



September 22, 2004

## **Communities Get Quality Of Life Infrastructure Boost**

CALGARY, Alberta - Albertans will benefit from a \$15.2 million investment directed towards 31 culture and recreation projects across the province under the Infrastructure Canada-Alberta Program (ICAP). These projects focus on building and renewing the community infrastructure that sustains the high quality of life enjoyed in Alberta's communities.

The Honourable Anne McLellan, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada, on behalf of the Honourable Stephen Owen, Minister of Western Economic Diversification and Minister of State (Sport), and the Honourable Ed Stelmach, Alberta Minister of Transportation made the announcement today.

"Cultural and recreational projects such as these ensure Albertans across the province enjoy a strong quality of life," said Minister McLellan. "This partnership program enables us to work together to continue to build vibrant and sustainable communities."

"These projects represent what's important to individual Alberta communities," said Minister Stelmach. "Alberta Transportation is proud to participate in these grassroots ventures, because they're initiated by the people who live in those communities and who know best what's needed to enhance and improve the quality of life for the residents who live there."

ICAP is a partnership between the federal, provincial and municipal governments, and in some cases, private-sector organizations. Funding approved for each project will be shared among the governments of Canada, Alberta and each community or project proponent.

Some of the 31 projects approved for funding today include a retrofit to Calgary's Family Leisure Centre and restorations to the Reader Rock Garden. In Edmonton, the Fort Edmonton Historical Foundation will be constructing a 1920s midway and exhibition project. Across Alberta, other projects include swimming pool upgrades in the Town of Milk River, community hall upgrades in the Summer Village of Sundance Beach, a firehall and community multi-purpose centre in Worsley, as well as restoration of the Prairie Bank of Commerce Museum in the Village of Innisfree.

To date, 642 projects have been announced in Alberta under the program. With today's projects, ICAP has invested a total of \$523 million, exceeding its target of directing at least \$508 million in federal, provincial and municipal funding toward municipal infrastructure in urban and rural communities across the province.

In Alberta, ICAP is implemented by Western Economic Diversification Canada and Alberta Transportation, and is administered by a joint secretariat. The federal and provincial governments together will invest \$8,746,398 toward the \$15,210,036 announced today. The partnering municipalities or proponents will invest the remainder.

The ICAP Management Committee approves the projects and is composed of representatives from the Governments of Canada and Alberta, the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) and the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMD&C).

"The Infrastructure Canada-Alberta Program is a good example of a working partnership between all three levels of government," said Dorothy Moore on behalf of the AUMA. "The infrastructure needs of municipalities have never been greater. ICAP's versatile three-way partnership addresses infrastructure needs in all sizes of municipalities."

"The funding support offered by ICAP allows our member municipalities to take on needed infrastructure improvements," said Eugene Wauters on behalf of the AAMD&C. "Infrastructure is a high priority for municipal districts and counties."

The Infrastructure Canada-Alberta Program agreement was signed October 10, 2000. Federal funding for ICAP was provided for in the March 2004 federal budget.

## **NOTE TO NEWS EDITORS:**

Details of projects and Infrastructure Canada-Alberta fact sheet are attached.

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## **Infrastructure Canada-Alberta Program**

### **Alberta Fact Sheet**

### **Partnership Program**

- The Infrastructure Canada-Alberta Program (ICAP) is a partnership involving federal, provincial and municipal governments that also allows for private-sector participation. All three levels of government played an important part in the design of this program.
- Under ICAP, the federal and provincial governments provide up to two-thirds of the funding for eligible costs. Partnering communities or private partners in the program provide the remaining one-third of project funding and any ineligible costs. For the 642 projects and \$523 million approved since June 8, 2001, federal and provincial contributions total approximately \$295 million.
- In Alberta, the program is implemented by Western Economic Diversification Canada and Alberta Transportation, and administered by a joint secretariat.

### **Grassroots Driven**

- ICAP is designed with a bottom-up approach. Accordingly, municipalities play an important role in the program. The majority of projects will address local infrastructure needs identified by the municipalities.
- The federal and provincial governments may also propose projects to ensure that regional projects involving more than one municipality are not overlooked.

### ***Program Priorities***

- ICAP's **first priority** is "green" municipal infrastructure. Green infrastructure includes: projects related to water and wastewater systems, water management, solid waste management and recycling, and capital expenditures to retrofit or improve the energy efficiency of buildings and facilities owned by local municipalities.
  - The ICAP agreement specifies that a minimum 40 per cent of the total value of all approved projects must be invested in green municipal infrastructure.
- **Secondary priorities**  
include: local transportation, cultural and recreational facilities, infrastructure supporting tourism, rural and remote telecommunications, high-speed Internet access for local public institutions and affordable housing.

