

RM 220 Administrator

From: SARM Policy <sarm@sarm.ca>
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The Weekly Policy Bulletin

22-2-2022

Reminders

Active Transportation Fund - Call for Applications

On January 27, 2022, the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities, ***opened the call for applications*** for the Active Transportation Fund, as well as other new funding opportunities in support of public transit systems.

Infrastructure Canada will be accepting applications for both the planning and capital funding streams of the Active Transportation Fund between **January 27, 2022 and March 31, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. EST**. Applications from eligible Indigenous recipients will be accepted on an ongoing basis.

The Active Transportation Fund's goal is to generate economic, environmental and social benefits for Canadians by increasing the amount, quality and usage of active transportation infrastructure.

If you are an eligible recipient with a project that will support a modal shift away from cars and towards active transportation, we invite you to submit your application through the ***Applicant Portal***. To assist potential applicants in determining eligibility and preparing an application, guidance materials are available on ***Infrastructure Canada's website***, including:

- **General information** on the Active Transportation Fund, which includes applicant and project eligibility requirements;
- Answers to **Frequently Asked Questions**;
- Instructions on **how to apply**, including:
- The **Applicant Guide**; and
- The **Step-by-Step Guides** for submitting an application.

Infrastructure Canada will be hosting weekly Webinars for interested potential applicants, beginning on February 2nd, 2022. At these webinar sessions, attendees will be provided with details on applicant and project eligibility, the application process, and the evaluation process. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions. A list of available sessions and links to register are available on the **Webinars for Potential Applicants** page.

The Active Transportation Fund team welcomes you to contact them in regard to any questions you may have about the Active Transportation Fund or the application process by sending an email to ATF-FTA@infc.gc.ca. Please be advised that they will not be able to provide information on project eligibility until an application is received in full through our project intake process.



Irrigation Program Application Deadline Extensions

The Ministry of Agriculture values its relationship with stakeholders and the feedback they receive from industry.

The Ministry of Agriculture would like to update you on changes to the Irrigation Program deadlines that have been implemented to address concerns from industry that the application deadline was too early, and irrigators are experiencing delays in completing projects within the current program timelines due to a variety of factors. To bridge the gap between the end of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership and the Next Policy Framework, the deadline for irrigation projects has been extended.

- The deadline for Irrigation Development pre-approval applications has been extended from Jan. 15, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022.
- The deadline for Irrigation Environmental Efficiency pre-approval applications has been extended from Aug. 1, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022.

Applicants will have up to 18 months from written project approval to submit a claim under either program. The ministry is engaging with the industry to develop options for the projects where construction will carry over past March 31, 2023.

Information about the existing Irrigation Program can be found at Saskatchewan.ca/CAP. Applicants should be encouraged to apply early and submit their claims as soon as their projects are completed.

Any questions or concerns may be directed to Dianna Emperingham, Executive Director of Crops and Irrigation or Mark Anderson, Executive Director of Programs.

Contact information:

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Government of Saskatchewan
Executive Director
Programs Branch, Ministry of Agriculture
Rm 329 – 3085 Albert Street
Regina SK S4S 0B1
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Dianna Emperingham
Government of Saskatchewan
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Community Airport Partnership Program - Call for Applications

The Government of Saskatchewan is now accepting applications for the Community Airport Partnership (CAP) program. CAP is administered through the Ministry of Highways. Under the program, communities can apply for up to \$275,000 in grants for rehabilitation and improvements.

"Our community airports are important to our provincial economy," Highways Minister Fred Bradshaw said. "The program provides grants to municipal governments to improve community airports by helping offset costs associated with rehabilitation and upgrades."

Community airports secure the safety of our communities through supporting services like Air Ambulance and firefighting.

Projects are approved based on criteria focused on improving safety, extending life cycle of the asset, airport utilization, economic benefits associated with the project and partnership opportunities.

The Government of Saskatchewan contributed a record \$1.5 million to improvements at 17 community airports in the 2021-22 Budget. The additional funds came from government's two-year \$7.5 billion stimulus program.

Applications are now open for Community Airport Partnership grants available in 2022-23. Interested communities can apply at www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/transportation/airports/community-airport-partnership-cap-program. The deadline for applications is 5 pm on March 13, 2022.

