

September 23, 2009

Backgrounder

Knowledge Infrastructure Program

The Knowledge Infrastructure Program is a two-year \$2-billion economic stimulus measure to support infrastructure enhancement at post-secondary institutions across Canada.

The Program provides funding to support deferred maintenance, repair and expansion projects at universities and colleges, and responds directly to the need indicated by post-secondary institutions to improve existing campus infrastructure across the country. A major portion of this infrastructure is near the end of its projected life cycle and, in many cases, does not adequately meet the needs of today's research and teaching activities.

The Program has two components. The **university component** gives preference to projects that can improve the quality of research and development at the institution. The **college component** supports projects at other post-secondary institutions, such as colleges, publicly funded polytechnic schools and institutes of technology, which will strengthen their ability to deliver advanced knowledge and skills training.

Projects are assessed according to their ability to quickly and effectively generate economic activity and support job creation. Project readiness and economic impact are, therefore, key criteria used in project selection. Projects are also assessed on their ability to enhance research capacity, support the attraction of new students and provide a better educational experience for the highly skilled workers of tomorrow.

The Program will not only generate economic benefits and support job creation, but will also have an important positive net impact on the environment by reducing energy use, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving waste management at universities and colleges across Canada.



Knowledge Infrastructure Program Investments in Post-Secondary Institutions in Nunavut

Through the Knowledge Infrastructure Program, the federal government is investing \$2.2 million for infrastructure improvements at Nunavut Arctic College. The Government of Nunavut is providing an addition \$2.76 million in funding for the college.

For more information about the project, please contact the college.

Institution	Project Description	Federal Contribution (\$)	Territorial Contribution (\$)
Nunavut Arctic College	Improvements to information technology and communications systems across three campuses, research facilities and 25 community learning centres	2 200 000	2 762 987