

# Supporting B.C. Communities

The Ministry of Community Development has recently made significant investments across B.C. to help stimulate the economy, maintain stability and keep British Columbians working. The following communities are benefiting from funding through LocalMotion (LM) and Towns for Tomorrow (T4T), in partnership with the Government of Canada, as well as through the provincial government's Strategic Community Investment Fund (SCIF), the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP), Infrastructure Planning Grants (Study) and Trees for Tomorrow (Trees), which includes non-local governments (NLG).

Region	Local Government	Program	Project	Grant Amount
7 Nechako	Bulkley-Nechako (RD)	T4T	911 Emergency Services Infrastructure	375,000
		CARIP		1,909
		SCIF		240,821
	Burns Lake	T4T	Renewal & Enhancement of Cultural & Recreational Infrastructure	273,584
		Trees	Village Entrances	15,298
		CARIP		967
		SCIF		595,547
	Fort St. James	T4T	Community Hall/Convention Centre Improvements	400,000
		CARIP		1,426
		SCIF		490,183
	Fraser Lake	T4T	Fraser Lake Arena Upgrades	352,732
		CARIP		1,030
		SCIF		488,650
	Granisle	SCIF		637,114
	Houston	T4T	Well Water No. 1 - Backup Power	192,104
		LM	Houston Walking/Biking Circle Network	262,500
		Trees	Mountainview Cemetery	10,025
		SCIF		622,337
	Smithers	T4T	Riverside Campground Showers & Ranger Park Trail Improvements	375,000
		LM	Toronto Street to Queen Street Perimeter Trail Connector	36,000
CARIP			3,158	
Study		Corporate Energy and GHG Emissions Sustainability Plan	10,000	
Study		Smithers Sewage Treatment Plant Expansion Study	10,000	
SCIF			785,915	
Telkwa	T4T	Highway 16 Water Main Replacement Phase 1	400,000	
	CARIP		610	
	SCIF		586,930	
Vanderhoof	T4T	Ice Arena Energy Efficiency Retrofit	320,000	
	CARIP		2,035	
	SCIF		658,516	

**Towns for Tomorrow (T4T)** is a five-year, \$71-million program that helps smaller communities and regional districts with infrastructure projects. Towns for Tomorrow provides up to 80 per cent of funding for communities under 5,000, to a maximum of \$400,000, and 75 per cent of funding for communities up to 15,000, to a maximum of \$375,000. As a result of a commitment on the part of all levels of government to accelerate the disbursement of infrastructure funding to stimulate the economy and meet the needs of communities, the federal government is proudly supporting the Towns for Tomorrow program. To learn more, go to [www.townsfortomorrow.gov.bc.ca](http://www.townsfortomorrow.gov.bc.ca).

**LocalMotion (LM)** is a four-year, \$40-million program helping communities to build capital projects like bike paths, walkways and greenways, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and making communities more senior- and disability-friendly. The program provides local governments with up to 50 per cent funding for approved projects up to a maximum contribution of \$1 million. As a result of a commitment on the part of all levels of government to accelerate the disbursement of infrastructure funding to stimulate the economy, the federal government is proudly supporting the LocalMotion program. For more information, visit [www.localmotion.gov.bc.ca](http://www.localmotion.gov.bc.ca).

The Towns for Tomorrow and LocalMotion projects are part of an overall \$14-billion capital infrastructure program supported by the Province that will create up to 88,000 jobs and help build vital public infrastructure in every region of B.C.

**Strategic Community Investment Fund (SCIF):** Through a restructuring of provincial grant programs, communities will see more funding sooner, giving them greater certainty and improved financial flexibility. Payments will be made on the basis of Strategic Community Investment Agreements with local governments. The first \$133-million instalment on this two-year, \$232-million initiative consists of the Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Program and Small Community and Regional District Grants.

- **The Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Program:** Of the initial \$133-million payment under the Strategic Community Investment Fund, \$63 million will help municipalities enhance policing and community-based public safety programs. The Province has provided 100 per cent of net traffic fine revenues to local governments since 2004, amounting to an additional \$206 million. Traffic fine revenue comes from fines on violation tickets, and the amount a municipality receives is based on its contribution to total municipal policing costs.
- **Small Community and Regional District Grants:** \$70 million of the initial \$133-million payment under the Strategic Community Investment Fund will support local governments this year as part of the Province's continuing commitment to help provide services in areas with smaller tax bases. The grant allocation takes into account three elements: basic funding for all municipalities with a population of less than 15,000; population-based funding; and property assessment-based funding. This year's payment fulfils the Province's commitment to double these grants over four years.

**Trees for Tomorrow (Trees)** is a five-year, \$13-million program that is supporting community organizations, First Nations and local governments in urban and rural areas in planting four million trees in the public areas of cities, towns, villages and regional districts throughout B.C. In its first year, the program is providing approximately \$3 million to support the planting of trees and the implementation of other energy-saving initiatives across British Columbia. The initiative, first announced in the 2008 speech from the throne, involves cost-sharing with a range of applicants and stewardship organizations. To learn more, visit [www.treesfortomorrow.gov.bc.ca](http://www.treesfortomorrow.gov.bc.ca).

**The Infrastructure Planning Grant Program (Study)** is providing over \$660,000 to help municipalities and regional districts with plans to design, develop and manage sustainable infrastructure. Through the program, local governments can receive up to \$10,000 in grant funding. Often these grants fund studies that help communities apply for infrastructure project funding. For example, almost half the projects submitted to the Canada-B.C. Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) for funding were initiated with infrastructure planning grants.

**The Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP)** helps communities that have committed to the goal of becoming carbon neutral in their corporate operations by 2012, under the BC Climate Action Charter. These communities are among 174 local governments across B.C. (as of March 31, 2009) to provide a signed copy of the Charter. The program provides local governments with grants to offset 100 per cent of the carbon tax they have directly paid for fossil fuel purchases.

**The RuralBC Secretariat**, established by the Province in 2008, helps local governments access the tools they need to achieve their unique visions for the future. The secretariat provides a direct service and information link between the provincial government and B.C.'s rural communities. The secretariat's regional managers are there to help communities take advantage of the most appropriate programs and sources of provincial and federal funding and identify opportunities to diversify local economies. Local governments are encouraged to visit [www.ruralbc.gov.bc.ca](http://www.ruralbc.gov.bc.ca) for more information.



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