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# Canada and British Columbia invest over \$20 million in infrastructure projects across the province to build more resilient, greener communities

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From: [Infrastructure Canada](#)

## News release

**Bella Bella, British Columbia, August 22, 2022**—Today, the Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan, Minister of International Development and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada, on behalf of the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities, and the Honourable Nathan Cullen, MLA for Stikine and B.C. Minister of Municipal Affairs, announced more than \$20 million in joint federal-provincial funding for eight social, transportation, and green infrastructure projects across British Columbia.

Among the communities benefitting from the investments announced today is the Heiltsuk First Nation from Bella Bella. Funding will go toward an essential road infrastructure project that will increase access to the community by safely linking the community of Bella Bella and the airport. The existing road will be converted to a dedicated pedestrian and bike path and will be complimented by the construction of a new 2 km road. The new airport road will bring lasting

economic benefits to the community by ensuring people and goods can flow freely and will also provide pedestrians and cyclists with safe, alternate means of transportation.

The Stswecem'c Xget'tem First Nation will gain greater food security through the construction of two green houses, two walk-in freezers, and a canning shed, which will support the community garden and sustainability program. These developments will help safeguard against the impact on food production caused by environmental threats.

Residents will gain better and safer access to Read Island in the Strathcona Regional District, accessible only via water, through the reconstruction of a dock, boardwalk, and community building.

Other communities across the province, including Cumberland, Salt Spring Island, Spallumcheen, and Sparwood will benefit from new or upgraded wastewater treatment facilities and drinking water systems, including the rehabilitation of an aging dam, construction of a new well and reservoir, and upgrades to sewage treatment facilities. The improved quality of water and wastewater infrastructure in these communities will strengthen the health of local residents and ecosystems.

## Quotes

“This funding will have a positive impact in the lives of thousands of British Columbians. Our Government remains committed to working with our provincial partners to grow local economies, build more resilient communities, and protect BC’s breathtaking nature.”

*The Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan, Minister of International Development and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada on behalf of the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities*

“This investment in eight infrastructure projects across the province shows our commitment to the resilience and welfare of communities. From more food security for the Stswecem'c Xget'tem First Nation to improved wastewater treatment on Salt Spring Island, we are supporting community well-being and the protection of the natural environment.”

*The Honourable Nathan Cullen, MLA for Stikine and B.C. Minister of Municipal Affairs*

## Quick facts

- The Government of Canada is investing more than \$11.5 million in these eight projects through the Rural and Northern Infrastructure stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. The Government of British Columbia is contributing \$9.8 million, and contributions from project recipients total \$776,527.
- Federal funding is conditional on meeting all requirements related to consultation with Indigenous groups and environment assessments.

- As part of the Investing in Canada Plan, Infrastructure Canada will deliver \$2 billion for wide-ranging infrastructure needs in rural and northern communities across the country, with more than \$101 million in British Columbia to date.
- Over the last six years, federal funding has been approved for 75 rural and northern infrastructure projects in British Columbia, including the 8 featured today.
- Infrastructure Canada helps address complex challenges that Canadians face every day—ranging from the rapid growth of our cities, to climate change, and environmental threats to our water and land.

## Related products

- [Backgrounder: Canada and British Columbia invest over \\$20 million in infrastructure projects across the province to build more resilient, greener communities](#)

## Associated links

- [Federal infrastructure investments in British Columbia](#)
- [Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program in British Columbia](#)
- [Rural and Northern Infrastructure Stream](#)

## Contacts

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# Backgrounder: Canada and British Columbia invest over \$20 million in infrastructure projects across the province to build more resilient, greener communities

From: [Infrastructure Canada](#)

## Backgrounder

**Canada and British Columbia invest over \$20 million in infrastructure projects across the province to build more resilient, greener communities**

Joint federal, provincial, and municipal funding through the Investing in Canada plan will support eight projects that will help create vibrant and resilient communities by developing essential social, transportation, and green infrastructure in British Columbia.

The Government of Canada is investing over \$11.5 million towards these projects through the Rural and Northern Communities stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. The Government of British Columbia is contributing over \$9.8 million. Indigenous communities and municipalities are contributing over \$700,000 to these projects.

### Project Information

Communities	Project Name	Project Details	Federal Funding	Provincial Funding	First Nations/ Municipal/Other Funding
Cumberland	Reconstruction of Dam #2*	Rehabilitate an aging dam used for the village's drinking water supply.	\$1,790,000	\$2,685,000	\$0

<b>Communities</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Details</b>	<b>Federal Funding</b>	<b>Provincial Funding</b>	<b>First Nations/ Municipal/Other Funding</b>
Heiltsuk First Nation	Heiltsuk Tribal Council - Heiltsuk Airport Road Realignment	Convert the existing road into a dedicated pedestrian/bike path and add a new road.	\$3,829,711	\$1,276,570	\$0
Hope	Othello Road - Roadway Integrity and Safety Improvements - Phase 1*	Improve access to the city and road safety by completing improvements to Othello Road, including two-lane traffic capacity.	\$927,631	\$742,105	\$185,527
Salt Spring Island	Capital - Maliview Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade*	Increase capacity to treat wastewater and improve treatment to protect the marine environment.	\$1,105,000	\$884,000	\$221,000

<b>Communities</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Details</b>	<b>Federal Funding</b>	<b>Provincial Funding</b>	<b>First Nations/ Municipal/Other Funding</b>
Spallumcheen	Water System Improvements - Phase 1*	Construct a new well and reservoir for the Larking water system and improve the system through the installation of monitoring equipment.	\$1,850,000	\$1,480,000	\$370,000
Sparwood	Wastewater Treatment Plant: Secondary Treatment Upgrade	Upgrade the existing wastewater treatment facilities to provide secondary treatment.	\$1,030,000	\$1,545,000	\$0
Strathcona	Surge Narrows Marine Infrastructure Revitalization Project*	Increase access to Read Island by reconstructing a boardwalk, dock, and a community building and developing a septic system and well.	\$713,224	\$1,281,809	\$0



<b>Communities</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Details</b>	<b>Federal Funding</b>	<b>Provincial Funding</b>	<b>First Nations/ Municipal/Other Funding</b>
Stswecem'c Xget'tem First Nation	Food Security and Healing*	Improve food security for the Stswecem'c Xget'tem First Nation by constructing two green houses, two walk-in freezers, and a canning shed.	\$287,922	\$0	\$95,975
Total:			\$11,533,488	\$9,894,484	\$776,527

\*For projects marked by an asterisk, federal funding is conditional on fulfilling all requirements related to consultation with Indigenous groups and environmental assessment.

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