To ensure the infrastructure needs of rural communities are considered, a minimum 26 per cent of total approved costs for all projects in Alberta must be invested in projects proposed by rural municipalities.

## Infrastructure Canada-Alberta Program

### Backgrounder

Location	Number of Projects	Combined Federal / Provincial Contribution	Total Project Costs
City of Calgary	4 Projects	\$ 4,773,332	\$ 7,986,200
Village of Cereal	3 Projects	\$ 31,214	\$ 50,718
Municipal District of Clear Hills No. 21	1 Project	\$ 234,678	\$ 550,000
City of Edmonton	1 Project	\$ 1,042,666	\$ 1,610,920
Fort Edmonton Historical Foundation	1 Project	\$ 557,452	\$ 894,712
Village of Ferintosh	1 Project	\$ 36,940	\$ 59,500
Fishing Lake Metis Settlement	1 Project	\$ 7,780	\$ 12,487
City of Fort Saskatchewan	1 Project	\$ 729,916	\$ 1,260,085
Summer Village of Ghost Lake	1 Project	\$ 31,780	\$ 53,500
Town of Grande Cache	1 Project	\$ 390,808	\$ 968,350
Town of Hanna	1 Project	\$ 18,370	\$ 29,484
Village of Heisler	1 Project	\$ 20,568	\$ 33,012
Town of High River	1 Project	\$ 365,332	\$ 586,360
Village of Innisfree	1 Project	\$ 42,280	\$ 67,920
Lamont County	1 Project	\$ 3,064	\$ 4,918
Summer Village of Mewatha Beach	1 Project	\$ 5,840	\$ 11,760
Town of Milk River	2 Projects	\$ 19,132	\$ 30,708
Town of Oyen	1 Project	\$ 94,864	\$ 263,250
Municipal District of Provost No. 52	2 Projects	\$ 120,398	\$ 193,240
Strathcona County	1 Project	\$ 41,280	\$ 214,000
Summer Village of Sundance Beach	1 Project	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,210
Town of Sylvan Lake	1 Project	\$ 19,772	\$ 42,800
Town of Vulcan	1 Project	\$ 113,332	\$ 181,900

Village of Waskatenau	1 Project	\$ 43,600	\$ 101,002
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31 Projects</b>	<b>\$ 8,746,398</b>	<b>\$ 15,210,036</b>

## Infrastructure Canada-Alberta Program Project List Summary with Total Project Costs

\*= Green Municipal Infrastructure Project

### City of Calgary

**Family Leisure Centre Retrofit** **\$4,600,000**

The renovations planned for the Family Leisure Centre include improvements to the electrical and mechanical systems. These upgrades will allow more Calgarians to use the recreational facility.

#### Contact Person

: Marian Adams, Tel. (403) 268-4668

### City of Calgary

**Fort Calgary** **\$545,700**

Enhancements to Fort Calgary include a makeover for Deane's House - Calgary's only original North West Mounted Police building, and additions to the historic park. New pathways, landscaping, lighting and interpretive signs round out the improvements.

#### Contact Person

: Marian Adams, Tel. (403) 268-4668

### City of Calgary

**Heritage Park - Historic Electric Street Light System** **\$214,000**

This project extends the existing street lighting system westward in order to enhance the historical integrity of the parking area of Heritage Park and increase visitor safety.

**Contact Person:** Marian Adams, Tel. (403) 268-4668

### City of Calgary

**Reader Rock Garden Restoration** **\$2,626,500**

Substantial renovations to the Reader Rock Garden will restore the historical character of the 7.5-acre local heritage site. The City will extensively upgrade the infrastructure and install new water and sewer lines. Restoration work includes improving the garden beds and repairing the aging stonework to its original condition.

**Contact Person:** Marian Adams, Tel. (403) 268-4668

### Village of Cereal

<b>Arena Upgrade</b>	<b>\$3,745</b>
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Installing new doors to replace the old pulley and weights system will ease access for young skaters and hockey players and ensure the facility meets building code and safety standards.

**Contact Person**

: Mary Ann Salik, Tel. (403) 326-3826

**Village of Cereal**

<b>Community Hall Upgrades</b>	<b>\$28,355</b>
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Several upgrades will enhance the usefulness of the community hall, making it a destination for more residents. The Village will install an air conditioning system and a new roof. Other plans include painting the exterior trim and improving the fascia.

