business process and services delivery to every prestigious client. We are dedicated to constantly improving in the future for sustainability of this honour." said Ms. Jackie Wu, the Founder and President of JetSolution. "Our one-stop aircraft transaction and financing solutions to our demanding clients were the most challenging for this certification, we are extremely proud of our performances that granted us this international recognition, which is a significant milestone for the Group since establishment in 2009."

"This certification success serves as a testament to our strong emphasis placed on unrivalled services including N888JK private jet charter quality boosting us to scale new heights in future pathways." said Ms. Kennis Fu, the Managing Director of JetSolution.



Business aviation elite-gathering JetSolution is delighted to receive the ISO 9001 accreditation



JetSolution's newly acquired flagship aircraft N888JK showcased unrivalled private jet standards

Quality is defined as conformance to requirements; ISO 9001:2015 globally recognized accreditation requires JetSolution to sustain the uncompromising quality control management in order to serve clients in the most trustworthy and proficient manner. We will spare no efforts to fulfil this prime requisite and live up to the high expectations from our privileged customers.

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system, resulting in a mixed reality training experience for trainees that combines simulated and live environments. In-flight EO/IR training is carried out using a generic simulated sensor model similar to the MX-20. A total of 15 flight paths between North Carolina and Louisiana can be flown during training exercises, with correlated views rendered on MetaVR's SE CONUS ++ terrain. The system is integrated with a third party computer-generated/semi-automated forces application so that students 'see' targets inserted into the simulated view. These targets – buildings, ground vehicles or other aircraft – are models from MetaVR's model libraries. "The training environment is

truly mixed reality – students looking out the aircraft window see real-world locations that correlate with the simulated sensor views of MetaVR's geospecific 3D terrain rendered in VRSG software," Garth Smith, President of MetaVR said. "The major benefit here is that the students obtain maximum training value by flying a real platform and benefitting from having a sensor view that correlates to their actual geographic location." The sensor simulation approach helps reduce overall training costs to the US Air Force by providing an alternative to more expensive actual EO/IR sensors. Two VRSG licenses are installed on each of the 21 aircraft. One VRSG display is located in

front with co-pilot, the other is situated behind where the student sits. In addition to the aircraft-based training system, VRSG is used on a ground-based trainer to increase student's familiarization, and to provide the ability to play back training missions in a debrief setting. "VRSG is used to teach students various techniques and theories related to the use of the EO/IR sensor equipment in a simulated environment, with targets inserted into the simulated view – something that would be cost prohibitive to recreate in the real world," Smith added. All US Air Force CSO Training is consolidated at NAS Pensacola under the 479th Flying Training Group Air Education and Training

Command unit. The T-1A CSOTS is the first course of a 1.5 year-long CSO training course. After the T-1A course, students go on to EW

classroom training on the T25 Simulator for Electronic Combat Training, a classified system which also uses VRSG; followed by training on the T-



AVIATION TRAINING TAKES FLIGHT AT FANSHAWE COLLEGE

Province Approves New Commercial Flight and Aviation Leadership Program

The Ontario Government is providing more choice for aviation training by approving Fanshawe College's new Commercial Flight and Aviation Leadership program to start in fall 2020. "Our government supports initiatives that give workers the knowledge and skills they need to succeed and keep Ontario Open for Business — and we believe this program will do just that," said David Piccini, Ministry of Training, College and Universities Parliamentary Assistant. "Fanshawe is taking another step to give their students more opportunities to succeed. By approving Fanshawe's new Commercial Flight and Aviation Leadership program, our Government has taken a critical step in providing more choice for aviation training," said Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour. The new three-year program, the first of its kind, will be focused on aviation leadership and flight training. It will offer

a wide range of in-demand career skills and knowledge and increase options for students in the aviation program. The program will also bring new aviation industry opportunities to the London region. "Fanshawe is proud to be expanding its aviation offerings to include flight training at the Norton Wolf School of Aviation Technology," said Peter Devlin, President of Fanshawe College. "With these new programs, the College will be a major training destination for future aerospace careers both nationally and internationally." "We know there is growing demand for people in the aviation sector, especially commercial pilots. This proposed program and Fanshawe's partnership with Diamond Flight Centre will give students the training and skills they need to meet the current job demands." said Jeff Yurek, Minister of

Environment, Conservation and Parks.

