
News Release

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA INVESTS IN HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY'S RECREATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

HALIFAX (NS) – December 14, 2009 - Recreational projects in Nova Scotia's capital city valued at more than \$2.1 million are receiving significant federal funding, thanks to the Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) Program in Canada's *Economic Action Plan*.

The Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway, today announced an investment of \$710,000 to support a series of upgrades to recreational facilities in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM).

"Upgrades to facilities in Nova Scotia's largest city will provide residents in communities across the province with access to improved facilities in which to play, relax and build community spirit," said Minister MacKay. "Investing in recreational facilities through Canada's *Economic Action Plan* stimulates the local economy and ensures that families and future generations of Canadians will continue to enjoy local playing fields, arenas and pools for decades to come,"

The Wanderers Grounds Field House will be refurbished and upgraded, enhancing its ability to host sports, recreation, social, and cultural activities. This project is receiving \$300,000 from the RInC program, \$400,000 from HRM and \$200,000 from the Wanderers Amateur Athletic Club.

Twenty-one sport courts spread across the municipality will be refurbished. These facilities include courts used for tennis, basketball, and hockey. This project is receiving \$250,000 from the RInC program and \$500,000 from HRM.

The third project, the Bedford Lion's Club Pool, will also undergo upgrades. This investment will enhance safety and accessibility at the facility's 25-metre outdoor pool and its smaller splash pool. This project is receiving \$160,000 from the RInC program and \$320,000 from HRM.

"Improved recreational facilities mean safer, healthier communities," said Peter Kelly, Mayor of the Halifax Regional Municipality. "These projects will not only be of benefit for residents of HRM, they will also benefit those in communities across Nova Scotia and visitors to our region."

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Canada's Economic Action Plan provides funding over two years for the RInC program and is being used to support the upgrading and renewal of recreational facilities in communities, as well as to encourage increased participation in physical activity and community building. The RInC program will stimulate the economy, create jobs and contribute to the health and quality of life of Atlantic Canadians in our local communities. The RInC program is administered in Nova Scotia by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA).

To learn more about Canada's Economic Action Plan, visit www.actionplan.gc.ca.

FOR BROADCAST USE:

Defence Minister Peter MacKay today announced an investment of more than \$710,000 for upgrades and enhancements at the Wanderers Ground Field House, the Bedford Lion's Club Pool, and 21 sport courts dedicated to tennis, basketball, and hockey throughout the Halifax Regional Municipality. The three projects have a total value of \$2.1 million.

The federal investment is being provided by the Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) Program, a key component of the Government of Canada's *Economic Action Plan*.

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