**Contact Person**

: Mary Ann Salik, Tel. (403) 326-3826

**Village of Cereal**

<b>Recreational Grounds Upgrades</b>	<b>\$18,618</b>
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This project features the installation of a chain link fence to protect the perimeter of the sports and recreational grounds. Other plans include upgrading of the backstops on the baseball diamonds. These improvements will allow more residents to use the facility.

**Contact Person**

: Mary Ann Salik, Tel. (403) 326-3826

**Municipal District of Clear Hills No. 21**

<b>Worsley Fire Hall and Community Multi-Purpose Centre</b>	<b>\$550,000</b>
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This project involves the construction of a combined fire hall and community centre on Alberta Avenue in Worsley. The facility will ensure better fire protection for people living in the area by providing a heated environment for equipment storage. The community centre portion of the building will also serve as a training room for fire hall staff. Construction practices will incorporate the best available technology that is proven and economically feasible.

**Contact Person**

: Wendy Schmaltz, Tel. (780) 685-3925

**City of Edmonton**

<b>River Valley and Ravine Trails Development</b>	<b>\$1,610,920</b>
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Adding six kilometres of paved recreational trails on the south side of the North Saskatchewan River will attract more hikers, cyclists and other outdoor enthusiasts to parks in the Terwilliger and Fort Edmonton areas of the city. Better management of public access to the parks system will improve vegetation and wildlife habitat. The project also features the construction of a footbridge near the mouth of the Whitemud Creek.

**Contact Person**

: Konrad L. Siu, Tel. (780) 496-5579

**Fort Edmonton Historical Foundation**

**1920s Midway and Exhibition Project**

**\$894,712**

The construction of the 1920s Midway and Exhibition will include three games of skills, three side shows, exhibits buildings that will house a workshop, activity room and gift shop. The project will be an interactive, hands-on event rather than an interpretive structure. It will provide visitors with a more comprehensive picture of Edmonton's role in shaping Canadian history.

**Contact Person**

: Vicki Van Vliet Vaitkunas, Tel. (780) 496-6977.

**Village of Ferintosh**

**Playground Upgrade**

**\$59,500**

The Village plans to rebuild the playground, installing all new equipment. The upgraded facility will meet current building code and safety standards and allow more children opportunities for fitness and recreation in the community.

**Contact Person**

: Myrna Fankhanel, Tel. (780) 877-3767

**Fishing Lake Metis Settlement**

**R.V. Sanitation Dump**

**\$12,487**

Creating a sanitation dumpsite for recreational vehicles will increase tourism and bring spin-off economic benefits to people living in the community.

**Contact Person**

: Annette Daniels, Tel. (780) 943-2575

**City of Fort Saskatchewan**

**Harbour Pool Upgrades**

**\$1,260,085**

A series of improvements at the recreational facility will increase the services available to current patrons and draw additional visitors. Planned additions include a new waterslide, steam room and sauna. The City will also increase storage space and improve outdoor accessibility. New change rooms will meet the special needs of families.

**Contact Person**

: John deBruijn, Tel. (780) 992-6203

**Summer Village of Ghost Lake**

<b>Multi-purpose Recreational Facilities Project</b>	<b>\$53,500</b>
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This project consists of two components designed to improve the recreational facilities at Ghost Lake. The first component is the expansion of the horseshoe pits. The second is for a new multi-use sports court, providing opportunities to play volleyball, tennis, basketball and other games.

**Contact Person**

: Sharon Plett, Tel. (403) 652-4636

**Town of Grande Cache**

<b>Akasaka Recreation Centre Upgrades</b>	<b>\$968,350</b>
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Improvements to the facility include the expansion of the fitness area and the installation of a new hot tub and wading pool. The Town also plans to replace the existing heating system.

**Contact Person**

: Jim Scott, Tel. (780) 827-2446

**Town of Hanna**

<b>Fox Lake Park Upgrades</b>	<b>\$29,484</b>
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Expanding and improving Fox Lake Park will allow more people to enjoy this recreational facility. In addition to developing new campsites, the Town will upgrade the park's sewer system, add playground equipment for children and provide power and water service to sites.

**Contact Person**

: Duff Carroll, Tel. (403) 854-4433

**Village of Heisler**

<b>Walking Trail Upgrades</b>	<b>\$33,012</b>
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Paving the existing gravel trail, which extends from a park on Main Street through the ball diamonds to the campgrounds, will increase recreational opportunities for people living in Heisler.

**Contact Person**

: Sheldon Steil, Tel. (780) 889-3981

## **Town of High River**

<b>Recreation Complex Upgrade</b>	<b>\$586,360</b>
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The town will renovate the ice arena on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE by adding new dressing rooms and an area for maintenance and storage of the Zamboni. This project will allow more people to use the recreational facility.

