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

## **GOVERNMENT FUNDS ENHANCE ALEXIS CREEK WATER SUPPLY**

ALEXIS CREEK – The federal and provincial governments are investing approximately \$1.1 million to improve access to safe, clean drinking water in Alexis Creek, Cariboo-Prince George MP Dick Harris and Prince George-Omineca MLA John Rustad announced today.

“This initiative will provide the community of Alexis Creek with better access to clean drinking water and prevent future boil water advisories,” said Harris 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. “Through collaboration and partnership, the Canada-B.C. Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund is building a healthier and more prosperous community in Alexis Creek.”

The grant will allow the Cariboo Regional District to create a unified drinking water system for Alexis Creek. The project involves the installation of a distribution main, a pressure system, controls, and development of a new well. This project is conditionally approved pending the successful completion of an environmental assessment.

“Our government is committed to providing sustainable infrastructure that benefits our communities and our environment,” said Rustad, on behalf of Community Services Minister Ida Chong. “We are pleased to partner with the federal government and the regional district to make this improvement, helping to end two long-term boil water advisories and ensuring Alexis Creek residents have a safe and reliable supply of drinking water.”

“Receiving funding for this project will allow us to provide a comprehensive water system for the residents of Alexis Creek,” added Cariboo Regional District chair Jon Wolbers. “This is another example of what can be accomplished for our residents when different levels of government work together in collaboration.”

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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