

News release

For immediate release

Residents across the Northwest Territories to benefit from 19 infrastructure projects.

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, August 13, 2019—Strategic investments in public infrastructure, including funding for water and wastewater infrastructure, improved roads, highways and solid waste sites, as well as community and cultural centres, play a key role in ensuring northerners and their families have access to modern, reliable infrastructure that meets their unique needs.

Today, Michael McLeod, Member of Parliament for Northwest Territories, on behalf of the Honourable Bernadette Jordan, Minister of Rural Economic Development, and the Honourable Alfred Moses, Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs announced funding for 19 infrastructure projects across the territory.

Residents will benefit from new developments and upgrades to cultural camps for the Indigenous community governments of Gamètì, Whatì and Wekweètì, and in Inuvik for the Nihtat Gwich'in Council. These new camps will provide community members with a place to host culturally significant events and local traditional gatherings. In addition, funding will go to upgrading the Ko Gocho Centre in Behchoko, and to the Arbour and Tepee at the Edhaa Historical Site, which will increase its lifespan.

Road upgrades in several communities – including Fort Simpson, Hay River, Norman Wells, Tuktoyaktuk, and Yellowknife – will improve the reliability of road infrastructure across the Northwest Territories. Investments towards trail development, wastewater, and solid waste management projects will also benefit communities across the territory.

The Government of Canada is investing more than \$31.3 million in these projects through various streams under the *Investing in Canada* infrastructure plan. The various communities and Indigenous groups are contributing more than \$14.2 million in funding.

Quotes

“Investments in local infrastructure, including cultural, recreational, road and water projects help our communities provide efficient and reliable services for northerners in the region. This is an excellent example of what can be done when all levels of government work together to build stronger, more self-sustaining communities.”

Michael McLeod, Member of Parliament for Northwest Territories, on behalf of the Honourable Bernadette Jordan, Minister of Rural Economic Development

“Today’s announcement of funding towards 19 community infrastructure projects demonstrates the ongoing partnership between the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Government of Canada, Northwest Territories Indigenous Governments, and Northwest Territories community governments to invest in community based infrastructure projects. Municipal and Community Affairs will continue to work with communities to enhance funding opportunities that meet northern priorities.”

The Honourable Alfred Moses, Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs

Quick facts

- Funding for construction of infrastructure projects under the *Investing in Canada* plan is conditional and will only be provided once Canada is satisfied that the obligation to consult with Indigenous groups is met.
- Through the *Investing in Canada* infrastructure plan, the Government of Canada is investing more than \$180 billion over 12 years in public transit projects, green infrastructure, social infrastructure, trade and transportation routes, and Canada's rural and northern communities.
 - \$26.9 billion of this funding is supporting green infrastructure projects, including \$5 billion available for investment through the Canada Infrastructure Bank.
 - \$2 billion of this funding is supporting infrastructure projects that meet the unique needs of rural and northern communities like facilities to support food security, local access roads and enhanced broadband connectivity. In addition, \$400 million is being delivered through the Arctic Energy Fund to advance energy security in the territories.
 - \$4 billion of this funding is supporting infrastructure projects in Indigenous communities.
- On June 27, 2019, the Government of Canada launched two new strategies: Canada's Connectivity Strategy, which commits to connect all Canadians to high-speed internet, and Canada's first Rural Economic Development Strategy, which will spur economic growth and create good, middle class jobs for rural Canadians across the country.
- The Rural Economic Development Strategy leverages ongoing federal investments and provides a vision for the future, identifying practical steps to take in the short term, and serving as a foundation to guide further work.
- Central to Canada's Connectivity Strategy are historic new investments that are mobilizing up to \$6 billion toward universal connectivity. They include a top-up to the Connect to Innovate Program, a new Universal Broadband Fund, and investments from the Canada Infrastructure Bank.

Related product

Backgrounder - Residents across the Northwest Territories to benefit from 19 infrastructure projects

Associated links

Investing in Canada Plan Project Map:

<http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/map>

Federal infrastructure investments in the Northwest Territories:

<https://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/investments-2002-investissements/nt-eng.html>

Investing in Canada: Canada's Long-Term Infrastructure Plan:

<http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/plan/icp-publication-pic-eng.html>

Rural Opportunity, National Prosperity: An Economic Development Strategy for Rural Canada:

<https://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/rural/strat-eng.html>

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