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**FEBRUARY 2, 2003**

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**11:00 P.M. AND 2:00 P.M.**

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OR TOLL FREE 1-866-768-8801 (not available in 416/647 area codes)

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# Funds boost active living

BY MITCHELL BROWN  
Staff Writer

If you have any thoughts on how to get more people involved in sports and fitness programs, then this may be a good time to share them.

Tourism and Recreation Minister Frank Klees says his government is looking to the public for ideas on how to put more people — especially low-income youth, disabled people and seniors — into a fitness frame of mind.

Speaking at the Richmond Hill Early Years Centre, the Oak Ridges MPP (whose area includes Whitchurch-Stouffville and northern Markham) said his ministry is putting \$1.25 million into the Community Sport Opportunity Fund to encourage programs targeting low-income youth.

He also announced an additional \$2.1 million in funding for the Recreation Development Fund, which is designed "to fund initiatives that promote involvement in recreation, sport and physical activity by all Ontarians regardless of age and ability, including children, youth, older adults and seniors."

"We're looking to the community to develop creative ideas," he said.

"Government doesn't have all the answers, but we're structuring it...so that groups can come forward with their ideas."

The deadline for applications is February.

For information on how to apply, visit [www.tourism.gov.on.ca](http://www.tourism.gov.on.ca)

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