

CANADIAN FEDERAL BUDGET 2009 - HIGHLIGHTS

Budget 2009 accelerates and expands recent historic federal investments in infrastructure with **almost \$12 billion** in new infrastructure stimulus funding **over two years**.

PART 1 - INVESTMENTS IN PROVINCIAL, TERRITORIAL AND MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Building on previous infrastructure commitments, Budget 2009 invests in a more modern and greener infrastructure by:

- Establishing a *two-year, \$4-billion* Infrastructure Stimulus Fund that will provide funding to *renew infrastructure*.
- Providing *\$1 billion* over five years for the Green Infrastructure Fund to support projects such as *sustainable energy*.
- Providing *\$500 million* over two years to build *and renew community recreation facilities* across Canada.
- *Accelerating up to \$1 billion* in payments over two years under the Provincial-Territorial Base Funding Initiative to expedite *"ready-to-go" infrastructure projects*.
- Providing up to *\$500 million* over the next two years for *infrastructure projects in small communities*.

PART 2 - INVESTMENTS IN KNOWLEDGE INFRASTRUCTURE

The Government will advance Canada's knowledge advantage by:

- Dedicating up to *\$2 billion* to repair, retrofit and expand facilities at *post-secondary institutions*.
- Providing *\$750 million* for leading-edge *research infrastructure* through the Canada Foundation for Innovation.

PART 1 - INVESTMENTS IN PROVINCIAL, TERRITORIAL AND MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE

1A - Infrastructure Stimulus Fund

Rehabilitation work is needed to maintain the safety and prolong the economic life of assets that were built decades ago. Many important rehabilitation projects are ready to get underway quickly in the next two years, but lack funding.

Budget 2009 establishes a new \$4-billion Infrastructure Stimulus Fund that will provide funding to provincial, territorial and **MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION PROJECTS**. Funding will be available for two years for projects that will begin construction during the 2009 and 2010 construction seasons. This initiative will be structured to flow funding and get shovels in the ground quickly. The **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT** will approve provincial, territorial and municipal project plans, and will cover **UP TO 50 PER CENT OF ELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS**. Subject to project readiness and merit, funding will be allocated for projects in provinces and territories based on their population. Should agreements not be reached expeditiously with a province or territory, funding may be used to support the rehabilitation of federal or other infrastructure.

1B - Recreational Infrastructure Canada

There are thousands of community recreational facilities across Canada, including hockey arenas, soccer fields, tennis and basketball courts, and swimming pools. Many of these facilities were built in 1967 to help mark Canada's Centennial year, and are now in need of upgrading and renewal.

Budget 2009 provides **\$500 MILLION** over two years to support construction of new community recreational facilities and **UPGRADES TO EXISTING FACILITIES** across Canada. Eligible facilities include recreational facilities owned by municipalities, First Nations, counties, community organizations and other not-for-profit entities. The initiative will support **UP TO 50 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL COST OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS**, with the balance to be provided by provincial and municipal governments, community organizations, and the private sector.

This national initiative is expected to provide local economic stimulus, contribute to a higher quality of community recreational facilities and promote national spirit.

The initiative will be delivered nationally through the three regional development agencies, with transitional measures for newly created agencies, with allocation on the basis of **PROJECT MERIT AND READINESS**.

1C - Green Infrastructure Fund

Targeted investments in green infrastructure can improve the quality of the environment and will lead to a more sustainable economy over the longer term. Green infrastructure includes infrastructure that supports a focus on

Mechanical and Electrical Engineers specializing in building retrofit and energy management.

the creation of sustainable energy. Sustainable energy infrastructure, such as modern energy transmission lines, will contribute to improved air quality and lower carbon emissions.

Budget 2009 provides **\$1 BILLION** over five years for a Green Infrastructure Fund. Funding will be allocated **BASED ON MERIT** to support green infrastructure projects on a cost-shared basis.

1D – School Construction

Building and renovating schools on reserve generates short-term employment and business opportunities and helps to ensure that educational facilities meet existing and future educational requirements. This will help the Government to meet its commitment to improve on-reserve student retention and graduation rates.

Budget 2009 provides two-year targeted funding of \$200 million for the construction of 10 new schools on reserve and three major school renovation projects.

PART 2 - INVESTMENTS IN KNOWLEDGE INFRASTRUCTURE

2A – Improving Infrastructure at Universities and Colleges

Universities and colleges advance the frontiers of knowledge through research and train highly skilled workers who will contribute to the Canadian economy. Post-secondary institutions, including universities, colleges, and publicly funded polytechnic schools and institutes of technology, have indicated that a major portion of their existing campus infrastructure is at or near the end of its projected life cycle, and often does not adequately meet the needs of today's research and teaching activities.

Accelerating repairs, maintenance and construction at universities and colleges will provide substantial stimulus in communities across Canada and will help achieve the objectives of the Government's Science and Technology Strategy by enhancing the research capacity of these institutions and enabling them to attract students and provide a better educational experience for the highly skilled workers of tomorrow.

Budget 2009 will provide up to **\$2 BILLION TO SUPPORT DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR PROJECTS** at post-secondary institutions. Preference will be given to projects at universities that can improve the quality of research and development at the institution. Projects at colleges will strengthen their ability to deliver advanced knowledge and skills training. For example, funding could support participation in repair, refurbishment, and expansion projects at the College of New Caledonia (British Columbia), Great Plains College (Saskatchewan), Winnipeg Technical College (Manitoba), Durham College of Applied Arts and Technology (Ontario), Algonquin College (Ontario) and New Brunswick Community College (New Brunswick). The funds under this initiative will be managed by Industry Canada, with 70 per cent of the funding dedicated to university infrastructure and the remaining 30 per cent for infrastructure at colleges. Allocation will be based on project merit and readiness. The funds will pay for up to half of project costs, leveraging an equivalent amount from other partners.

2B – Canada Foundation for Innovation

Budget 2009 provides \$150 million to increase the funding available for meritorious projects in the 2009 Leading Edge and New Initiatives Funds Competition. In addition, Budget 2009 provides \$600 million for future activities of the CFI, including the launch of one or more new competitions by December 2010. More information of CFI can be found on their website at <http://www.innovation.ca>.