

# News Release Communiqué



Ministry of Research and  
Innovation

Ministère de la Recherche  
et de l'Innovation

For Immediate Release  
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## Support For Research In St. Catharines McGuinty Government Helps Protect Ontario's Wine Industry

### NEWS

Ontario is helping researchers in St. Catharines make new discoveries that will protect jobs by helping the province's wine industry with changes in weather and climate.

19 researchers at [Brock University](#) will work to develop an early weather warning system as well as new hardy grape vines that will help grape growers better adapt to weather changes and continue to produce quality wines.

Supporting Ontario research is part of Ontario's strategy to create the next generation of jobs and make innovation a driving force of economic growth.

### QUOTES

"I commend the exceptional work researchers are doing right here at Brock. Their development of information and knowledge is at the forefront of Canadian academia, and recognized internationally. This support will ensure Brock continues to develop quality work that leads to new ideas and jobs in our community."

— [Jim Bradley](#), MPP for St. Catharines

"Our government is proud to support innovation for the grape and wine industry here in the Niagara region. We are proud to support researchers who help our economy grow and support job creation with new ideas."

— [Glen Murray](#), Minister of Research and Innovation

"Brock University is committed to being a partner that helps strengthen our broader community in many ways, including economically. We are grateful for this investment by the Ontario government that enables us to play a key role in a research initiative that supports our grape and wine industry."

— [Jack Lightstone](#), President, Brock University

## QUICK FACTS

- Ontario's grape and wine industry contributes \$1 billion annually to the province's economy.
- Ontario is investing \$2.86 million from the Ontario Research Fund – Research Excellence Program to support this project.
- The Ontario Research Fund currently supports 26 projects and more than 248 researchers as part of the province's plan to move world-class research from the lab to the global marketplace.
- The Research Excellence program helps develop Ontario's research talent while ensuring Ontario researchers have the operating funding they need to undertake their world-leading projects.
- More than 5,450 highly qualified people in Ontario have been trained as a result of Ontario Research Fund – Research Excellence funding.
- In June, Ontario had an increase of more than 40,000 jobs and the unemployment rate declined to 7.7 percent.

## LEARN MORE

About the [Ontario Research Fund – Research Excellence Program](#).

About [Ontario's Innovation Agenda](#).