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# A Message from Jennifer McKelvie

Dear Neighbours,

The summer is almost here, and June is a month packed with fun events and meaningful celebrations.

It's also an opportunity to talk about the work our new government is doing to protect our natural environment, continue to show our support for the skilled trades, and undertake a national electricity strategy that could see energy price reductions, and create as many as 130,000 new jobs. More on all this below!

Last month I had opportunity to join my colleague Ryan Turnbull at Ontario Tech University to announce a \$5 million investment into the facility that will see it become a hub for defence testing and innovation. With this investment, Ontario Tech becomes a leading testing site for defence applications, including advanced vehicles, aerospace systems, drones, and more.

Needless to say, great things are happening in Durham, and in Ajax!

I hope to see you at one of the many events that are happening this month throughout the community.

Yours sincerely,

Jenn



## Creating Opportunities for Youth

### Support for the Skilled Trades

The skilled trades have never been more important to the future of Canada because our government is investing in housing and infrastructure to Build Canada Strong.

That's why we're investing:

- \$900M over 5 years to Employment and Social Development Canada for the **Team Canada Strong Program** to provide youth with paid, entry-level,

- pre-apprenticeship trades-related work experience for up to 4 months;
- \$1.06B over 5 years for the **Canada Apprenticeship Service**;
  - \$1.94B over 5 years for a new **Apprenticeship Training Grant**; and
  - \$75M over 5 years to modernize the **Red Seal program**, and so much more.

[You can learn more about our support for the skilled trades, and more on how we're building Canada strong, at this link.](#)



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### Canada Summer Jobs still open!

Applications for Canada Summer Jobs are still open! Don't wait, apply today!

Local employers continue to actively post opportunities across a wide range of fields, so I would encourage you not to wait, as hiring has already begun.

Find these jobs and more at <https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/youth>.



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## Empowering Seniors

### Applications for New Horizons for Seniors Program Now Open!

On June 2, 2026, the Government of Canada launched the New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP) 2026-2027 call for proposals (CFP) for community-based projects across Canada. It provides funding for projects that make a difference in the lives of seniors and in their communities by promoting volunteerism among seniors and other generations, engaging seniors in the community through the mentoring of others, expanding awareness of elder abuse, and so much more.

The deadline to submit applications will be **July 14, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time**. You can learn more on the [NHSP web pages](#).

Organizations wishing to apply must submit their application through the [Grants and Contributions Online Services \(GCOS\)](#) portal.

#### New for this round of applications:

- The maximum grant amount has risen to \$50,000 to enhance project impact and address inflation.
- A valid [Canada Revenue Agency Business number](#) is required to apply under the 2026-2027 call for proposals.

- The assessment criteria have changed, with additional points awarded to applications from organizations with a mandate or mission primarily focused on seniors.



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## Protecting Our Environment

### Canada Strong Pass - National Parks, and More

The Canada Strong Pass is back for summer 2026 and the [Government of Canada is offering free admission to all visitors for national historic sites, national parks, and national marine conservation areas operated by Parks Canada.](#)

The [Canada Strong Pass](#) celebrates what unites us—our shared experiences, natural wonders, and cultural richness. Canadians can enjoy free or discounted admission as they make Canada their travel destination, from **June 19 to September 7, 2026, inclusive.**

The Pass is about making it easier for everyone—especially youth and families—to explore Canada and celebrate what makes this country extraordinary. Other benefits with the Canada Strong Pass include:

- [Free or reduced admission at museums and galleries](#)
- [Free and discounted travel for youth with Via Rail](#)



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## Canada's Nature Strategy

Our new government envisions a Canada that protects, restores, and values nature as a foundation of our economy, sovereignty, and well-being, leading at home and globally, to ensure healthy ecosystems, resilient communities, and prosperity for present and future generations.

With our new [nature strategy](#), we aim to protect 30% of our lands and waters by 2030.

It's an ambitious goal, but we have a responsibility to protect the natural world we've inherited.

[You can learn more through the Prime Minister's statement here.](#)



## National Electricity Strategy

Our National Electricity Strategy is our plan to double the capacity of the Canadian grid by 2050 and supply clean, reliable, affordable power across the country for decades to come.

To do that, we've launched consultations with provinces, territories, Indigenous Peoples, utilities, and unions.

