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Province provides support for Edmonton's Expo 2017 bid

Edmonton... The Alberta government is contributing funds to the City of Edmonton to assist with an Alberta Expo 2017 bid preparation.

"An event like this provides a platform to celebrate the uniqueness and vibrancy of our capital city and province," said Lindsay Blackett, Minister of Culture and Community Spirit. "I wish the City of Edmonton all the best in its bid preparations."

Funds provided will assist the City of Edmonton in preparing a national bid document which will be submitted to Heritage Canada. The bid will include an economic impact assessment, site selection report, community support and future cost estimations. The Alberta government's funding for the City of Edmonton's bid preparations is not a commitment to subsequent funding.

"Marketing Alberta to audiences around the world is important to growing our tourism industry and our economy," said Cindy Ady, Minister of Tourism, Parks and Recreation. "This bid to host Expo 2017 is an excellent way to increase positive awareness of our province."

The Alberta government is providing \$1.14 million from its Other Initiatives Program (OIP). Administered by Alberta Culture and Community Spirit, the OIP provides support to worthy Alberta projects which cannot be funded under the criteria or existing funding levels of other Alberta Lottery Fund grant programs.

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