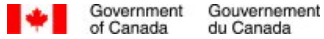


Government of Canada

Government of Ontario



May 25, 2009 12:06 ET

Governments of Canada and Ontario Invest in University of Guelph and Conestoga College

KITCHENER, ONTARIO and GUELPH, ONTARIO--(Marketwire - May 25, 2009) - The Honourable Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology); Liz Sandals, Member of Provincial Parliament for Guelph; and Leeanna Pendergast, Member of Provincial Parliament for Kitchener-Conestoga, today announced a Knowledge Infrastructure Program investment of over \$137 million for the University of Guelph and Conestoga College. Earlier today, the governments of Canada and Ontario announced \$1.476 billion for infrastructure projects at post-secondary institutions throughout Ontario.

This investment is part of the federal government's two-year, \$2-billion plan to repair and expand research and educational facilities at Canadian colleges and universities. The program is helping to provide economic stimulus and promote employment by creating jobs for engineers, architects, tradespeople and technicians.

"This Government of Canada investment at these institutions will provide a significant short-term economic stimulus to Kitchener, Guelph and Cambridge and will create jobs in this region," said Minister of State Goodyear. "Our government is investing in innovation to create jobs, to help our economy recover quickly and to improve the quality of life for Canadians."

Projects like the development of an environmental cluster at the University of Guelph and the School of Engineering and Information Technology at Conestoga College will yield new ideas, knowledge and innovation to keep Canada's colleges and universities at the forefront of scientific advancement.

"Today's investment by the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario is wonderful news for Conestoga College and the Region of Waterloo," said Ms. Pendergast. "This major investment by both levels of government working together will create jobs right now and assist in securing our future through training and education."

"This is wonderful news for the University of Guelph, and it will stimulate our local economy by creating jobs," said Ms. Sandals. "This investment by the provincial and federal governments will provide the leaders of tomorrow in environmental sciences with up-to-date teaching and research facilities at the newly renovated Axelrod building."

Canada's Economic Action Plan sets out to stimulate the Canadian economy over the next two years and to improve our long-term competitiveness through \$12 billion in new infrastructure investment, which includes the \$2-billion Knowledge Infrastructure Program. This new support is the next substantive investment in the Government of Canada's multi-year Science and Technology Strategy, Mobilizing Science and Technology to Canada's Advantage.

For more information about the Knowledge Infrastructure Program, including program criteria and application instructions, please visit www.ic.gc.ca/knowledge-infrastructure.

BACKGROUNDER

Knowledge Infrastructure Program

Canada and Ontario are making infrastructure investments of more than \$1 billion in capital projects at colleges and universities across Ontario.

Through the federal Knowledge Infrastructure Program and the 2009 Ontario budget, both governments are moving quickly to help modernize facilities and boost long-term research and skills training capacity at provincial colleges and universities.

The Knowledge Infrastructure Program is a two-year, \$2-billion economic stimulus measure to support infrastructure enhancement at post-secondary institutions across Canada. Ontario's 2009 provincial budget set aside \$780 million for infrastructure investments at colleges and universities.

The program provide funding to support deferred maintenance, repair and expansion projects at universities and colleges, and responds directly to the need indicated by postsecondary institutions to improve existing campus infrastructure across the country.

The Program has two components. The university component gives preference to projects that can improve the quality of research and development at the institution. The college component supports projects at other post-secondary institutions, such as colleges, publicly funded polytechnic schools and institutes of technology, which will strengthen their ability to deliver advanced knowledge and skills training.

Projects are assessed according to their ability to quickly and effectively generate economic activity and support job creation. Project readiness and economic impact are, therefore, key criteria used in project selection. Projects are also assessed on their ability to enhance research capacity, support the attraction of new students and provide a better educational experience for the highly skilled workers of tomorrow.

The Program will not only generate economic benefits and support job creation, but will also have an important positive net impact on the environment by reducing energy use, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving waste management at universities and colleges across Canada.

Through the 2009 Ontario Budget - Confronting the Challenge: Building Our Economic Future - the province is investing \$32.5 billion in infrastructure for the province of Ontario over the next two years, including a \$5 billion contribution from the federal government that will support more than 300,000 jobs and strengthen Ontario's economy. These investments build on the Ontario government's five-year, \$30 billion ReNew Ontario infrastructure investment plan, which was completed in 2008-09, one year ahead of schedule.

Canada's Economic Action Plan sets out to stimulate the Canadian economy over the next two years and to improve our long-term competitiveness through \$12 billion in new infrastructure investment across Canada, which includes the \$2-billion Knowledge Infrastructure Program. This new support is the next substantive investment in the Government of Canada's multi-year Science and Technology Strategy, Mobilizing Science and Technology to Canada's Advantage.

For more information about the Knowledge Infrastructure Program, including program criteria, application instructions and a list of the approved projects to date, please visit www.ic.gc.ca/knowledge-infrastructure.

For information about how the Government of Ontario is helping to build and revitalize infrastructure across the province, please visit: <http://www.mei.gov.on.ca/english/infrastructure>.

Knowledge Infrastructure Investments in Ontario Post-Secondary Institutions

The investment leverages more than \$1.476 billion over two years, including \$587 million in federal funding, \$641.2 million in provincial funding, and \$248.1 million from other funding sources, including the private sector, charitable contributions, and the universities and colleges themselves.

For information about a specific project, please contact the relevant institution.

Institution	Project Description	Federal Contribution (\$)	Provincial Contribution (\$)	Other Contribution (\$)
University of Guelph, Guelph	Development of an Environmental Cluster	16 817 500	16 817 500	0
Conestoga College - Cambridge, Waterloo and Guelph campuses	School of Engineering and Information Technology	38 172 686	(i)34 276 608	30 962 206
Total		54 990 686	82 056 814	30 962 206

(i) Indicates part of province's contribution has already been made.

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