Since 2007-08, the ministry has committed to investing more than \$10.5 million with a total of 42 different communities and RMs having benefited from the CAP program.

For more information, contact:

Steve Shaheen
Highways
Saskatoon
Phone: 306-260-9159
Email: steve.shaheen@gov.sk.ca



Heritage Conservation Branch Offering Free Virtual Webinars

Starting March 1, 2022 the Heritage Conservation Branch within the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport is offering free virtual webinars to the public. Each webinar will be presented from 12:00pm to 1:00 pm CST.

Upcoming Webinars:

- Tuesday, March 1, 2022 – Heritage Tourism
- Thursday, March 3, 2022 – Historic Buildings as Business Assets
- Tuesday, March 8, 2022 – Heritage and Community
- Thursday, March 10, 2022 – Archaeological Heritage Projects

Registration is free, but pre-registration is required. Registration is available for single or multiple webinars.

To register, please visit the *Webinar Series Registration site*. Registrations will be accepted until Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

Please note that the webinars are accredited for professional development credits from the Saskatchewan Economic Development Alliance and the Saskatchewan Professional Planners Institute.

If you have any questions, please contact the Heritage Conservation Branch at 306-787-2817 or historic.places@gov.sk.ca.



Agriculture Student Scholarship

The Ministry of Agriculture is offering four scholarships for Grade 12 students who are planning on pursuing post-secondary education in agriculture.

Deadline to apply is **March 1, 2022**

To learn more about the application process and eligibility, visit:



To download the application form, visit:



Information

Government of Canada invests nearly \$6.6 million to bring high-speed Internet to more than 2,500 households in Saskatchewan

The COVID-19 pandemic has transformed how we live, work, learn and do business, and now more than ever, Canadians across the country need reliable high-speed Internet to access services, supports and opportunities. Through the **Universal Broadband Fund's (UBF)** Rapid Response Stream, the Government of Canada is taking immediate action to get people living in rural and remote communities connected to high-speed Internet.

[On February 17, 2022] The Honourable Gudie Hutchings, Minister of Rural Economic Development, together with the Honourable Dan Vandal, Minister of Northern Affairs, Minister responsible for Prairies Economic Development Canada and Minister responsible for the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, announced nearly \$6.6 million in funding for 10 projects that will bring high-speed Internet to more than 2,500 households in rural Saskatchewan. Funding will be allocated as follows:

- \$2.4 million for FlexNetworks for a project benefiting the communities of Neuhorst, Bradwell, Shields, Thode, Neuanlange, and rural areas near the village of Clavet
- \$1.29 million for Prairie Crocus Rural Internet for a project benefiting the communities of Waterpark Estates, Eagle Ridge Country Estates, Aberdeen, and Shields
- \$528,909 for Access Communications Co-operative Limited for a project benefitting the communities of Macklin and Shaunavon
- \$458,271 for Muscowpetung Saulteaux Nation
- \$1.9 million for Beardy's & Okemasis Cree Nation

[February 17, 2022]'s announcement builds on the Government of Canada's progress toward making sure that 98% of Canadians have access to high-speed Internet by 2026. As we work to rebuild from the pandemic, the Government of Canada will continue to make investments in infrastructure to build strong communities and a more competitive and resilient Canada for everyone.

Contact:

Luka Vujic
Press Secretary
Office of the Minister of Rural Economic Development
T: (343) 571-9582
Luka.Vujic@ised-isde.gc.ca

Resources

The Prairie Grain Portal Town Hall Sessions

The Prairies are one of the most sophisticated and productive agricultural regions in the world, yet outside of North America we are only known for our bulk-grain exports. The primary bottleneck is simple: outside of our bulk-exports, our farmers have little to no global exposure, and real buyers will not materialize when they don't know we are even here.

So, let's talk about it! Join us for a virtual town hall meeting where we'll share our plans to facilitate direct-sales between producers and end-markets.

Registration link:

- Tuesday, March 1st: <https://www.prairiegrainportal.com/event-details/pgp-virtual-town-hall-i>
- Thursday, March 3rd: <https://www.prairiegrainportal.com/event-details/pgp-virtual-town-hall-ii>

Contact information: Adil Cubukgil, adil.cubukgil@outlook.com



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