

July 20, 2011

GreenTRIP provides \$109,000 for public transit improvements in Hinton

Edmonton... The Government of Alberta is supporting a public transit improvement project in the Town of Hinton with funding through the Green Transit Incentives Program (GreenTRIP). The town will receive \$109,000 for the installation of bus stop seating and shelters, transit hub accessibility features and bear-proof receptacles, as well as passenger safety items for buses.

"This is a good example of the kind of innovative transit projects that GreenTRIP is supporting across the province," said Premier Ed Stelmach. "The program supports projects that promote vibrant communities and enhance Albertans' quality of life, and GreenTRIP is helping to encourage increased transit use and better connect our communities."

GreenTRIP is a \$2-billion program that provides one-time capital funding to support new and expanded public transit throughout Alberta. This helps make transit more accessible, and provides Albertans with a wider range of public transit options for local, regional and intermunicipal travel.

"It is great to see communities of all sizes looking at transit options that respond to their local needs," said Luke Ouellette, Minister of Transportation. "This is a very positive project for the community and we are proud to be a part of it."

"This demonstrates how the province partners with municipalities to develop effective infrastructure solutions for Albertans," said Robin Campbell, MLA for West-Yellowhead. "These transit safety and accessibility upgrades represent improvements that will benefit residents and visitors to Hinton."

"We thank our MLA Robin Campbell and the Alberta Government for supporting small transit systems like ours with provincial GreenTRIP funds," said Hinton's deputy mayor, Jane Macridis. "Because of Hinton's physical layout, our transit system addresses important transportation needs for many residents."

Over the duration of the GreenTRIP program, \$800 million in funding is available for transit projects in the Capital region, \$800 million for the Calgary region, and \$400 million for other Alberta municipalities.

The Alberta government is working to build a better Alberta by fostering economic growth, strengthening our health and education systems, investing in infrastructure, supporting safe and strong communities and ensuring a clean and healthy environment.

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To call toll-free within Alberta dial 310-0000.



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Improved public transit for Town of Hinton and GreenTRIP program

Improved safety for public transit in Hinton

What is the total estimated cost of the public transit improvements in Hinton?

The total cost of the public transit improvements is estimated to be \$163,000. For additional information about the project, contact Dan Pagely, the Town of Hinton's director of community, corporate and protective services (780-865-6022).

How much funding will GreenTRIP provide for the public transit improvements?

The Town of Hinton will receive a GreenTRIP grant of two-thirds of the estimated eligible project costs, or up to a maximum of \$109,000. The final grant amount will be based on the actual eligible costs at the time of project completion.

How will the GreenTRIP funding be allocated for the project?

GreenTRIP funding is allocated on a "pay-on-progress" basis and the payments will be allocated to the town as progress on the project is made.

GreenTRIP program

Which groups are eligible to apply for GreenTRIP funding?

The program is available to owner/operators of public transit services, which may include municipalities, regional entities, non-profit organizations, Métis settlements and the private sector. Ineligible applicants include individuals, federal government departments or agencies and First Nations, which are under federal jurisdiction.

What kinds of transit projects would qualify for funding?

Some examples of eligible capital projects include:

- construction of light rail transit (LRT) and inter-city commuter rail systems;
- planning for and acquisition of transit or commuter rail corridors;
- park and ride facilities (as a component of a larger transit project submission);
- construction of bus terminals;
- purchase of public transit vehicles (e.g., LRT vehicles, hybrid buses, accessible buses); and
- installation of transit intelligent transportation system components.

Project submissions must demonstrate that a project can help advance government priorities. What are these priorities?

The Alberta government's priorities include:

- implementing the 20-year Strategic Capital Plan;
- investing in priority projects that contribute to a safe and world-class transportation system that supports regional and provincial economic development and provides Alberta with some of the most advanced infrastructure in North America;
- supporting the province's return to prosperity and creating a strong foundation for continued economic strength;
- implementing the provincial Land-use Framework, which supports regional planning for key infrastructure, such as transit; and
- advancing the province's climate change strategy by getting cars off roads to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

How does GreenTRIP fit with Alberta's climate change strategy?

GreenTRIP is a good example of how the province is investing in green initiatives that will help contribute to Alberta's plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The emphasis of GreenTRIP will be to support regional transportation initiatives that make public transit more accessible to Albertans, reduce the number of vehicles on Alberta's roads and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Alberta government will continue to take advantage of opportunities to foster Alberta's growth in a responsible, environmentally-conscious way.

How can I gain additional information about GreenTRIP?

For additional information about GreenTRIP, go to www.transportation.alberta.ca.

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