

A survey of FCM members produced a list of over 1,000 construction-ready infrastructure projects that Canadian municipalities are ready to undertake in 2009.

Cities and communities are calling for investment in infrastructure projects as an effective stimulus to create jobs. Here are the details on projects being proposed in five different regions across Canada:

Thompson-Nicola Regional District, B.C.

Location: Southern interior of British Columbia

Population: 122,286, incorporating 10 municipalities and 10 electoral areas, representing several small unincorporated communities



The Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) operates 11 water systems and two sewer systems. Regional district officials note that the installation of costly treatment and monitoring equipment, required to meet increasingly stringent regulatory requirements, put a financial burden on property owners within the utility service areas. The TNRD is currently waiting for decisions on Building Canada Fund applications related to four water systems, and also has several other water and sewer projects that could be initiated within three to six months.

Total cost of infrastructure projects: \$31,900,000

Potential jobs: 364

City of Regina, Sask.

Location: South-central Saskatchewan

Population: 179,246



A large inland port project that requires a large capital investment to construct municipal services, as well as numerous water and sewer engineering projects, dominate the list of Regina's construction-ready projects for the 2009 construction season. The city's other shovel-ready projects include a bridge upgrade; an expansion of Regina's city-wide pathway section; structural, mechanical, architectural, electrical and building code renovations to city hall and other city-owned facilities and facility systems; and the replacement of an existing fire station.

Total cost of infrastructure projects: \$150,150,000

Potential jobs: 1,714

City of Kitchener, Ont.

Location: Southwestern Ontario

Population: 204,668



City of Kitchener officials estimate that if the municipality had access to \$16.9 million in funding from the federal and provincial governments, infrastructure projects ranging from storm water management and drainage, to roads and sidewalks, could be undertaken in 2009. City officials say the economic infusion would enable the city to accelerate and complete its infrastructure rehabilitation programs in a shorter time period than currently allowed by existing budgets.

Total cost of infrastructure projects: \$16,869,395

Potential jobs: 193

Municipalité de Saint-Pacôme, Que.

Location: South shore of the St. Lawrence River, east of Quebec City

Population: 1,685



The Municipalité de Saint-Pacôme has a number of shovel-ready projects that, with federal funding, could be undertaken in 2009. They include a bridge repair project; several road rehabilitation projects; a water and wastewater project; and a footbridge project that would replace a demolished bridge and service such recreation/tourism facilities as a pedestrian walkway, bike path, and snowmobile and ATV trails.

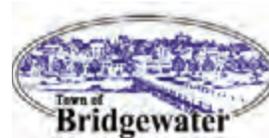
Total cost of infrastructure projects: \$5,750,000

Potential jobs: 66

Town of Bridgewater, N.S.

Location: Southeast Nova Scotia, 100 kilometres southwest of Halifax

Population: 7,944



The Town of Bridgewater, known as the commercial hub of Nova Scotia's South Shore, has numerous construction-ready projects, from road resurfacing to sewer upgrades, that can be undertaken in 2009. Town officials have earmarked up to seven initiatives that would benefit from an economic stimulus package, including: the replacement of a sanitary sewer; the upgrading of a wastewater treatment plant; road rehabilitation; and town hall renovations.

Total cost of infrastructure projects: \$4,835,000

Potential jobs: 55

To view the complete list of construction-ready infrastructure projects, please visit FCM's website at www.fcm.ca/en/infrastructure