

BACKGROUND

Four Highway Projects in Saskatchewan Building Canada Fund – Major Infrastructure Component

The Government of Canada and the Government of Saskatchewan are proud to announce that funding for four National Highway System infrastructure projects will be considered as priorities for funding under the original 2007 Building Canada Fund – Major Infrastructure Component.

The Government of Canada has set aside up to 50 per cent of total eligible costs for each project, to a maximum of \$16,550,929.

- A 27-kilometre repaving of Highway 1 in the Swift Current area west of Beverley and east of Tompkins. This highway carries as many as 5,620 vehicles per day. The Trans-Canada Highway is one of the world's longest national highways and is vital to Saskatchewan's economy and tourism.
- A 21-km repaving of Highway 1 from Wolseley to west of Broadview. This stretch of highway carries up to 5,300 vehicles per day.
- A 26-km repaving of Highway 16 from east of Lashburn to west of Maidstone. This stretch of highway carries 6,280 vehicles per day, including a significant amount of heavy truck traffic related to the region's oil and gas industry. Vehicle traffic in this area has increased significantly in recent years.
- A \$9,206,050, 28-km repaving of Highway 39 from northwest of Estevan to northwest of Macoun including \$4,411,129 from the federal government. Highway 39 connects to Saskatchewan's busiest border crossing, and the area set for repaving carries approximately 3,880 vehicles per day. Highway 39 is a north-south trade route and tourist corridor to the U.S. through North Portal.

Federal funding for the four projects is conditional on the negotiation of a contribution agreement between the Province of Saskatchewan and the Government of Canada.

Funding for the projects announced today is made possible because the Province of Saskatchewan identified cost savings on two Building Canada Fund – Major Infrastructure Component projects that were completed under budget: the Highway 1 and Lewvan Drive Interchange project, and the Highway 11 twinning project (Warman to Highway 2 South of Prince Albert). The savings have been re-allocated to these four projects identified by the Government of Saskatchewan as being high priority projects located along the core National Highway System.

The projects will result in more than 100 kilometres of pavement of the province's Core National Highway being rehabilitated, resulting in travel time savings and reduced vehicle operation costs. In addition, the Highway 39 Northwest of Estevan project will improve four highway intersections thereby making it safer for travellers.