

Thursday, October 18, 2001

Capital projects delayed in fiscal adjustment

More than 1100 projects go ahead this year

Red Deer... The Alberta Government has deferred 34 capital projects as part of its economic adjustment. The deferrals include several proposed health and school projects, Alberta Centennial projects, projects affecting government facilities and one post-secondary project. The delays affect projects for which construction contracts have not been signed, where not all of the funds have been advanced, or where major projects can be staged.

“Most capital projects are not affected by these decisions and will proceed uninterrupted,” said Infrastructure Minister Ty Lund. “However, in the interests of fiscal responsibility, a few projects are being deferred.”

More than 1100 projects will proceed uninterrupted in 2001-02, part of a total multi-year commitment of more than \$2.4 billion. About \$445 million in funding has been delayed until new replacement funds become available. A list of the projects proceeding this year is available on the Alberta Infrastructure web site at www.infras.gov.ab.ca.

“These were extremely difficult decisions to make but they were made using sound criteria and rating systems,” Lund said.

The deferred projects were rated according to building health and safety factors; how essential they are to the delivery of government programs and services; whether they were necessary to preserve or improve the operational efficiency of the facility; whether they have potential economic benefits; and the extent of commitments already made.

Alberta Infrastructure will also reduce its 2001-02 operating budget by \$2.3 million by implementing an immediate hiring freeze, reducing spending for information technology, supplies and services, and implementing an immediate freeze on the acquisition of new government vehicles.

Attached are the lists of deferred capital projects.

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For further information, contact:

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Attachments:

Backgrounder Alberta Infrastructure - Capital project deferrals
Backgrounder Alberta Infrastructure - School facility funding deferred in 2001-02

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Alberta Infrastructure – Capital project deferrals

Project	Approach	Savings in 2001-02 (in \$000's)
Kananaskis Country, Upper Elbow–Sheep Wildland Park – Purchase of Burns Property	Land will not be purchased.	\$10,000
Edmonton, Legislature Building – South Staircase Replacement	Complete planning and design. Defer construction.	\$50
Calgary, Rockyview General Hospital – Renovations	Complete master planning phase and other renovations. Defer further work.	\$2,500
Edmonton, Alberta Infrastructure Building – Accommodation Project	Defer construction.	\$2,000
Edmonton, Royal Alexandra Hospital – Phase 2 Redevelopment	Complete program and conceptual design phase. Defer further work.	\$61,000
Edmonton, New Leased Space – Children's Services/Capital Health Joint Facility in Millwoods	Complete planning and design. Defer construction.	\$500
Edmonton, Standard Life Building – Accommodation Project for Alberta Seniors and Alberta Community Development ministries	Defer project.	\$120
Edmonton, Provincial Museum – New Facility (Centennial Project)	Defer project.	\$29,500
Calgary, Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery – Bow Habitat Station	Complete design. Defer construction.	\$900
Drumheller, Dinosaur Provincial Park Field Station (Centennial Project)	Defer project.	\$1,500
Milk River, Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park (Centennial Project)	Defer project.	\$860
Cypress Hills, Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park (Centennial Project)	Defer project.	\$875
Slave Lake, Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory (Centennial Project)	Defer project.	\$1,600
Various Locations, Alberta Technology Demonstration Sites (Centennial Project)	Defer project.	\$650
Calgary, North Diagnostic & Treatment Centre – New Facility	Purchase site. Defer further work.	\$7,000
Various Locations, School Facility Projects **see attached list of 10 projects affected**	Defer funding advances not required this year.	\$29,828
Westlock, Long Term Care Centre – Replacement Facility	Complete schematic design. Defer further work.	\$18,992
Calgary, Forensic Unit – Relocation	Complete functional program. Defer further work.	\$4,925
Edmonton, Victoria School – Modernization and Replacement	Complete program and preliminary design phase. Defer further work.	\$62,000

Vegreville, Long Term Care Centre – Replacement Facility	Defer project.	\$16,500
Calgary, Alberta Children’s Hospital – Replacement Facility, Main Project	Complete contract documents phase. Defer further work.	\$130,850
Calgary, Alberta Children’s Hospital – Replacement Facility, Site Infrastructure	Complete design and engineering work. Defer further site development.	\$25,800
Calgary, Mount Royal College – Redevelopment	Complete current Phase I. Defer further work.	\$17,400
Calgary, Bone & Joint Centre of Excellence	Defer further work at end of programming phase.	\$13,200
Edmonton, Cardiac Centre of Excellence	Complete contract documents phase and construction of cardiac catheterization laboratories. Defer further work.	\$ 6,450
	TOTAL	\$ 445,000

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Alberta Infrastructure – School facility funding deferred in 2001-02

The school boards had not yet received funding for:

Calgary, New South Senior High School	\$4.0 million
Calgary, Country Hills Senior High School	\$2.0 million
Devon, New Devon K-9 Catholic School	\$1.8 million
Fort McMurray, Dr. Karl A. Clark Elementary School	\$4.0 million
Leduc, Leduc Composite High School	\$2.0 million
Lethbridge, New West Lethbridge Middle School	\$1.4 million
Ponoka, St. Augustine School	\$4.0 million
Red Deer, Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School	\$3.6 million
Sherwood Park, New K-9 Multi Campus Learning Facility	\$4.0 million
Spirit River, Central Peace High School	<u>\$3.0 million</u>
TOTAL	\$29.8 million