
News Release

For immediate release
September 23, 2009

CANADA AND PORT METRO VANCOUVER PROVIDE INFRASTRUCTURE BOOST TO STIMULATE ECONOMY

Vancouver, British Columbia – The Honourable Rob Merrifield, Canada's Minister of State (Transport), today announced funding up to nearly \$42 million for 14 Port Metro Vancouver infrastructure projects, under the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund.

The Government of Canada will provide Port Metro Vancouver with up to nearly \$21 million from the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund to make important upgrades to the Port's infrastructure. The Port will invest an identical amount.

“Under the leadership of Prime Minister Stephen Harper, our Government is investing in new port projects today as part of our larger plan to create local jobs, stimulate British Columbia's economy, and ensure Canada emerges strong from an economic downturn,” said Minister Merrifield. “We are proud to partner with Port Metro Vancouver to get these 14 projects underway, and ensure British Columbia has lasting and durable port infrastructure.”

The 14 infrastructure projects are diverse, ranging from the installation of waterlines to service the Richmond Logistics Hub, to upgrading seismic capacity of three buildings at the Lynnterm Terminal, to upgrading water and storm sewers systems on the south shore to enhance emergency preparedness for south shore terminals in the event of a fire, spill or similar event, to the creation of a Fusion centre to manage the Port's operations and manage communications to ensure safe, secure and sustainable operations.

“Port Metro Vancouver appreciates the Government of Canada's commitment to serve the nation's international trade requirements through this leading gateway,” said Robin Silvester, President and Chief Executive Officer, Port Metro Vancouver. “By matching the Government of Canada's investment, the Port will help deliver the transportation infrastructure our commercial user's need, while securing jobs and providing economic value for communities.”

The new federal \$4-billion Infrastructure Stimulus Fund provides funding to provincial, territorial and municipal construction-ready infrastructure rehabilitation projects that will be built during this year's and next year's construction seasons. Federal funding is conditional on the projects meeting all federal program and environmental requirements and the signing of a contribution agreement.

To date, 210 infrastructure projects in British Columbia will receive a joint federal-provincial investment of \$370 million under the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund.

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For more information on the Economic Action Plan, please visit: www.actionplan.gc.ca.

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