
News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Over \$6.8 million in recreation and cleaner water for
communities in Eastern Alberta**

Bonnyville, Alberta – Residents of the Town of Bonnyville, City of Cold Lake and Village of Thorhild will benefit from three municipal infrastructure projects that will provide increased recreational opportunities and clean water.

A combined federal/provincial investment of more than \$4.2 million towards expanding and retrofitting the Bonnyville and District Centennial Centre will allow for the relocation of ball diamonds, as well as the addition of a track and field circuit and skateboard park.

A combined federal/provincial investment of more than \$2.4 million towards installing a “stormceptor” in the City of Cold Lake will ensure storm water quality control, while a combined investment of \$83,332 in the Village of Thorhild will expand the community’s 39-year-old swimming pool.

Through the Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CAMRIF), the federal and provincial governments will each contribute a total of more than \$3.4 million to the three projects.

Brian Storseth, Member of Parliament for Westlock–St. Paul, 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 Denis Ducharme, MLA for Bonnyville-Cold Lake, 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 Eastern Alberta,” said MP Storseth. “Today’s investment of more than \$6.8 million will provide increased recreational opportunities and clean water, helping communities build the infrastructure they need to support a high quality of life.”

“Enhancing recreational opportunities in Thorhild and Bonnyville and improving storm water management in Cold Lake will improve the quality of people’s lives in these communities,” said MLA Ducharme. “Improving Albertans’ quality of life is one of the five priorities identified by Premier Ed Stelmach.”

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 Bonnyville

Bonnyville and District Centennial Centre

Combined federal/provincial investment: \$4,276,962 (pending environmental assessment)

This project includes the relocation of ball diamonds, the expansion and retrofit of the Centennial Centre including paving, and the addition of a track and field circuit as well as a skateboard park.

City of Cold Lake

43 Ave. Storm Sewer Trunk Extension

Combined federal/provincial investment: \$2,449,040 (pending environmental assessment)

The storm sewer drainage scheme includes installation of a 1,500 mm diameter concrete storm sewer from 49 Street to Palm Creek. The routing will cross Highway 28, the abandoned Railink Railway and Center Avenue. A “stormceptor” will be installed on the discharge side of the line for storm water quality control.

Village of Thorhild

Swimming Pool Retrofit

Combined federal/provincial investment: \$83,332

This project will provide upgrades to the Village of Thorhild’s 39 year-old recreation facility.

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 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.