



**Liz Sandals, M.P.P.**

Guelph

## ONTARIO INVESTS IN GUELPH INFRASTRUCTURE

### **Investing in Ontario Act *Delivers \$1.1 Billion for Municipal Infrastructure***

NEWS

November 14, 2008

The McGuinty government is providing Guelph with infrastructure funding through the *Investing in Ontario Act, 2008*. Guelph will receive \$10.9 million immediately.

By redirecting a portion of the provincial surplus to municipalities for capital purposes, the Ontario government is contributing to the province's municipal infrastructure needs.

Every municipality in Ontario will benefit – a total of \$1.1 billion in capital grants will be paid to municipalities.

This capital funding can be used by municipalities to improve roads and bridges, expand public transit, build other municipal projects and upgrade social housing. In Guelph, the funding will be invested in parks and recreation facilities, storm water management and solid waste infrastructure, a shelter for youth and roads.

#### QUOTES

"This \$11 million for Guelph builds on the government's infrastructure accomplishments in this new era of partnership with municipalities," said MPP Liz Sandals. "Guelph is now able to invest in infrastructure we use every day, like parks and arenas, storm sewers and roads."

"This funding is great news for the City of Guelph," said Mayor Karen Farbridge. "It allows us to make much needed – and in many cases long awaited – investments in infrastructure for our community."

"By investing in infrastructure in every Ontario community, we're creating jobs for families and making our communities stronger," said [Ontario Finance Minister Dwight Duncan](#).

#### QUICK FACTS

- This year, the *Investing in Ontario Act, 2008* and regulation direct a portion of provincial surpluses to municipalities for infrastructure needs, such as improving roads and bridges, expanding transit and upgrading social housing.
- The Act allows the government to use a portion of any unanticipated year-end surplus to address priority public needs as well as reduce the province's accumulated deficit.
- The surplus for 2007-08 was sufficient to enable a payment under the *Investing in Ontario Act* of \$1.1 billion in additional funding to municipalities to support infrastructure investments while also reducing the province's accumulated deficit by \$600 million.
- The Ontario government has more than doubled support to municipal operating budgets. By 2011, ongoing annual operating support for municipalities will exceed \$2.8 billion – an increase of more than \$1.7 billion, or 160 per cent, compared to 2003.



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- Through regulation, the government designated municipalities as the eligible recipients of payments for 2007-08. Future eligible recipients will be identified based on provincial priorities.
- On October 31, 2008, the McGuinty government announced it is uploading all social assistance benefits and court security costs from municipalities. By 2018, when all these uploads are complete, they will result in a net annual benefit to municipalities of more than \$1.5 billion compared to 2007.

### LEARN MORE

- See how the Investing in Ontario Act will be [helping your community](#).
- Find out how Ontario's five-point plan for the economy can help [your family](#) and [your business](#).
- Read background information on the [Investing in Ontario Act](#).

### CONTACT

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