QUICK FACTS

- Almost 86 per cent of 2016-17 of all Ontario college graduates were employed within six months of graduating.
 - According to the Canadian Council for Aviation & Aerospace (2018), there is strong and growing labour market demand for licensed commercial pilots.
 - The job outlook for air pilots, flight engineers and flying instructors for 2017-2021 is above average with a total of 801-900 projected openings in Ontario.
 - Industry projections suggest a need for 620,000 active airline pilots world-wide by 2036 up from 290,00 in 2017.
- Fanshawe offers a comprehensive suite of aviation and aerospace-related programming, including technology, manufacturing

ONTARIO HONOURING WORLD WAR I HERO

Durham Region Courthouse Renamed after Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel Sharpe

The Ontario government is honouring a Canadian hero by renaming the Durham Region Courthouse after prominent military leader, lawyer and parliamentarian Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel Sharpe. The courthouse, located on Bond Street East in Oshawa, will now be referred to as the Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel S. Sharpe, DSO, MP Courthouse. "Over the past several years, the province has heard from people at every level of government in the region - and members of all political parties - about the importance of honouring Lieutenant-Colonel Sharpe," said Attorney General Doug Downey. "We salute a Canadian hero who bravely fought on the battlefields of Passchendaele and Vimy Ridge while continuing to represent his constituents as a Member of Parliament." Sharpe was born in Zephyr, Ontario in 1873. He was educated at the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall before being called to the bar and practising law in Uxbridge, including as solicitor for the Town of Uxbridge. He was elected to Parliament in 1908 and served as the MP for Ontario North until his death in 1918. At the outbreak of World War I, Sharpe used his stature and influence to organize the 116th Ontario County Battalion and to ensure it was not dismantled in Europe.

Under his command, the 116th Battalion fought valiantly at the battles of Vimy Ridge, Passchendaele and Avion. The heavy combat and the deaths of many of the young men he recruited eventually led Sharpe to relinquish command of his battalion. He was hospitalized for operational stress and died by suicide in Montreal a short time later. He was laid to rest in Uxbridge. The 116th Battalion became the modern Ontario Regiment, maintaining its Ontario County lineage and distinguished record of service to Canada. The armouries of the Ontario Regiment are a short walk from the courthouse that will now bear the name of its first commanding officer and one of Durham Region's legal pioneers. "This is a humbling opportunity for all of us to reflect on the bravery of our heroes, past and present, and to honour the sacrifices they've made so we can enjoy peace and prosperity," said Attorney General Downey.

QUICK FACTS

- Lieutenant-Colonel Sharpe holds the distinction of being the only MP to be re-elected while fighting on the Western Front in Europe in World War I.
- Sharpe's name is inscribed on the Great War Memorial located at the Osgoode Hall Library, near the Ontario Legislature.

ONTARIO RELEASES 2018-19 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Ontario Government delivers on its commitment to transparency and accountability

Ontario's government released the 2018-19 Public Accounts, reinforcing the government's ongoing work to restore sustainability to the province's finances. Tabled annually, the Public Accounts provide a retrospective look at the government's fiscal performance over the previous year. For the second year in a row Bonnie Lysyk, Ontario's Auditor General, issued a clean audit opinion on the government's books. "Through prudent fiscal planning, our government has put Ontario back on a path to balance while restoring transparency and accountability to the province's finances," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, President of the Treasury Board. "Our government's strong fiscal management and smart policies mean we are overcoming the previous government's record of waste and mismanagement. While we've made good progress, there is more work to be done." Due to higher than anticipated revenues reflecting strong business profits, a growing job market, higher consumer

consumption and lower than expected expenses, the 2018-19 deficit fell from a high of \$15 billion as projected by the Independent Financial Commission of Inquiry to \$7.4 billion. "Our government inherited a significant fiscal challenge. Today's results demonstrate that our plan to put Ontario's finances back on track and foster a strong economic climate is working," said Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance. "Thanks to higher than anticipated revenue and lower expenses, we have successfully reduced the deficit for the 2018-19 fiscal year." By making historic investments in healthcare and education, while modernizing program and service delivery, the government continues to deliver on its commitment to spend taxpayer dollars smarter and focus on what matters most to the people of Ontario. Our plan to restore the fiscal health of the province is working, and we will continue to look for ways to spend smarter and maximize every tax dollar," said Bethlenfalvy. "The release of the 2018-19 Public Accounts of Ontario

demonstrates the hard work that has been done to date to restore the province's finances while directing spending to the services Ontarians rely on every day."

