



News Release

For Immediate Release

Parksville Gets Funding for new water inlet from the Englishman River Project approved under Canada's Small Communities Fund

June 29, 2015

Parksville, British Columbia

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

As part of a joint venture between the City of Parksville and the Regional District of Nanaimo to develop a regional water supply system, the project will involve the construction of a new water intake that will draw water from the Englishman River. The new river water intake will be designed and located to reflect how residents and visitors access and use the river and to protect aquatic habitat, while assuring that the community has an adequate and usable source of potable water for current and anticipated future needs.

The project announced today is among those recently approved in British Columbia that will collectively receive more than \$42 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 \$3,000,000 through the Small Communities Fund for the project.
- The Province of British Columbia will contribute \$3,000,000 to this project.
- Parksville will be responsible for all remaining costs of the project.
- The total estimated cost for this project is \$24,300,000.
- Of the 21 projects approved for funding in British Columbia so far, 11 are drinking water projects, nine are wastewater projects, and one is a brownfield remediation project. Additional projects are under review and could also soon be approved.

Quotes

"We are proud to invest in projects like this new water intake in Parksville. 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."

The Honourable John Duncan

Minister of State, Member of Parliament for Vancouver Island North

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

"It takes partnerships to build community and Parksville's drinking water infrastructure is a significant project that has both the support of the provincial and federal governments. The much-loved Englishman River flows through the heart and soul of this community and that will continue with the significant design considerations to maintain the joy it brings to residents' and visitors' and to protect its aquatic habitat."

*The Honourable Michelle Stilwell
Minister of Social Development and Social Innovation and MLA for Parksville-Qualicum*

“The City of Parksville wishes to thank the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia for support of the Englishman River Water Service project. The New Building Canada Fund will assist the City of Parksville and the Regional District of Nanaimo to build a regional water intake, treatment plant and transmission supply mains. The first phase of this project will provide a safe and adequate supply of water and ensure a high quality of life and economic growth while sustaining a healthy river system and enhancements to the environment.”

*Marc Lefebvre
Mayor, City of Parksville*

“I would like to thank the federal and provincial governments for their support of this project through the New Building Canada Fund. As partners in the Englishman River Water Service Joint Venture Agreement, the Regional District of Nanaimo and the City of Parksville are working to ensure a healthy, consistent water supply for the next 50 years. This intake and treatment plant project will allow us to protect and enhance our water while improving fish habitat and domestic water supply.”

*Joe Stanhope
Chairperson, Regional District of Nanaimo*

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>.

- 30 -

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