Our National Electricity Strategy could deliver up to \$15 billion in total energy savings by 2050, creating lower total energy costs for 7 in 10 Canadian households, while creating more than 130,000 jobs in the same period.

[You can read Prime Minister Carney's statement on our National Electricity Strategy here.](#)



## June Benefits Calendar

This month be on the lookout for...

One time GST/HST credit top-up payment on June 5

Canada Disability payments on June 18

Canada Child Benefit payments on June 19

Canada Pension Plan/Old Age Security/Guaranteed Income Supplement payments on June 26

Veteran Disability Pension on June 29



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## Community Events

### Jamfest

Pickering Village Jamfest is a unique celebration of music and is happening right in our neck of the woods. Happening from June 5-7, there's music and fun for the whole family. My office and I will be hosting a booth on Saturday, so if you're in the neighbourhood, please stop by and say hello!

**Where:** Pickering Village, Old Kingston Road

**When:** June 5, 6, 7

Learn more: [For times and lineup please visit Jamfest's website, here](#)



## Multicultural Festival Durham

If you're looking for something fun to do with your family, look no further than Multicultural Festival Durham, happening right here in Ajax on June 13! Benefitting the Ajax Pickering Hospital Foundation, the event is bringing our community together in support of an amazing cause.

**Where:** Village Arena, 100 Church Street North, Ajax

**When:** June 13 from 12 noon to 6 pm

Learn more: [Visit the Multicultural Festival Durham Website here](#)



## Trailfest

Celebrate the great outdoors and explore Ajax's beautiful and extensive trail system on June 14!

Registration is now open and will remain open until Wednesday, June 10, 2026.

**Please note** that all rides/walks require the use of the Ride with GPS App. Please

refer to the details below on how to register and download the Ride with GPS App prior to the event day.

**Where:** Audley Recreation Centre (1955 Audley Road North)

**When:** June 14th (8:30-9:30 am, registration time varies based on route chosen, click the link below for details)

Learn more: [download the app, and to register for Trailfest here.](#)

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## Canada Day

Canada Day is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our great nation, and all that it stands for...and there's no better way to celebrate, than together! I hope you can come out and join us for the Ajax Canada Day event happening at the new Ajax Fairgrounds. I'll be there, along with some of my staff, and we'll have some fun Canadian trivia questions for you to enjoy.

**Where:** NEW Ajax Fairgrounds (1955 Audley Rd. N)

**When:** July 1, 2-10 p.m.



## Community Celebrations

## National Indigenous History Month

#NIHM2026



 Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Canada

June marks National Indigenous History Month. This commemoration is an important time for Canadians to celebrate and acknowledge the contributions, stories, and history of Indigenous Peoples from coast to coast to coast.

It is an opportunity to deepen understanding, listen to Indigenous voices, and recognise their critical role in building a brighter, more inclusive future for all.

Celebrated from June to September, Pride Season is a time for 2SLGBTQI+ communities and their allies to come together to celebrate the diversity, resilience, and contributions of 2SLGBTQI+ people across Canada and create a space for visibility, solidarity, and joy. In Ajax, our Pride Parade is taking place on Saturday June 6th, from 1 pm - 2 pm. [Learn more about the Pride Parade at this link.](#)



# National Indigenous History Month

#NIHM2026



Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Canada

Ajax is home to a vibrant Filipino community, and on June 12 we are proud to join them in celebration of Philippine Independence Day!

This national holiday commemorates the nation's independence from Spanish rule in 1898.

Happy Philippine Independence Day to everyone celebrating.

In June, Muslims around the world celebrate Islamic New Year, a time of sincere reflection and prayer.

I want to offer everyone observing this meaningful occasion a happy and peaceful New Year, and extend my best wishes for a happy and healthy year ahead.



Happy Father's Day to all the dads and granddads in Ajax! June 21st is Father's Day, and is a great opportunity to celebrate these cherished individuals in our lives who do so much for us.

Being a dad can sometimes be a tough job, but today we can say: thank you for everything you do!

# Follow me on Social Media



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You are receiving this email because you have expressed interest in getting news from Jennifer McKelvie.

**Our mailing address is:**

100 Old Kingston Road, Ajax, Ontario, L1T 2Z5

**Our phone number is:**

905-426-8099

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