QUICK FACTS

- The Public Accounts present the government's financial statements and show how finances were managed over the last fiscal year.
 - Treasury Board Secretariat prepares the Public Accounts in accordance with independently established standards set out by the Public Sector Accounting Board.
- Ontario's Auditor General audits the Public Accounts against these standards. After auditing the Public Accounts, the Auditor General provides an opinion on whether the financial position and results are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the Canadian Public Sector accounting standards. This is the first Public Accounts tabled since the Fiscal Sustainability Transparency and Accountability Act was passed to help support transparent and timely

ONTARIO EXPANDING TELEHEALTH ONTARIO TO INCLUDE SMOKING CESSATION SERVICES

Province Making it Easier for Ontarians to Access More Health Supports in One Call

Ontario is providing more comprehensive services for people who are seeking to quit smoking by transitioning telephone-based smoking cessation services in Ontario from Smokers' Helpline to the Telehealth Ontario platform. "There's no one-size-fits-all solution for Ontarians looking to quit smoking," said Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "That's why it's so vital we offer services that can connect Ontarians to comprehensive supports, be that access to registered dietitians, primary care

experts or mental health and addictions counselling. With this change, we are making it easier for patients across Ontario to benefit from connected health care that puts them at the centre of care they need, when they need it." As of October 1, 2019, Ontarians will have easy access to registered nurses and smoking cessation support through Telehealth Ontario, in combination with other services and health information already offered, including professional medical advice, nutrition counselling and referrals to mental health and addictions

support. By transitioning these resources to Telehealth Ontario, the government expects to improve and expand frontline services and supports available to Ontarians, while saving \$750,000 annually. Telehealth Ontario is a free and confidential service for health advice and information 24 hours a day, seven days a week in more than 300 languages. Through the service, registered nurses assess health issues, provide advice and direct callers to the most appropriate care over the telephone. This can also include putting the caller in contact with other health professionals or services.

"We are ensuring Ontarians have simplified access to health care information and advice to make informed choices about their health, and to navigate health care easily," said Elliott. "We appreciate the Canadian Cancer Society for their long-standing partnership in delivering Smokers' Helpline,

and their ongoing work on smoking cessation, tobacco control and other cancer related issues across the country and we are committed to continue working with them to ensure a smooth and seamless transition of telephone-based cessation services to Telehealth Ontario."

The government also continues to fund other smoking cessation services at no cost to the patient, including:

- Smoking-cessation services for Ontario Drug Benefit program recipients;
- Nicotine Replacement Therapy and counselling through the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health;
- A smoking cessation program for patients in hospitals, specialty clinics and primary care settings, like a doctor's office, through the University of Ottawa Heart Institute; and
- Smoking cessation support for

priority populations in northern Ontario through Lakehead University.

QUICK FACTS

- To get telephone-based smoking cessation support, as of October 1, 2019, and health care information and advice, 24 hours a day and 7 days a week, call Telehealth Ontario toll free at 1-866-797-0000 or toll-free TTY at 1-866-797-0007.

Telehealth Ontario provides services in both English and French, with

- telephone interpretation available to support callers in more than 300 languages.
 - Telephone calls from Ontario using the telephone number on cigarette packages will be responded to by Telehealth Ontario.
- Ontario has previously strengthened smoking and vaping laws to keep harmful products out of the hands of children and youth.

an evening of education and relationship development.

· Creation of research and intelligence documents focused on the security, governance and defence sectors. This will include identifying opportunities for both cities based on current leads and existing partnerships.

· Identification of clients where both cities would be of interest followed by the creation of a joint proposal/bid highlighting synergies between the two destinations as well as legacy benefits of working together.

· Identification of historic Hague clients that would be interested in Ottawa and vice-versa

Bas Schot, Head of Congresses & Events, The Hague & Partners said: "The Hague and Ottawa have so much in common and we look forward to working more closely with them over the coming months and years. Next week's Mayoral Mission to The Hague and the signing of the MOU represents significant opportunities for both cities and I am delighted that the value of the relationship has been recognised at the highest levels of city governance in both destinations. Working together as CVBs is innovative and industry leading – doing so with both Mayors' support and enthusiasm ensures we have the investment and infrastructure to make this project a long-term success."

