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Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Western Economic Diversification Canada

### **\$6.6M INVESTMENT IN NEW KAWKAWA LAKE ROAD BRIDGE**

HOPE – Residents of Hope will benefit from joint federal-provincial funding of over \$6.6 million to replace the Kawkawa Lake Road Bridge, Chilliwack-Fraser Canyon MP Chuck Strahl and Chilliwack-Kent MLA Barry Penner announced today. This project is just one example of the commitment of both governments to strengthening the British Columbia economy by reducing red tape, creating jobs, and getting shovels in the ground sooner.

“We are happy to partner with the provincial government and work with the community to replace this bridge and upgrade a portion of the roadway,” said Strahl. “The Building Canada plan is a great way to stimulate growth in our communities even during this global economic slowdown.”

“This bridge represents an important connection for residents of Hope, and will also provide safe access for visitors looking for recreation at Kawkawa Lake,” said Penner. “I’m delighted that all levels of government are working constructively to benefit local residents with improved transportation infrastructure, while creating jobs and providing a boost to the local economy.”

The present two-lane Kawkawa Lake Road Bridge will be replaced with a new three-lane structure. The new bridge will also include sidewalks and a pedestrian/bike path to encourage non-vehicular transportation. The current bridge is more than 50 years old and is within two to five years of being closed for safety reasons.

This project will improve transportation efficiency and safety for pedestrians and cyclists, and is expected to create approximately 100 direct and indirect jobs at a time when the need for economic stimulus is greatest.

The governments of Canada and British Columbia will each invest up to \$3,345,833 in the project. The District of Hope will contribute the balance of the remaining project costs.

“It is important and appreciated that senior levels of government have partnered with Hope for such a large infrastructure project in our community,” said Hope Mayor Laurence French. “This new bridge is very good news for Hope and would not be possible without their support. It will make life easier and safer for drivers as it will include an additional lane and it will also provide options for pedestrians and cyclists.”

This project is one of 41 projects across the province that will break ground quickly thanks to a joint federal-provincial investment of \$110 million. Together with local government contributions, the total investment in local infrastructure improvements in British Columbia during this first intake exceeds \$175 million. The governments of Canada and British Columbia have taken steps to get shovels in the ground and to flow money faster for targeted infrastructure projects in British Columbia communities in the 2009 and 2010 construction seasons.

For more information on the Building Canada plan, visit [www.buildingcanada.gc.ca](http://www.buildingcanada.gc.ca) or [www.bcbuildingcanadafundcommunities.ca/](http://www.bcbuildingcanadafundcommunities.ca/).

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