



February 2, 2008

County of Wetaskiwin and the Village of Clive residents benefit from four infrastructure investments

Wetaskiwin... The Government of Canada and the Province of Alberta announced four infrastructure projects today worth more than \$3.2 million for the Wetaskiwin Region.

Blaine Calkins, Member of Parliament for Wetaskiwin, 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 LeRoy Johnson, MLA for Wetaskiwin-Camrose, on behalf of Luke Ouellette, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation, announced the funding through the Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CAMRIF).

"Today's announcement will provide the County of Wetaskiwin residents with a reliable waste management system, safer, more efficient roads, and enable the Village of Clive to better plan for their infrastructure needs," said MP Calkins. "The Government of Canada is proud to partner with the Province of Alberta in making infrastructure investments that will provide significant and lasting benefits to the families in these communities."

The upgrading of the waste management system for the County of Wetaskiwin will play a vital role in improving the economic and environmental efficiency of waste treatment in the transfer stations at Mulhurst, Lakedell, Winfield and West Buck Lake. This innovative waste treatment system will reduce transportation costs and make recycling a viable option for the County. More than 2,151 households will benefit from this project.

This investment will also enable the County to replace Bridge File 349 and upgrade Correction Line Road. These projects are expected to improve safety and enhance the response times for emergency vehicles. About 120 vehicles per day will cross the new Bridge, and over 367 vehicles per day are expected to use the safer and more efficient Correction Line Road.

The Municipal Capacity Building project will enable the Village of Clive to purchase an infrastructure planning software that will efficiently track the age and condition of infrastructure assets such as roads, water systems, sanitary sewers, storm management systems and buildings. This software will provide the Village with the tools to accurately forecast, budget and plan for their short and long-term infrastructure needs.

"Upgrading bridges, roads and waste management infrastructure will save the County of Wetaskiwin money and improve residents' quality of life. Helping the Village of Clive with its infrastructure data base will ensure solid planning for the future," said Johnson. "Supporting safe roads and clean water reflect Premier Ed Stelmach's plan to secure Alberta's future by building communities, greening our growth and creating opportunity."

Under the initial CAMRIF Agreement signed in June 2006, the federal and provincial governments each committed \$88 million to the fund, with participating local governments expected to make up the remaining

costs. This year, the Government of Canada and the Province of Alberta have each provided an additional \$19 million to the Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund as part of their commitment to help smaller communities meet their pressing infrastructure needs. The total amount available from the CAMRIF, with federal and provincial investment and matching local government contribution in projects, is \$321 million.

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, cultural projects, local roads and broadband connectivity. Projects are selected on a competitive basis from applications received from Alberta communities.

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Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CAMRIF)

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

County of Wetaskiwin

Solid Waste Management System

Combined federal / provincial investment: \$266,666 (pending environmental assessment)

The County of Wetaskiwin will be receiving infrastructure investments to add compaction ability to the County's waste transfer stations operations at Mulhurst, Lakedell, Winfield and West Buck Lake. The move to compaction will reduce the number of trips from the transfer site to the landfill and transportation costs. This initiative will make recycling a viable option for the County. The improvements are expected to benefit 2,151 households in the area.

Replacement of Bridge File 349

Combined federal / provincial investment: \$1,333,332 (pending environmental assessment)

This project involves building Bridge File 349 in the County of Wetaskiwin, which will replace the existing bridge located along a section of road that serves both heavy industry (primarily gravel and oil & gas) and agriculture. The new bridge will provide the residents of Wetaskiwin, Camrose County as well as the Ermineskin Tribe, Louis Bull Tribe, Montana Band, and Samson Cree Nation, with access to these industries in a safe and efficient manner.

Upgrading Correction Line Road

Combined federal / provincial investment: \$1,666,666 (pending environmental assessment)

The Correction Line Road project will pave 8.5 miles of the road between HWY 2 and HWY 2A along township road 470. This roadway is heavily used and serves as a major detour route when HWY 2 is closed. The road upgrade will increase safety and reduce the cost of maintaining the gravel under heavy use. The improvements will also benefit the local economy, as it will drive industrial development in the area.

Village of Clive

Municipal Infrastructure Management System Software

Combined federal / provincial investment: \$14,078

This project involves the purchase and installation of the infrastructure planning software that will determine the condition of the infrastructure assets for the Village of Clive. This software will assist the municipality with capital planning over the next 20-25 years.

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.
- Under the initial CAMRIF Agreement signed in June 2006, the federal and provincial governments each committed \$88 million to the fund, with participating local governments expected to make up the remaining costs.
- This year, the Government of Canada and the Province of Alberta have each provided an additional \$19 million to CAMRIF as part of their commitment to help smaller communities meet their pressing infrastructure needs.
- The total amount available from CAMRIF, with federal and provincial investment and matching local government contribution in projects, is \$321 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 \$724,584 is also approved for municipalities for Municipal Capacity Building (MCB) projects. Projects may include, but are 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 second intake was May 31, 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.

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 camrif@gov.ab.ca or visit the website <http://www.camrif.ca/>.
- Information about Government of Canada and Alberta's infrastructure programs is available at <http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/> and <http://www.infratrans.gov.ab.ca/>.

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