



Backgrounder - Update Long Term Infrastructure Investment

Background:

- Public infrastructure is a core business of government and vital to Prince Edward Island and Canada's prosperity. It enhances the economic, social and environmental quality of life of Canadians. Study after study demonstrates a link between infrastructure investment and economic performance.
- Professional Engineers provide services to both the public and private sectors. These include the planning, design and execution of all types of engineering projects, as well as providing independent advice and expertise in a wide range of engineering and engineering-related fields. Through offering these services, Engineers have a direct influence on virtually every aspect of our economic, social and environmental quality of life in Canada.
- Infrastructure is integral to strong communities because it:
 - Enables economic activity;
 - Connects people and communities;
 - Protects public health and safety; and
 - Protects the environment.
- Recent investments in infrastructure by all levels of government have helped improve the quality and capacity of Canada's public infrastructure. All levels of government need to continue to fund improvement to public infrastructure.

Recommendations:

- Engineers PEI recommends that the three levels of government (federal, provincial and municipal) work towards a collective goal of restoring infrastructure.
- Such an ambitious goal will require commitment and participation by all three levels of government as well as the private sector.
- The Province should take a leadership role to:
 - develop a strategic long-term and predictable commitment to infrastructure investment in order to provide the best value and return on investments to Canadians.
 - to collaborate with stakeholders to determine the fair and appropriate sharing of responsibility for financing and managing various forms of infrastructure by each level of government and the private sector.
 - to collaborate with stakeholders to ensure that infrastructure programs have a clear, efficient and transparent application process that reflects the needs of communities and businesses.
 - to encourage and support for asset management by communities in order to prioritize needs and measure the success of infrastructure investments.