"This partnership will strengthen the value proposition of both cities and provide a platform to explore a host of new opportunities, particularly in the sectors where the two destinations already achieve significant success," adds Lesley Mackay, Ottawa Tourism's Vice President, Meetings and Major Events. "The launch event to industry buyers last night clearly demonstrated the appeal of our collaboration, as key buyers were able to understand the similarities and benefits of hosting events in either Ottawa or The Hague."

Thomas Atkinson, Future Host Manager from Routes, UBM EMEA said: "It's great to see destinations coming together creatively to find solutions for association events around the world. In particular, as an organiser, I appreciate and will undoubtedly benefit from the effort these destinations are putting in to learn from each other, as they develop their individual offerings based on their differing experiences. Ottawa and The Hague have clearly identified key similarities that allow them to work together and identify opportunities that will be of benefit for all. I hope to work with them both in the future."

Whilst it is too early to predict the potential economic impact this collaboration will deliver, both cities expect it to be a significant success and potentially act as a model for other likeminded destinations around the world.

OTTAWA TOURISM AND THE HAGUE CONVENTION BUREAU REVEAL JOINT ASSOCIATION AND EVENT MARKETING PARTNERSHIP



let's **grow** together
Ottawa and The Hague



Leading association destinations, Ottawa Tourism and The Hague Convention Bureau today revealed their intention to sign a friendly memorandum of understanding (MOU) aimed at strengthening both cities' offering to the global meetings and event industry.

During an Ottawa Mayoral Mission to the Netherlands next week (September 16-20, 2019), His Worship Jim Watson, Mayor of the City of Ottawa will meet with his counterpart Pauline Krikke, Mayor of The Hague to sign the agreement at an event that will celebrate 75 years of friendship between the two nations.

This MOU is the culmination of a bond created and developed over the last five years by the two convention bureaux. It however reflects

more than 75 years of collaboration and friendship between the two cities, which was particularly strengthened during the Second World War, when the Dutch Royal family sheltered in Ottawa. Between the two political capitals and international cities, there are many synergies and opportunities for collaboration. Ottawa and The Hague have a like-minded approach on a broad spectrum of issues, including a common commitment to multilateralism and rules-based international order.

The collaboration between Ottawa Tourism and The Hague Convention Bureau will open doors for both cities to

meet new clients through knowledge sharing and exchange. Just one example is support given by Ottawa Tourism in the run up to The Hague hosting One Young World in 2018. As one of the world's largest and most complex events, the Canadian capital was able to share its experiences from hosting in 2016.

Key objectives from the first year of the partnership include:

- Creation of joint sales activity – the first part of which took place last night when a group of association buyers joined Ottawa Tourism and The Hague Convention Bureau for

ONTARIO ENHANCING LIVESTOCK HEALTH, WELFARE AND PRODUCTIVITY

Research investment supports innovations to help keep farm animals healthy

Ontario's government is supporting agriculture innovation by investing in research on livestock nutrition, biosecurity and production to help keep our farm animals healthy and safe. The \$1.1 million investment will help develop new livestock technologies, practices and on-farm solutions while fostering innovation and competitiveness in the livestock sector.

"Our government is committed to advancing animal health and making the livestock sector more productive," said Ernie Hardeman, Ontario's Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural

Affairs. "This investment will provide farmers with the latest knowledge and tools they need to keep farm animals and food safe while continuing to be global leaders in the agriculture sector."

Through the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance, the province is funding livestock research to support the development of innovative products, approaches and best practices with research projects that include:

- Assessing health and precision technologies to improve dairy cow fertility.
- Investigating nutrition strategies to improve the health and growth of
- pigs.

- Research to guide antibiotic use in the goat industry.
- Enhancing natural fertility in dairy cows through health and precision technologies.
- A machine learning approach to illness surveillance in swine populations.
- Assessing alternative feeds to improve health and productivity in chickens.

