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# News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 24, 2007

**Canada's New Government and Alberta Invest \$3.5 Million to Improve  
Drinking Water and Bring Major Road Improvement for Southwest Alberta**

**Turner Valley, Alberta** – Canada's New Government, through the Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund, and the Government of Alberta are each investing more than \$1.75 million to improve drinking water, the environment and driver safety for residents of Southwest Alberta.

A "green" project in the Town of Turner Valley will construct a new sanitary collection system, including a sanitary main, river crossing and two lift stations, to replace the septic fields near the Town's source of potable water (the Sheep River water wells). The new sanitary main will divert wastewater to the municipal sewage treatment plant and reduce the risk of contaminants and toxic substances entering the water system. The project will also protect the Sheep River and the area's ecosystem from contamination.

Upgrades to Tower Road in the Municipal District of Pincher Creek will improve driver safety and efficiency, provide capacity for heavy truck traffic and reduce long-term maintenance requirements.

Through the Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CAMRIF), the federal and provincial governments will each contribute \$844,000 towards the Southwest Sanitary Collection System in the Town of Turner Valley, as well as \$907,600 towards improving Tower Road in the Municipal District of Pincher Creek.

Ted Menzies, Member of Parliament for Macleod, on behalf of the Honourable Rona Ambrose, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister of Western Economic Diversification, and David Coutts, MLA for Livingstone-Macleod, on behalf of the Honourable 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 Southwest Alberta,” said MP Menzies. “Today’s investment of more than \$3.5 million shows what Canada’s New Government is doing with its partners to strengthen regional economies and build more vibrant communities across the country, including right here Southwest Alberta.”

Coutts said managing growth pressures throughout Alberta is one of Premier Ed Stelmach’s five priorities. “The sanitary collection system project in Turner Valley supports continued progress on the Alberta government’s Water for Life strategy and activities to protect Alberta’s air, water and land,” said Coutts. “The Tower Road project will improve an important local roadway that will foster the safer movement of goods and people in the Pincher Creek area.”

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 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. 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).

#### **Town of Turner Valley**

##### **Southwest Sanitary Collection System**

Combined federal / provincial investment: \$1,688,000 (pending environmental assessment)

This “green” project will construct a new sanitary main, a river crossing and two lift stations that will serve the Southwest portion of the Town in order to eliminate septic fields adjacent the Sheep River water wells—the source of the Town’s potable water supply.

#### **Municipal District of Pincher Creek**

##### **Tower Road, Base and Pave**

Combined federal / provincial investment: \$1,815,200

This project will provide geometric and structural upgrades to Tower Road (Township Road 6-4) within the Municipal District of Pincher Creek. The upgrades will enhance safety, improve the functionality to users, provide adequate structural capacity for heavy truck traffic and reduce extensive long-term maintenance requirements.

## 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 [camrif@gov.ab.ca](mailto:camrif@gov.ab.ca) or visit the website [www.camrif.ca](http://www.camrif.ca).
- Information about Government of Canada and Alberta's infrastructure programs is available at [www.infrastructure.gc.ca](http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca) and [www.infratrans.gov.ab.ca](http://www.infratrans.gov.ab.ca).