



## News Release

For Immediate Release

### Kitimat and Stewart Receive Funding for Infrastructure Projects

Projects approved under Canada's Small Communities Fund

July 27, 2015

Terrace, British Columbia

Residents of Kitimat and Stewart will benefit from new and upgraded local infrastructure thanks to joint funding from the governments of Canada and British Columbia for three projects through the Small Communities Fund.

A project in Kitimat will modernize and upgrade the Kitimat Wastewater Treatment Plant to increase its efficiency and expand its operating capacity. In addition to a structural retrofit of the plant, the project will include replacing the pumps, and the ventilation, filtration, control, and aeration systems. When completed, the upgraded facility will cost less to operate and will be able to accommodate the District's current and anticipated residential and business needs, as well as those of the region's growing liquefied natural gas industry.

Part of the funding will support the construction of two new environmental management systems for the Stewart Landfill Site, which has reached capacity and is being closed. The first, a methane gas collection and flaring system, will reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions from the decomposing waste at the site. The second, a leachate collection and treatment system, will help protect local groundwater tables and Bear River from contaminants. To support the future disposal needs of the community, the project also includes the creation of a new waste transfer station.

The projects announced today are 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

- For the Sewage Treatment Plant Retrofit in Kitimat:
  - The Government of Canada will provide up to \$1,200,000 through the Small Communities Fund.
  - The Province of British Columbia will contribute up to \$1,200,000.
  - The District of Kitimat will be responsible for all remaining costs of the project.
  - The total estimated cost for this project is \$3,600,000.
- For the Two New Environmental Management Systems and a Waste Transfer Station in Stewart:
  - The Government of Canada will provide up to \$863,306 through the Small Communities Fund.
  - The Province of British Columbia will contribute up to \$863,306.
  - The District of Stewart will be responsible for all remaining costs of the project.
  - The total estimated cost for this project is \$2,589,919.

- 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 these which will benefit British Columbia residents 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.”

*Bob Zimmer*

*Member of Parliament for Prince George–Peace River*

*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*

“Our Government recognizes the importance of working with local governments to make projects like this possible. The Sewage Treatment Plant Retrofit in Kitimat and the upgrades to Stewart’s waste management system represent a combined investment of more than \$4 million dollars from the provincial and federal governments. This is great news for the northwest communities.”

*Coralee Oakes*

*Provincial Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development*

“This is great news. I would like to thank Council and Administration for having the foresight to apply for the grant to fund this important project. On behalf of Council and the community of Stewart, I would like to thank the federal government and the Province of British Columbia for making such a crucial investment in our infrastructure.”

*Patricia Lynn*

*Deputy Mayor, District of Stewart*

“Mayor and Council of the District of Kitimat are very grateful for the support of both the Federal and Provincial governments in approving our application to upgrade our Sewage Treatment Plant under the New Building Canada Fund – Small Communities Fund. Upon completion the plant will provide for an estimated future stable population of approximately 12,000 people.”

*Phil Germuth*

*Mayor, District of Kitimat*

## 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)

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