



# Issue Update

## Update on Capital Project Announcements

The past month has seen a number of announcements made by government regarding capital projects around the province.

The Ministry of Advanced Education together with the Premier announced that \$65 million would be invested in new research projects at universities and colleges throughout British Columbia. \$12.9 million of this will go towards a new spinal cord research centre for the University of British Columbia located at the Vancouver General Hospital. This announcement builds on an earlier announcement by government promising to invest \$95 million in capital expansion projects to support its commitment to double the number of graduates from BC high-tech programs.

The Ministry of Advanced Education has unveiled its plans for building a \$12 million new health sciences centre at the University of Northern British Columbia with site preparation and construction to begin in the Spring of 2003.

The Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services announced that a new \$15.7 million development project was underway in Penticton in partnership with the Interior Health Authority, the federal government and the Good Samaritan Society. The development will provide senior housing and care. This development results from the Canada-British Columbia Affordable Housing Program, in which the Government of Canada will contribute \$88.7 million over the next five years towards affordable housing.

The Ministry of Transportation has announced funding of \$30.4 million for 11 border crossing transportation initiatives in the Lower Mainland. The Government of Canada will be contributing \$14.1 million to the projects and the Ministry of Transportation will contribute \$16.3 million. The City of Surrey and the Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority will also be contributing funds. A list of the projects can be obtained on the BC government news website: [www.news.gov.bc.ca](http://www.news.gov.bc.ca)

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