

March 23, 2007

Over \$900,000 for street improvements and a regional recycling centre for two Peace Country communities

Northern Sunrise County, Alberta... Residents of Northern Sunrise County and the municipal district of Mackenzie will benefit from two municipal infrastructure projects that will increase road safety and reduce landfill waste.

A combined federal/provincial investment of \$610,806 towards the Peace Regional Recycling Centre in Northern Sunrise County will reduce landfill waste by diverting recyclables, salvageables and compostables from regional landfills.

Another combined federal/provincial investment of \$300,000 in the municipal district of Mackenzie will improve road and sidewalk infrastructure in the Hamlet of La Crete.

Through the Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CAMRIF), the federal and provincial governments will contribute a total of \$910,806 to the two projects.

Chris Warkentin, Member of Parliament for Peace River, on behalf of the Honourable Rona Ambrose, President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister of Western Economic Diversification, and Frank Oberle, MLA for Peace River, on behalf of Luke Ouellette, Minister of Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation, made the joint announcement today.

"Canada's New Government is getting things done for the people of Northern Alberta," said MP Warkentin. "Today's investment of \$910,806 will improve the quality of life for residents by providing better transportation infrastructure and managing household waste in an environmentally responsible way."

"Improving roads and sidewalks is important for the infrastructure of this county and the recycling centre helps reduce landfill waste, making this community more sustainable," said MLA Oberle. "These projects will help manage growth pressures and improve Albertans' quality of life, two of Premier Ed Stelmach's five priorities."

The Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund is a joint initiative between the Governments of Canada and Alberta that enables communities to address local infrastructure needs. Over the course of CAMRIF, the federal and provincial governments will each contribute \$88 million in funding for municipal infrastructure renewal.

A minimum of 55 per cent of funding under CAMRIF targets green infrastructure projects contribute to community economic development and environmental quality of life. These include water, wastewater, solid waste, environmental energy improvements and public transit. The fund also invests in recreational infrastructure, tourism and cultural projects, local roads and broadband connectivity. Projects are selected on a competitive basis from applications received from Alberta communities.

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Backgrounder

Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CAMRIF)

The following projects are receiving funding under the Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CAMRIF).

Northern Sunrise County

Peace Regional Recycling Centre

Combined federal/provincial investment: \$610,806 (pending environmental assessment)

This project will serve to maximize the diversion of recyclables, salvageables and compostables and green waste from the regional landfills. Once constructed, the solid waste facility will be energy efficient, using passive solar power, and can safely be used as a shelter in the event of a natural disaster.

MD of Mackenzie

Hamlet of La Crete 102 Street and 91st Avenue Improvement

Combined federal/provincial investment: \$300,000

This project will install a piped storm sewer, new curb, gutter, sidewalk and pavement along 101 Street from 89 to 91 Avenue and on 91 Avenue from 101 to 102 Street in the hamlet of La Crete.

Backgrounder

Fact Sheet

Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CAMRIF)

Partnership Program

- The Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CAMRIF) is designed to address local infrastructure needs in rural and urban Alberta. It ensures all Albertans, whether they live in large, small or remote communities, share in the benefits of infrastructure investments.

- Through the fund, the Governments of Canada and Alberta invest in local infrastructure projects. These projects are vital to sustaining strong economic growth and quality of life in Canadian communities.
- The federal-provincial CAMRIF Agreement provides \$88 million each in federal and provincial funding for municipal infrastructure renewal, reflecting shared federal and provincial priorities. With matching one-third contributions from municipalities, total program funding will be at least \$264 million.
- CAMRIF is implemented by Western Economic Diversification Canada and Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation, and is administered by a joint secretariat.

Program Priorities

- A minimum of 55 per cent of funding under CAMRIF targets green infrastructure projects that contribute to community economic development and environmental quality of life. These include water, wastewater, solid waste, environmental energy improvements and public transit. The fund also invests in recreational infrastructure, tourism and cultural projects, local roads and broadband connectivity.
- At least 80 per cent of CAMRIF funding is dedicated to rural municipalities with a population of less than 250,000. The remaining 20 per cent is available to urban municipalities with a population greater than 250,000.
- A total of \$1,760,000 is also available to municipalities for Municipal Capacity Building (MCB) projects. Projects may include, but is not limited to, the acquisition of infrastructure planning software, training to use that software, planning studies to determine the inventory and condition of infrastructure assets in the municipality or the development of a demand asset management system.

Local input and collaboration

- CAMRIF is managed by a six member Management Committee consisting of two federal representatives, two provincial representatives, and two members representing Alberta's municipal associations-the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association and the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties. The Management Committee develops the Management Committee guidelines and oversees the project review and selection process. Projects are selected on a competitive basis from applications received from Alberta communities. The deadline to submit applications for the first intake was July 31, 2006.
- Applications for the second intake will be accepted in Spring 2007.

Environmental Assessment

- CAMRIF projects are required to successfully complete applicable environmental assessment processes, and funding is conditional on compliance with all applicable federal and provincial requirements.

How to apply

- For more information, contact the Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund Joint Secretariat by phone (toll free) at 1-800-396-0214, by e-mail at <mailto:camrif@gov.ab.ca> or visit the website www.camrif.ca.
- Information about Government of Canada and Alberta's infrastructure programs is available at www.infrastructure.gc.ca and www.infratrans.gov.ab.ca.

Send us your comments or questions

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