

# MEDIA RELEASE



**REGIONAL DISTRICT  
NORTH OKANAGAN**  
9848 Aberdeen Road  
Coldstream, BC V1B 2K9



**VILLAGE OF LUMBY**  
1775 Glencaird Street  
Lumby, BC V0E 2G0

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Friday, March 9, 2018

MEDIA CONTACT: Tannis Nelson, Manager, Community Services  
Regional District of North Okanagan

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### **Pat Duke Memorial Arena receives \$2.595 M from Federal Gas Tax Fund to improve facility**

The Village of Lumby and the Regional District of North Okanagan (Regional District) have been awarded up to \$2,595,625 million dollars to make improvements to the Pat Duke Arena in Lumby, B.C. The project will focus on adding four new change rooms and renovating the existing change rooms, but will also include upgrades to make the facility more operationally effective, safe, and energy efficient.

The Pat Duke Memorial Arena provides ice time for a variety of users, including minor hockey, figure skating, ringette and leisure ice uses, and has been serving the community since 1967. Unfortunately, due to its age, the needs of all of the facility users are not being met. Due to an insufficient number of change rooms, female ice users have had to use inadequate facilities during co-ed play. The arena also poses challenges for users with mobility issues, and does not meet today's standards for accessibility. This funding will allow a significant renovation and addition to this cherished community arena, allowing it to continue to serve the North Okanagan well into the future.

The contribution of federal Gas Tax Fund money completes the required funding for the total project cost of \$3 million dollars, adding to the \$100,000 won by the community through Kraft Hockeyville, the \$75,000 raised through fundraising, and the \$230,000 provided by the Regional District of North Okanagan through the White Valley Parks, Recreation and Culture service.

Each year, the Government of Canada provides over \$278 million in funding for local government infrastructure projects across British Columbia through the Federal Gas Tax Fund. The Union of BC Municipalities administers the Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia in partnership with the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

### **Quotes**

#### Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

"Improvements to local infrastructure are so important. They make our communities even better places to live," said Selina Robinson, B.C. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. "We are pleased to partner with local governments and the federal government to improve the daily lives of British Columbians."

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**MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES:**  
CITY OF ARMSTRONG  
DISTRICT OF COLDSTREAM  
CITY OF ENDERBY

VILLAGE OF LUMBY  
TOWNSHIP OF SPALLUMCHEEN  
CITY OF VERNON

**ELECTORAL AREAS:**  
"B" – SWAN LAKE  
"C" – B.X. DISTRICT  
"D" – LUMBY (RURAL)

"E" – CHERRYVILLE  
"F" – ENDERBY (RURAL)

Director Wendy Booth, President, Union of BC Municipalities

"Communities across BC are looking for funding to replace, upgrade and expand local infrastructure. The federal Gas Tax Fund is accelerating the pace of infrastructure renewal through the transfer of close to \$3 billion since 2005 for projects in our province. I appreciate the Government of Canada's longterm commitment to fund priorities identified by BC local governments."

Kevin Acton, Mayor, Village of Lumby

"I am very grateful to the Federal and Provincial governments for the funding, and excited to see Lumby residents benefit from such a generous grant," says Kevin Acton, Village of Lumby Mayor. "I am so incredibly pleased with the amount of effort and patience Village and Regional District staff have put into this project for the benefit of the community. This is a very good example of how having the right people, in the right job pays off."

Bob Fleming, Chair, Board of Directors, RDNO

"Arenas are important community assets, but are expensive to maintain for smaller communities like Lumby," said Bob Fleming, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Regional District of North Okanagan. "Thanks to the federal Gas Tax Fund we can now ensure that the Pat Duke Arena continues to serve the community at today's standards of safety and accessibility."

Rick Fairbairn, Chair, White Valley Parks, Recreation and Culture Chair, RDNO

"This project has generated a lot of community spirit, and not just in Lumby and area but throughout the North Okanagan," says Rick Fairbairn, Chair of the White Valley Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee. "I really believe that the community's fundraising efforts contributed to the success of our grant application, and I would like to thank the Federal and Provincial governments, and UBCM, for recognizing those efforts."

**Links**

For all of the projects funded through the current intake of the Federal Gas Tax Fund, visit <https://news.gov.bc.ca/16553>

To learn more about the federal Gas Tax Fund visit: <http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/plan/gtf-fte-eng.html>.

To check in on the project plan and progress, visit [www.rdno.ca/PatDukeArenaProject](http://www.rdno.ca/PatDukeArenaProject)