

*June 15, 2009*

**Thirty-nine communities share \$278 million to create more affordable housing**

***Projects also help create jobs and stimulate economy***

*Edmonton...* Communities across Alberta will receive \$278 million in capital funding in 2009-10 to help create 2,200 more affordable housing units across the province. This is an increase of \$24 million from 2008-09.

“This funding commitment demonstrates Alberta continues to place a high priority on increasing the availability of safe, affordable and sustainable housing for people in need,” said Yvonne Fritz, Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs. “These dollars create jobs and stimulate the economy, while helping some of our most vulnerable people.”

Funding will be distributed as follows:

- For the third consecutive year, municipalities will receive \$100 million in block funding with allocation based on a formula that considers population growth, vacancy rates and average rents for a two-bedroom unit.
- All Alberta municipalities, non-profit organizations and private industry may apply for a share of \$78 million to create affordable housing developments under this year’s Affordable Housing - Request for Proposal (RFP) process.
- A second RFP of \$100 million will be issued for capital developments to specifically house the homeless and will be available to the same categories of partners.

Thirty-nine high-growth communities will receive funding, up from 33 communities in 2007-08 and 37 in 2008-09. This year, Calgary receives \$41.6 million and Edmonton receives \$30 million. Funding for other major cities includes \$3.3 million for Lethbridge, \$3.5 million for Red Deer, \$2 million for Grande Prairie and \$1.6 million for Medicine Hat.

Municipalities must submit an affordable housing plan to receive funding.

The Request for Proposal funding details and application forms will be available soon at [www.housing.alberta.ca](http://www.housing.alberta.ca).

This capital investment complements the government's four-point plan for economic recovery, which calls for keeping an eye on spending, using savings to protect programs and services for Albertans while keeping taxes low, continuing to invest in infrastructure, and promoting the province on the world stage.

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**Backgrounder attached:** Block funding allocations by municipality.

**Media inquiries may be directed to:**

Barbra Korol, Communications  
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780-644-6838

To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

# Backgrounder

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## Block funding allocations by municipality

MUNICIPALITY	BLOCK FUNDING	MUNICIPALITY	BLOCK FUNDING
Airdrie	\$1,361,482	Lloydminster	\$669,886
Banff	\$230,959	Medicine Hat	\$1,600,265
Beaumont	\$431,798	Morinville	\$288,451
Brooks	\$359,666	Okotoks	\$797,989
Calgary	\$41,619,141	Olds	\$191,949
Camrose	\$438,109	Peace River	\$167,240
Canmore	\$318,829	Red Deer	\$3,504,511
Cochrane	\$584,764	Rocky Mountain House	\$191,499
Cold Lake	\$340,572	Slave Lake	\$186,202
Devon	\$253,851	Spruce Grove	\$778,035
Drayton Valley	\$275,082	St. Albert	\$1,549,285
Edmonton	\$30,026,831	Stettler	\$154,740
Edson	\$333,826	Stony Plain	\$493,376
Fort Saskatchewan	\$670,166	Strathcona County	\$3,412,923
Grande Prairie	\$2,004,431	Strathmore	\$452,351
High River	\$427,648	Sylvan Lake	\$443,571
Hinton	\$258,713	Wainwright	\$152,940
Lacombe	\$306,197	Wetaskiwin	\$309,137
Leduc	\$819,260	Whitecourt	\$243,697
Lethbridge	\$3,350,628		

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