"The University of Guelph is deeply committed to animal health and welfare, as highlighted by world-leading research that promotes animal well-being and the productivity of livestock" said Malcolm Campbell, Vice-President (Research). "This OMAFRA support will enable

University of Guelph to sustain its leadership in livestock research, underpinning the health and safety of farm animals, ensuring the security of our food systems, elevating the competitiveness of the Ontario agri-food sector, and consolidating our place as Canada's food university."

QUICK FACTS

- The Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance, a collaboration between the Ontario government and the University of Guelph, helps the province's agri-food and rural sectors grow and innovate.
- The \$1.1 million

earmarked for new livestock health, welfare and productivity projects is part of the province's Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance annual investment of \$5.8 million, which supports research at the University of Guelph. The Alliance funds research in areas of environmental sustainability, animal and plant health and production, as well as agri-food and bio-product development. Ontario's livestock sector contributes approximately \$15.4 billion to the GDP and supports more than 326,000 direct jobs.

Automotive Sector, Ontario's 10-year vision for how industry, the research and education sector, and all three levels of government, can work together to strengthen the auto sector's competitiveness.

"Our comprehensive, high-quality and innovative supply chain is an essential part of why Ontario is a great place to build vehicles," said Fedeli. "The launch of the Ontario Automotive Modernization Program further strengthens our close partnership with the industry to make Ontario open for business and open for jobs."

The new program invests with small- and medium-sized automotive parts suppliers in projects that fall under one or both of the following categories:

- Technology adoption — includes advanced manufacturing hardware, software and/or training to improve processes and enhance competitiveness. For example, projects could include investments in production technology allowing firms to digitize their

production tracking and logistical systems. Lean manufacturing — includes projects that support training in lean manufacturing practices to minimize waste during the production process and optimize productivity.

QUICK FACTS

- O-AMP funding will cover up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs up to \$100,000 with recipient companies contributing the remainder through their own resources. Funding for O-AMP is \$10 million over three years.
- More than 100,000 people are directly employed in Ontario's auto industry with about two thirds of those jobs in the auto parts sector.
- Ontario is the only place in North America where five major automakers build vehicles — Fiat Chrysler, Ford, General Motors, Honda, Toyota — as well as truck manufacturer Hino. More than 200 Ontario companies are developing connected and autonomous vehicle technologies in the province.

ONTARIO EXPANDING HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES

Major Investments in Frontline Care Critical to Ending Hallway Health Care

Ontario is making major investments to expand home and community care to help end hallway health care and build more capacity in communities across the province.

Today, Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, was at Hillcrest Reactivation Centre to announce that the government is investing an additional \$155 million this year to expand home and community care services.

"Home and community care play a critical role in ending hallway health care," said Elliott. "By making these significant investments and supporting partnerships between home and community care providers and busy hospitals, patients will experience quicker transitions between receiving hospital care and returning home with the appropriate support they need to properly recover, while also making sure hospital beds are available for those who need them."

As a part of this investment, the government is providing \$45 million for targeted innovative integrated care models in high-need areas. "Certain areas in Ontario are experiencing higher-than-average rates of patients receiving care in

unconventional spaces," added Elliott. "By investing in targeted partnerships between hospitals and home and community care providers in these regions, we can tackle the challenge of hallway health care head on to ensure patients are receiving the high-quality care they expect and deserve."

By investing in more frontline patient care, the province can provide:

- 1.8 million more hours of personal support services
- 490,000 more nursing visits and 100,000 more therapy visits
- Services in the community like homemaking, meals, transportation and caregiver supports
- Additional direct community services for patients with acquired brain injury and people living in supportive housing.

"Home Care Ontario applauds today's announcement of new funding for home and community care," said Sue VanderBent, CEO of Home Care Ontario. "This new money will help deliver more care at home, which is the quickest and most cost-effective way to end hospital overcrowding. It will help people avoid hospital admissions altogether as well

as help people get home from hospital even faster. We commend the government for continuing to make home care a key priority."

"These are important investments for patients in home and community care," said Jo-Anne Poirier, President and CEO of VON Canada. "The government's approach of funding proven, innovative practices will accelerate the system's ability to provide patients the right services, at the right time and in the right place. This critical focus will further support patients in receiving much-needed care with the added comfort and peace of mind of remaining in their own homes and communities."