### **Contact Person**

: James Walls, Tel. (403) 652-2110

## **Village of Innisfree**

<b>Prairie Bank of Commerce Museum Restoration</b>	<b>\$67,920</b>
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To help preserve the heritage of the community and attract additional visitors, the village plans to restore the interior and exterior of the Prairie Bank of Commerce, a designated historic site.

### **Contact Person**

: Lori Leibel, Tel. (780) 592-3886

## **Lamont County**

<b>Patriotic Flag Poles Project</b>	<b>\$4,918</b>
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To demonstrate that Lamont still remembers her sons and daughters who fought for Canada overseas, the County will install three new flagpoles at the site of the local cenotaph.

### **Contact Person**

: Vivian Tidsbury, Tel. (780) 895-2233

## **Summer Village of Mewatha Beach**

<b>Trail Upgrades</b>	<b>\$11,760</b>
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This project will enhance area hiking trails through the removal of dead fall and the addition of some gravel. These improvements will allow more people to pursue fitness and recreation in Mewatha Beach.

### **Contact Person**

: Garth Bancroft, Tel. (780) 349-6084

## **Town of Milk River**

<b>Kinsmen Playground</b>	<b>\$15,621</b>
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On the site of the local public park, the Town will install new, safe and environmentally-friendly playground equipment. The upgraded facility will provide fitness and recreational opportunities for children living in Milk River.

**Contact Person**

: Larry Liebelt, Tel. (403) 647-3773

**Town of Milk River**

<b>Swimming Pool Upgrade</b>	<b>\$15,087</b>
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Improvements planned for the pool include the installation of new partitions, deck signs, depth markers, energy efficient doors and a chemical mixer. This project will also enhance the spray park with the construction of a new concrete pad and the upgrading of the sprinkler heads. These changes will ensure that the facility operates efficiently and provides enhanced services for more visitors.

**Contact Person**

: Larry Leibelt, Tel. (403) 647-2339

**Town of Oyen**

<b>Recreation Facilities Upgrade</b>	<b>\$263,250</b>
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This project involves installing basic infrastructure for a new swimming pool to provide fitness and recreational opportunities for area residents. The Town will put in services including power, natural gas, water delivery and wastewater collection.

**Contact Person**

: Debbie Kovitch, Tel. (403) 664-3511

**Municipal District of Provost No. 52**

<b>Capt. Ayre Lake Water Treatment Facilities Upgrades</b>	<b>\$96,619</b>
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Three underground sewage holding tanks will be installed and a new wood frame building constructed to house both water treatment and recreational equipment. To make the site more amenable to visitors the facility area will be landscaped.

**Contact Person**

: Iris Larson, Tel. (780) 753-2434

**Municipal District of Provost No. 52**

<b>Shorncliffe Lake Recreational Facilities Upgrades</b>	<b>\$96,621</b>
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This project features the construction of a wood frame showering facility complete with a kitchen and a utility room. It will enhance the recreational opportunities available to residents and visitors.

**Contact Person**

: Iris Larson, Tel. (780) 753-2434

## **Strathcona County**

### **Pave Strathcona Athletic Park Parking Lot** **\$214,000**

Paving the parking lot will increase safety for people using the facility, as emergency vehicles will gain better access.

#### **Contact Person**

: Doug Marvin, Tel. (780) 464-8093

## **Summer Village of Sundance Beach**

### **Community Hall Upgrade** **\$3,210**

Replacing the deteriorating shingles on the roof of the community hall will extend the life of the facility and ensure it continues to meet building code and safety standards.

#### **Contact Person**

: Anita Blais, Tel. (780) 431-9712

## **Town of Sylvan Lake**

### **Arena Parking Lot Upgrade** **\$42,800**

Excavating the lot north of the facility and installing pit run, gravel and asphalt in the parking area will make the arena more accessible.

#### **Contact Person**

: Sean Barnes, Tel. (403) 887-2141

## **Town of Vulcan**

### **Highway 534 Pedestrian Underpass** **\$181,900**

To improve pedestrian safety, the town will build an underpass beneath Highway 534. Residents can expect to gain better access to recreational facilities and businesses.

#### **Contact Person**

: Wally Sholdice, Tel. (403) 485-2417

## **Village of Waskatenau**

### **Village Office and Shop Expansion** **\$101,002**

This project features the construction of an addition to the existing village building. It will provide residents with more space for community meetings and functions.

#### **Contact Person**

: Joan Prusak, Tel. (780) 358-2208.

Send us your comments or questions

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