
News Release

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CANADA AND TORONTO PARTNER TO CREATE JOBS, STIMULATE ECONOMY

More than 500 infrastructure projects will receive funding in Toronto

Toronto, Ontario — The Government of Canada joined with the City of Toronto today to unveil more than 500 new infrastructure projects that can begin construction across the City of Toronto as soon as possible, including upgrades to roads, water and sewage infrastructure, public transit, municipal buildings, community centres, and cultural facilities.

Speaking at Exhibition Place, the Honourable Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance, John Baird, Canada's Transport and Infrastructure Minister, and David Miller, Mayor of Toronto, announced a total combined Canada-Toronto investment of more than a half-billion dollars, which represents a one-third federal investment and two-thirds municipal investment.

"Under the strong leadership of Prime Minister Stephen Harper, our Government is taking action to put shovels in the ground and stimulate the economy here in Toronto," said Minister Flaherty. "Today's investment in more than 500 projects will create local jobs, improve infrastructure that is a priority for Torontonians, and help Canada emerge strong from these tough economic times."

"As a result of a strong plan – Canada's Economic Action Plan – and the partnerships we have built with other levels of government, our Government is upgrading infrastructure across Canada," said Minister Baird. "Today's announcement of over 500 projects is an example of two governments working together to create jobs around Toronto and upgrade important infrastructure city-wide."

"The City of Toronto is proud to be partnering with the Federal government to do our part to stimulate Canada's economy," said Mayor Miller. "By accelerating the City's capital program over the next two years, we are creating jobs at a time when they are needed the most. These funds will be used for infrastructure projects that Toronto needs most like efficient public transit, cultural and recreational facilities, safe drinking water, modern wastewater treatment and reliable roads and bridges."

The project categories funded in this agreement include:

- The renewal and resurfacing of local roads
- Renovations to the city's water and sewage infrastructure
- Enhancements to Toronto's public transit system

- Upgrades to local municipal buildings, including police stations and community centres
- Enhancements to parks, trails and cultural buildings, including Exhibition Place

One of the recipients of funding under the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund is the Direct Energy Centre at Exhibition Place. The Direct Energy Centre, formally the National Trade Centre, will receive upgrades to a variety of interior infrastructure, including new electrical equipment, meeting room renovations, and garage repairs. Another project will involve the restoration of the Prince's Gates, which was originally built in 1927.

The Government of Canada's funding is being provided under the national \$4 billion Infrastructure Stimulus Fund and is aimed at getting shovels in the ground for infrastructure projects across Canada that can be materially completed by March 2011.

Demonstrating its commitment to stimulating the economy and creating jobs, the Government of Canada is moving forward with a number of large-scale infrastructure programs to assist Ontarians when they need it most. The Government of Canada's 2009 Economic Action Plan is accelerating and expanding the existing federal investment of \$33 billion in infrastructure with almost \$12 billion in new infrastructure stimulus funding over two years.

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