QUICK FACTS

- The 2019 budget committed \$124 million in home care and \$20 million in community care. The government is providing an additional \$11 million for home and community care, bringing the total new investment to \$155 million. In addition to the \$45 million in new funding for targeted innovative integrated care models, the government is investing \$63 million in existing integrated care models.

INVESTING IN PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES IN WESTERN ONTARIO

Province Provides \$1.9 Million in Funding for Training in Steel Sector

Ontario's Government is helping people across Western Ontario prepare for successful careers in the steel sector by partnering with employers and investing in skills training.

Today, David Piccini, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities announced \$1.9 million in provincial funding for an innovative Skills for Steel training project. This will help get people working by providing them with the technical and job-ready skills they need. Skills for Steel will also help employers by providing sector-focused employment services, including job matching and placement, and employment retention services.

"Our Government knows employers are looking for job-ready people to help fill vacancies in Western Ontario," said Piccini. "By funding projects like these, we're creating opportunities for over 200 people to put their skills to work in good, permanent jobs. I'm proud that our Government is investing in people and their potential."

The YMCA of Hamilton-Burlington-Brantford is receiving \$1.9 million in funding to help over 200 workers and unemployed Ontarians gain the skills and work experience employers in Western Ontario need. The training will take place in Hamilton, Niagara, Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge Region, and Brantford.

"Our government is committed to opening up the steel sector to jobs and this funding will help the industry find the skilled workforce it needs to grow," said Piccini. "The steel sector in Hamilton is important to Ontario's economy and is an anchor for other industries including auto, energy and construction. That's why we are helping the industry grow and create jobs."

Skills for Steel is one of 19 active Skills Advance Ontario projects across Ontario, dedicated to connecting job-seekers with sector-specific training for good, local jobs.

QUICK FACTS

- Ontario is supporting the Skills Advance Ontario project Skills for Steel with \$1.9 million over three years.

ONTARIO PARTNERS WITH AUTO INDUSTRY TO PROTECT JOBS

New Program Helps Parts Makers Invest in Technology and Training

The Ontario government is partnering with auto parts companies to invest in technology and training to strengthen the auto industry and protect jobs.

Today, Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, launched the new \$10 million Ontario Automotive Modernization Program (O-AMP) at the

annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Moldmakers. O-AMP is a key commitment of Driving Prosperity The Future of Ontario's

The steel sector is vital for Ontario's economy and is an anchor for other industries including auto, energy and construction. The Hamilton steel cluster is key to the steel industry, both in converting raw materials into

industrial inputs or finished steel products, and in fabricating and using steel as components of products.

The YMCA of Hamilton-Burlington-Brantford is one of more than 300 Employment Ontario

partners across Ontario. The Employment Ontario network offers a range of services and supports that help businesses find talent and connect job-seekers to training and job opportunities.

students with special needs and, as a member of this government, I think about them every day," said Parliamentary Assistant Fee. "As a government, we are applying a compassionate eye to how these children are treated so we can enable their learning."

Act to give the Minister of Education authority to establish policies and guidelines respecting service animals in schools.

The Act also requires school boards to comply with these policies and guidelines, as well as develop their own board policies in accordance with those set by the Minister of Education. School boards are required to implement their service animal policies by January 1, 2020.

PREMIER DOUG FORD AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS ATTEND CANADA'S LARGEST OUTDOOR FARM SHOW

Ontario Hosts Meeting with Agri-Food Leaders

WOODSTOCK — Premier Doug Ford and Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, met with farmers and agriculture organizations at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show to discuss the current challenges faced by the agri-food industry, including ongoing trade disruptions. "Sitting down with farmers, producers and business leaders in the sector gives us an important perspective into the challenges faced by the sector," said Premier Ford. "With one out of 8 jobs in our province in agriculture, our government is committed to working with industry leaders to protect Ontario workers and support the industry during these trade disruptions."

The Premier and Minister met with representatives of the pork, beef, chicken, egg, grain, aquaculture and many other agriculture sectors to hear directly from them about the issues impacting their industry. "Ontario cares about the success of our province's agri-food industry, and that includes working to regain trade market access for our farmers," said

Minister Hardeman. "Premier Ford's participation in this agriculture roundtable meeting shows our government stands with Ontario's hardworking farmers and agri-businesses." During the group's discussion, Minister Hardeman updated participants on the province's work to support the industry's efforts to remain viable and secure new export markets. Through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, the federal and provincial governments are investing up to \$417 million to expand and innovate the agriculture sector in Ontario.

