

June 9, 2006

Province, County of Grande Prairie partner for pavement

15 kilometres of new pavement support energy and forestry developments

Goodfare... The Alberta government and the County of Grande Prairie are combining forces to convert 15 kilometres of gravel road to pavement, smoothing out the drive between Goodfare and the British Columbia border.

Construction is underway to pave Highway 671 west from its junction with Range Road 123 near Goodfare. This work, in conjunction with a county project to pave Township Road 724 (Goodfare Road) further west, will create a 15-kilometre ribbon of pavement.

"This project is an excellent example of the benefits gained when different levels of government work together," said Gordon Graydon, Minister of Gaming and MLA for Grande Prairie-Wapiti.

The Alberta government is investing \$7.3 million for the Highway 671 project and another \$2.3 million for the Township Road 724 project through the Resource Road Program. The county is contributing \$1.8 million.

"We are extremely pleased to work alongside the province on this project and are excited for all those who will benefit from its completion," said Brock Smith, Division 7 Councillor for the County of Grande Prairie.

The project will be completed by August 2007, weather permitting. The newly paved road will better support the heavy truck traffic resulting from expanding energy and forestry development in the area. The new pavement also will eliminate dust problems for local residents and improve safety for motorists.

"Investing in Alberta's highways supports the province's strong economy by providing a safe, efficient way to move people and goods," said Ty Lund, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation.

The Alberta government will invest a record \$1.1 billion this year to build, repair, and maintain the province's highway network.

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Media enquiries may be directed to:

Trent Bancarz, Communications Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation (780) 427-0623

To call toll-free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

Herb Pfau Director of Public Works County of Grande Prairie (780) 532-7393

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