



FOR RELEASE
May 3, 2013

Watson Lake water infrastructure overhaul progressing well

WHITEHORSE—Work is well underway in Watson Lake on a major \$7.5 million water and sewage infrastructure project.

The project is being jointly funded by the Yukon and federal governments under the Building Canada Fund. The Yukon government is contributing \$455,750 for 2013/2014, with \$1.4 million coming from Canada for a total of roughly \$1.9 million this year. The multi-year initiative started in 2010 and upgrades are expected to be complete in 2014.

A major part of the project included installing a backup well for the town. The well is up and running and will be fully commissioned later this month.

"Reliable water and wastewater infrastructure is of fundamental importance and the Yukon government is committed to investing in the work necessary to ensure our infrastructure meets the needs of Yukon communities," Community Services Minister Elaine Taylor said, while in Watson Lake for the Association of Yukon Communities annual general meeting. "Managing water in Yukon is a cooperative effort between all governments, industry and stakeholders, and I am pleased to see progress on this important project."

The project will also include drinking water supply upgrades and replacement of aging sewer and water mains. When completed, the town will be equipped with 800 metres of new water mains, 50 new maintenance holes, 10 new fire hydrants and 3,000 metres of new sewer lines.

"Improving infrastructure in Watson Lake is one of my top priorities," Watson Lake MLA Patti McLeod said. "I am pleased that Watson Lake residents are benefitting from the excellent working relationship between the town council and the Yukon government."

"I am pleased with the progress we are making on water infrastructure improvements in Watson Lake," Watson Lake Mayor Richard Durocher said. "Repairing, improving and upgrading of aging infrastructure is a priority and vital to the health and well-being of the community."

The Building Canada Fund targets priority infrastructure projects intended to drive economic growth and productivity, achieve environmental goals, and build strong, sustainable communities. Projects identified under the fund are cost shared by the Government of Canada and the Government of Yukon.

For more information on Yukon infrastructure projects visit www.infrastructure.gov.yk.ca.

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