



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

The Honourable Jim Flaherty, P.C., M.P.

Whitby, Oshawa

News Release

**For Immediate Release
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GOVERNMENT OF CANADA INVESTS IN RESTORATION OF O'CONNOR IRISH HERITAGE HOUSE

TORONTO, Ontario – The Honourable Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance and Minister responsible for the Greater Toronto Area, today announced the Government of Canada's intention to invest up to \$2.1 million in funding towards the restoration of historical buildings on the Senator O'Connor Estate in Toronto.

"Canada's Economic Action Plan is ensuring that our communities emerge from the global recession stronger than ever before," said Minister Flaherty. "This restoration project is another example of our government's commitment to create jobs, improve local infrastructure, and enhance quality of life in Canadian communities."

This project will increase investment in the community and in Toronto by creating jobs for restoration, construction and conservation while providing an accessible venue for ongoing learning and cultural activities. Surrounding communities will also benefit from the new and improved education and cultural facilities.

Subject to Treasury Board approval, funding for this project will be used to restore and preserve the buildings on O'Connor Estate. Renovations to the main floor of the Coach House facility will include the construction of two new classrooms which will have the capacity to accommodate up to 60 additional students.

"Today, the federal government has saved O'Connor House from demolition and is giving the schools and the community the opportunity to use the Estate buildings for many generations to come," said Dennis Timbrell, Chair of O'Connor Irish Heritage House Inc.

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