

For Immediate Release  
2007CS0060-001067  
Aug. 29, 2007

Western Economic Diversification Canada  
Ministry of Community Services  
Ministry of Economic Development

## **CANADA-B.C. FUNDING IMPROVES LAKEMOUNT'S WATER SUPPLY**

LAKEMOUNT – The community of Lakemount, in the Columbia-Shuswap Regional District, will have access to clean, safer drinking water and better fire protection thanks to \$633,332 in federal and provincial government funding for a new water system, Colin Mayes MP for Okanagan-Shuswap, and Shuswap MLA George Abbott, announced today.

“This investment delivers a sustainable water source to the community, and reflects the commitment of Canada’s New Government to encourage action on things that matter most to Canadians – a clean, safe and healthy environment for our citizens,” said Mayes.

The Canada-British Columbia Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CBCMRIF) grant, will help pay for a new water system that includes intake works from a better quality water source, an enhanced distribution system, dual disinfection and a protected storage reservoir. A total of 45 households will be connected to the more reliable municipal water service and will be served by new fire hydrants.

“It is important that British Columbians have access to a healthy supply of clean drinking water and this funding will serve to end a long-term boil water advisory that has been in place here,” said Abbott. “I’m pleased our partnership with the federal government and the regional district on this project also ensures a water system that offers better fire protection for residents.”

Under the initial CBCMRIF Agreement signed in June 2006, the federal and provincial governments each committed \$51 million to the fund, with participating local governments expected to make up the remaining costs. This year, Canada’s New Government and the Province of B.C. have each provided an additional \$23.5 million to the Canada-B.C. Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund as part of their commitment to help smaller communities meet their pressing infrastructure needs. This additional funding brings the total federal and provincial investment and matching local government contribution in CBCMRIF projects to over \$220 million.

The majority of the funding is targeted towards communities of fewer than 250,000 people and at least 60 per cent of the funding will assist with “green projects” such as drinking water supply, treatment and distribution needs as well as wastewater and energy efficiency projects. The remaining funds will be dedicated to other projects like tourism, recreation and other infrastructure.

More details on the program are available through the Canada-British Columbia Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund website, at [www.canadabcmrif.ca](http://www.canadabcmrif.ca).

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