

For Immediate Release
2007CS0080-001265
Oct. 9, 2007

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

INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS TO IMPROVE GOLD RIVER SEWER SYSTEM

GOLD RIVER – Gold River is receiving more than \$240,000 in federal and provincial infrastructure funding to improve reliability and energy efficiency in the Village’s sewer system, Ron Cannan, MP for Kelowna-Lake Country, and Ron Cantelon, MLA for Nanaimo-Parksville, announced today.

“Through collaboration and partnership, Canada’s New Government is building healthy, clean and prosperous communities,” said Cannan, on behalf of the Honourable Rona Ambrose, President of the Queen’s Privy Council for Canada, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister of Western Economic Diversification. “This project will improve Gold River’s wastewater facilities, provide residents with a reliable and efficient sewage system, and promote long-term environmental sustainability in the area.”

The Canada-BC Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CBCMRIF) grant will result in the replacement and relocation of an aging pump station, which was installed in the late 1960s, with a wet well and two energy-efficient pumps.

“Our government is committed to supporting sustainable infrastructure that benefits our communities and our environment,” said Cantelon, on behalf of Community Services Minister Ida Chong. “We are pleased to partner with the federal government and the Village to make this energy efficient improvement for Gold River residents.”

Under the initial CBCMRIF Agreement signed in June 2006, the federal and provincial governments each committed \$51 million, 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 with 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 such as 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.

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