The Ontario government is also accepting applications for the Market Access Initiative, and strengthening trade with the United States, to help farmers succeed at home and around the world.

Meeting participants also raised the subjects of labour challenges, safeguarding biosecurity on farms from trespassers and compensation for those who have been impacted by trade disruptions. Canada's Outdoor Farm Show attracts approximately 40,000 visitors each year to explore

agricultural advancements through interactive exhibits and demonstrations.

QUICK FACTS

Canada's Outdoor Farm Show (COFS) promotes itself as a premier outdoor agricultural showcase that offers "one stop shopping" for farmers and highlights the most innovative and technologically advanced agricultural products and services available.

The event attracts more than 40,000 attendees each year and features approximately 750 exhibitors showcasing products and services through interactive displays and live demonstrations of machinery, livestock, crops, niche markets and energy. The Canadian Agricultural Partnership is a five-year, \$3-billion commitment by Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments that supports the country's agri-food and agri-products sectors.

The Market Access Initiative will be delivered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

QUICK FACTS

Bill 48, the safe and Supportive Classrooms Act 2019 amended the Education

ONTARIO SUPPORTING FILM AND TV

Province Announces Funding for Canadian Film Centre Training

TORONTO — Ontario's government is supporting the Canadian Film Centre (CFC) with a \$350,000 grant for film and television training activities.

Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, was at CFC today to announce funding for the nationally recognized film school and training centre for creators and entrepreneurs working in the film, television and new media industries.

"Ontario's talented content producers and other industry professionals showcase all that our province has to offer," said Minister MacLeod.

"We're ready to share it with the world by investing in the Canadian Film Centre's television and film training activities to grow this important \$1.9 billion-dollar industry."

CFC training programs are intensive, hands-on and delivered by leading industry professionals. They target producers, directors, writers, actors, musicians and editors who already have experience in feature film and television production, and provide them with opportunities to establish and expand their business networks in Canada and abroad.

"The Canadian Film Centre plays a vital role in empowering Canadian creative and entrepreneurial talent, and we are pleased by

Minister MacLeod's recognition and support. Working together, we will continue to generate world-class content, products and companies for the global marketplace," added Christina Jennings, Chair of the Board of Directors, CFC and Chairman & CEO, Shaftesbury. Minister MacLeod has also committed to host three roundtables with sector leaders to explore collaboration opportunities to grow Ontario's film, television and new media industries

QUICK FACTS

In 2018, film and television production supported by the province was up from 2017 by almost 19 per cent, and the number of jobs also increased by 4,300. There was a healthy balance between domestic and foreign film and TV production in 2018, with just over \$1 billion in foreign production spending and almost \$850 million in domestic production spending in Ontario.

In 2019-20, the province supported the Toronto International Film Festival with over \$1.5 million through Ontario Creates and the Ontario Arts Council. CFC was founded by Canadian filmmaker Norman Jewison in 1988 and marked its 30-year anniversary in 2018.

ONTARIO ANNOUNCES SUPPORTS FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

New Policy to Improve Access to Service Animals in Schools

Kitchener, ON — Ontario's government is supporting students and their families when making requests to bring their service animals into schools and classrooms. Today, the Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education; Sam Oosterhoff, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Education; and Amy Fee, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, announced a new policy directive in support of Ontario students with special needs to improve their access to service animals in schools. School boards are responsible

for developing and implementing policies and procedures for service animals in schools. Currently, we know that just over half of Ontario school boards have service animal policies. With today's announcement, the Ministry of Education has effectively set a uniform standard of student access to service animals across the province.

"I want to ensure that every child, irrespective of their needs, has the opportunity to achieve their highest potential," said Minister Lecce. "Every child has inherent human dignity -

particularly those with special needs - and that is why this positive step forward, led by Sam Oosterhoff and Amy Fee, will help support the success of all kids in the classroom." "Service animals can make an enormous difference in a child's physical independence and emotional well-being," said Parliamentary Assistant Oosterhoff. "It's important to our government that students with special needs never fall through the cracks and having service animals in Ontario schools will help ensure these children have access to a meaningful education."

"I care deeply about Ontario

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