
News Release

Communities to Benefit from Canada-Alberta Partnership

Edmonton, Alberta, December 19, 2008 – Residents of smaller communities across Alberta can soon apply to a Canada-Alberta infrastructure fund of \$176 million under the Communities Component of the Building Canada plan. Through the program, eligible Alberta municipalities of less than 100,000 also contribute one-third of project costs, matching the federal and provincial contributions.

Eight project categories will be eligible for the first intake. Projects will be evaluated by a federal-provincial committee through a competitive application-based process. More information on the application process will be provided to municipalities as the program rolls out.

The announcement was made today by Minister of State (Transport), Rob Merrifield, and Minister of Labour, Rona Ambrose, along with Alberta Minister of Transportation Luke Ouellette.

“The Communities Component of Building Canada provides funding for infrastructure projects in smaller communities, helping them meet their unique challenges,” said Minister Merrifield. “The funding investments under this program demonstrate our commitment to use federal investments in infrastructure as a way to boost our economy.”

“Alberta communities will benefit from today’s announcement through enhanced investment in municipal infrastructure,” said Minister Ouellette. “The Communities Component of the Building Canada Fund is an excellent example of cooperation and shared investment by municipal, provincial and federal governments.”

“Funding under the Communities Component will support priority infrastructure projects that contribute to a growing economy, a cleaner environment, and stronger communities,” said Minister Ambrose. “These projects will allow communities in Alberta to remain competitive and get people working during this period of economic uncertainty.”

Communities will be able to apply for funding online at the Alberta BCF Communities Component website by January 5, 2009. The Building Canada Communities Component will fund eight categories of infrastructure. They are water, wastewater, solid waste, local roads, culture, sports, connectivity and green energy. In addition, a number of eligible projects that were unfunded under CAMRIF will be considered for funding under this intake of the Communities Component.

Through its unprecedented Building Canada infrastructure plan, the federal government is providing long-term, stable and predictable funding to help meet infrastructure needs across Canada. Building Canada supports a stronger, safer and better country.

For more information on the Building Canada plan, visit www.buildingcanada.gc.ca.

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