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## NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

### **Lantzville to receive infrastructure funding**

PARKSVILLE – Lantzville is receiving a joint federal-provincial Small Communities Fund grant worth \$4,373,332, announced Parksville-Qualicum MLA Michelle Stilwell on behalf of Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development Peter Fassbender and Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Todd Stone.

The grant will go toward to Phase III of the sanitary sewer collection system.

The Small Communities Fund is providing just over \$87 million to 26 recipients throughout the province.

The Small Communities Fund is part of the New Building Canada Plan, which includes \$1 billion for projects in communities with less than 100,000 residents. In B.C., the fund received \$109 million from both the provincial and federal governments, for a total of \$218 million in infrastructure funding, for projects that support economic growth, a clean environment and stronger communities.

The Province's contributions through the Small Communities Fund is one of the key ways the B.C. government is taking action to strengthen, grow and diversify rural communities. This funding builds on the immediate investments and long-term action plan outlined in B.C.'s Rural Economic Development Strategy that are expected to create over 26,000 jobs and add \$2.8 billion to provincial GDP.

#### **Quotes:**

#### **Peter Fassbender, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development –**

“By aligning municipal, federal and provincial dollars, the Small Communities Fund eases the challenge of meeting the infrastructure demands that small communities face – ultimately benefiting British Columbians throughout the province. Projects supported by this fund – whether in public transit, drinking water, green energy or wastewater management – will leave lasting impacts in their communities.”

#### **Todd Stone, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure –**

“When public infrastructure in many of our smaller communities is in need of repair or upgrade, the high costs associated are often difficult for a community alone to bear. However, when senior levels of government act together, we can facilitate these important infrastructure improvements and build stronger communities throughout B.C.”

#### **Michelle Stilwell, Parksville-Qualicum MLA –**

“This funding will provide significant support for the third phase of the Lantzville sanitary sewer expansion. Building on the existing waste system, this investment of more than \$4 million will provide more residents with access to environmentally safe methods of waste management and is a strong example of how all levels of government can work together to provide green infrastructure to local communities that benefit us all.”

**Quick Facts:**

- Projects eligible for funding under the Small Communities Fund include public transit, drinking water, wastewater, solid waste management, green energy, innovation, connectivity/broadband, brownfield redevelopment, disaster mitigation, local/regional airports, short-line rail, short-sea shipping and highways/roads.
  - The Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development is responsible for drinking water, wastewater, solid waste management and green-energy projects.
  - The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is responsible for all other categories.
- Fifty-five Small Communities Fund projects were approved in 2015, representing \$64 million in funding each from the provincial and federal governments for a total of \$128 million.

**Learn More:**

Small Communities Fund: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/smallcommunitiesfund>

Infrastructure Canada: <http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/plan/sc-cp-eng.html>

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