

## News Release

For Immediate Release

### Rossland Gets Funding for Replacing the Washington Water Main Project approved under Canada's Small Communities Fund

July 13, 2015

Rossland, British Columbia

Residents of Rossland will benefit from new drinking water infrastructure thanks to joint funding from the governments of Canada and British Columbia through the Small Communities Fund.

The funding will allow Rossland to replace its 100-year-old water main with a new and larger water main that can accommodate both the current and projected water demands of the community. Although water produced by the current treatment plant meets treatment requirements, cracks in the aging steel mains are increasing the risk of contamination. The existing water main is also susceptible to leaks, increasing operating and maintenance costs. Large leaks have already left many people in the community without water or fire protection for extended periods. When complete, residents will enjoy the many benefits of a modern, reliable water distribution system.

The project announced today is among 55 recently approved in British Columbia that will collectively receive more than \$128 million in joint federal-provincial funding under the Small Communities Fund. These projects represent important investments in municipal infrastructure that maintain safe, healthy communities. Once complete, the work will significantly improve key municipal services for residents and help boost regional development.

Through the Small Communities Fund, the governments of Canada and British Columbia are working in partnership to provide funding for priority public infrastructure projects that deliver on local needs in communities across the province that have fewer than 100,000 residents. These investments support job creation and economic growth, thus sustaining a high quality of life in small communities across British Columbia for years to come.

### Quick Facts

- The Government of Canada will provide up to \$1,090,850 through the Small Communities Fund for the project.
- The Province of British Columbia will contribute up to \$1,090,850 to this project.
- The City of Rossland will be responsible for all remaining costs of the project.
- The total estimated cost for this project is \$3,272,551.
- The 55 projects approved for funding in British Columbia under the Small Communities Fund so far include 24 drinking water projects, 22 wastewater projects, four major roads projects, two disaster mitigation projects, two brownfield remediation projects and one solid waste management project.

### Quotes

"We are proud to invest in projects like this new water main in Rossland. It will benefit our community by improving much needed local infrastructure. Our Government's commitment to municipalities, big and small, has never been stronger. Through the New Building Canada Plan's Small Communities Fund, we are investing in priority infrastructure projects that have a positive and lasting impact on the quality of life of British Columbia's residents while helping create jobs and economic growth."

*David Wilks*

*Member of Parliament for Kootenay — Columbia*

*On behalf of the Honourable Denis Lebel, Minister of Infrastructure, Communities and Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister of the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec*

"Through the New Building Canada Plan's Small Communities Fund, the governments of Canada and British Columbia are working in partnership to provide funding for priority public infrastructure projects that

deliver on local needs in communities across the province. Not only does this fund sustain a high quality of life in small communities like Rossland, but it also supports job creation and economic growth.”

*Bill Bennett*  
*MLA, Kootenay East*  
*Minister of Energy and Mines*

“I am so pleased that Rossland is receiving this funding. This project will help us meet the much higher standard for both infrastructure installation and water quality than was required in the early 1900’s when these pipes were installed. I want to thank the federal government for recognizing the importance of core infrastructure projects and also to acknowledge that without financial help, these large projects are out of reach for many small communities like Rossland.”

*Kathy Moore*  
*Mayor of Rossland*

## **Associated Links**

To learn more about the Small Communities Fund, please visit <http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/plan/sc-cp-eng.html>.

For additional information on the New Building Canada Plan, visit <http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/plan/nbcp-npcc-eng.html>.

To learn more about the Government of Canada's focus on jobs and the economy consult Canada's Economic Action Plan at <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2015/home-accueil-eng.html>.

Learn more about the Small Communities Fund at work in British Columbia:  
[www.gov.bc.ca/smallcommunitiesfund](http://www.gov.bc.ca/smallcommunitiesfund)

- 30 -

## **Contacts**

Vincent Rabault  
Press Secretary  
Office of the Minister of Infrastructure, Communities and Intergovernmental Affairs and  
Minister of the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec  
613-943-1838

Provincial Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development  
Communications  
250-953-3677

Infrastructure Canada  
613-960-9251  
Toll free: 1-877-250-7154  
[media@inf.gc.ca](mailto:media@inf.gc.ca)  
Follow us on Twitter at [@INFC\\_eng](https://twitter.com/INFC_eng)