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

\$1.4 MILLION FOR NEW CENTRAL PARK IN LANGFORD

LANGFORD – The City of Langford will build a new central park, thanks to an investment of nearly \$1.4 million from the federal and provincial governments. The funding is provided through the Canada-B.C. Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CBCMRIF), which enables communities across B.C. to grow as healthier, greener and more sustainable places to live.

The announcement was made today by James Lunney, MP for Nanaimo-Alberni, and Ida Chong, Minister of Community Services and MLA for Oak Bay-Gordon Head.

“The development of this park will encourage Langford residents to enjoy a healthier and more active lifestyle,” said Lunney, 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. “The Government of Canada is proud to work in partnership with the Province of British Columbia to help communities grow as vibrant and productive places to live, work and raise families.”

The project will create a central park for sports and recreation activities, accessible to people of all ages and physical abilities. The park will include a large pond, two trail systems, an all-weather playing field, outdoor tennis and basketball courts, a water park and playground equipment. More than 22,000 people will benefit from the additional green space.

“City central park will provide safe, friendly, recreational space for family members to be engaged in different activities while being at the same location,” said Chong. “This project will go a long way to encourage physical activity and community togetherness.”

“The City of Langford is extremely pleased to have the provincial and federal governments partner in recreation with our community in funding the Recreation 2010 program,” said Langford Mayor Stewart Young. “Our residents of all ages will greatly benefit from the many amenities and opportunities that will be created by the initiative.”

The majority of the program funding from the CBCMRIF, which was launched in June 2006, supports communities of fewer than 250,000 people in minimizing the costs to taxpayers of local infrastructure upgrades or new construction projects.

At least 60 per cent of the funding will assist with “green projects” that are geared towards enhancing environmental sustainability, such as water and waste-water systems, public transit and environmental energy improvements. Other infrastructure projects will support local roads, cultural and recreational facilities, infrastructure to support tourism and broadband connectivity. The funding for this project is conditionally approved pending the successful completion of an environmental assessment.

The total amount available through the CBCMRIF, with federal and provincial investments and matching local government contribution, is over \$220 million. More details on the program are available online at www.canadabcmrif.ca.

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