



MEMBER ADVISORY

Federal Government announces new Infrastructure Plan

December 1, 2011 – Yesterday, the Government of Canada announced a new infrastructure planning process with the goal of developing a new long-term infrastructure plan to replace the Building Canada Fund, which expires in 2014.

The process is expected to roll out in three phases:

1. Phase I - First, the federal government will work with provincial, territorial and municipal partners to take stock of the accomplishments and results of past infrastructure investments and examine their benefits for communities.
2. Phase II - The federal government will then work with its partners and leading experts to research and analyze a number of themes to ensure informed decisions on infrastructure investments.
3. Phase III will involve a series of in-depth discussions with partners and other stakeholders to confirm the principles and priorities of the plan.

Throughout the process, infrastructure investments through the \$33-billion Building Canada Plan will continue. The federal government has also tabled legislation to make the \$2 billion Gas Tax Fund permanent.

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) applauded the plan's clear timetable and firm milestones, describing it as a "tremendous victory for the entire municipal sector". FCM further noted the process is the result of a growing partnership between federal, municipal, provincial and territorial governments.

This afternoon, Premier Greg Selinger pledged his government will consult with and work with municipalities to ensure that local priorities are reflected in a new long-term infrastructure plan (see attached release).

The AMM looks forward to working with the Government of Canada, the Province of Manitoba, and FCM to develop a plan to stop the decline in Canada's aging municipal infrastructure.

We will keep our membership informed as the plan develops and the phases are completed.

Visit FCM's infrastructure page for more details: <http://www.fcm.ca/home/issues/infrastructure.htm>

December 1, 2011

**MANITOBA GOVERNMENT WELCOMES OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE
IN DEVELOPING NEW TRI-LEVEL INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN**

Premier Greg Selinger today welcomed a commitment from the federal government to develop a long-term infrastructure plan in partnership with municipalities, provinces and territories.

"From roads to community centres, our public infrastructure constitutes services that families count on and they're services that we have to keep building," said Selinger. "We know the only way that can happen is by bringing municipalities, provinces and the federal government together to develop a plan and move forward on it together."

The premier said that, in the coming months, the Manitoba government will consult with and work with provincial municipalities to ensure that local priorities are reflected in a new long-term infrastructure plan.

"We are pleased the premier is committed to working with the federal government and municipalities in developing a new long-term infrastructure plan for municipalities in Manitoba," said Doug Dobrowolski, president of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities. "This is a top priority for our association and this commitment by both levels of government will go a long way in addressing infrastructure needs facing municipalities."

Selinger noted that investing in and building community infrastructure has been a priority for municipalities across Manitoba and that recent infrastructure projects have created thousands of jobs.

"When the economic downturn hit, we committed to building our public infrastructure and protecting thousands of jobs because that's what Manitoba families expected," he said. "A new long-term infrastructure plan will keep our economy growing and improve life for families across the province."