



CANADA'S ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN

The Government of Canada recently released a third update on the implementation of its Economic Action Plan. The release states that about 89 percent of federal infrastructure funding has already been committed. Other highlights of the report include:

- **Tax relief for Canadian businesses** – Canadian companies are now taking advantage of an accelerated capital cost allowance rate on new equipment and a \$500,000 increase in the amount of small business income eligible for the reduced federal income tax rate.
- **Training and EI Support for More Canadian Workers** – 44,000 Canadians are receiving training through funds flowing to provinces and territories. Funding through the Canada Summer Jobs Program helped to hire 40,000 Canadian students. Investments are flowing for 38 projects aimed at supporting older workers. The \$2,000 Apprenticeship Completion Grant is helping 4,329 Canadians learn valuable trades.
- **Building Infrastructure** – More than \$7.6 billion in federal funds have been committed to more than 4,700 provincial, territorial and municipal infrastructure projects worth over \$21 billion, creating and preserving jobs in communities across Canada. This includes over \$3 billion of the \$4-billion Infrastructure Stimulus Fund that has been committed to more than 2,900 shovel-ready projects.
- **First Nations Infrastructure** – Over 97 per cent of the funding for infrastructure in First Nations communities has been committed for 2009-10. Projects for schools, safe water systems and health services infrastructure have begun.
- **Recreational Infrastructure** – About \$138 million of Recreational Infrastructure Canada's 2009-10 funding has been committed to build and refurbish recreational infrastructure facilities across Canada.

To read
the full report, visit
www.actionplan.gc.ca.

REMINDER.....Time is running out.....

Due to the recent changes in the examination requirements, all automatic eligibilities for CSO, CEC and PQS applicants will expire on December 31, 2009. If you hold one of these 3 designations and are interested in challenging the appropriate Gold Seal exam, applications must be submitted to your local construction association by December 31, 2009.

The next Gold Seal exam is slated for January 22, 2010. Visit www.goldsealcertification.com for further information.



CCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE MARCH 16-22, 2010

Spots aboard the Regent Seven Seas Mariner are being scooped up on a steady basis



Registration to CCA's 92nd Annual Conference, which is set to take place aboard the Regent Seven Seas Mariner from March 16-22, 2010, is available online. Since it was made available in August, registration to the conference has really taken off. As of today, only Deluxe cabins (**\$5,365.00 US per double occupancy**) remain available for reservation and since the conference is expected to sell out, we encourage to book now!

For more information on the conference, including details on the preliminary program, cabin descriptions, travel information, and keynote presentations, please visit the conference website at www.cca-acc.com/conf2k10.

If you have any questions regarding the annual conference, please do not hesitate to contact Chantal or Lynn at 613-236-9455.

2009 Canadian Design-Build Award of Excellence

A large number of high quality submissions vied for recognition in this year's Canadian Design-Build Award. Projects ranged from a skate-board facility to a complex production plant; the jury was faced with difficult choices and therefore decided to select two recipients for 2009. Two very different projects, exhibiting the best of design-build advantages and closely responding to the intent and requirements of the awards program were selected. The submissions illustrate how the Design-Build delivery method is adaptable to a wide variety of projects.



The 2009 award recipients are:

The **156th Street / Highway 1 Underpass Design-Build Project (Surrey, BC)** presented by BA Blacktop Ltd. and McElhanney Engineering Services Ltd. The project submission clearly demonstrated a "text-book" Design-Build approach to a seemingly straightforward civil engineering challenge. The team managed to use its engineering, construction and environmental expertise to not only respond to all client requirements, but to suggest a solution which presented the client with substantial capital cost savings and improved the environmental aspects beyond pre-project conditions. Control and elimination of previous flooding hazards along with protection of fish habitat with the aid of a fish ladder were among the environmental enhancements. The project was also on schedule and below budget.



The other recipient was the **Calgary Courts Center**, presented by CANA Management Ltd., Kasian Architecture and Stantec Consulting Ltd. The project had complex functional requirements as well as architectural stipulations relating to the adjacent urban fabric. Some major design challenges were met in this \$300 million facility, built over one million square feet, including 73 court facilities and the



need for segregated circulation paths and rings of security. CANA and the design team worked with subtrades in a true DB approach to meet the client's program and kept the project on budget and on schedule. Additional challenges for cost control were a somewhat extreme climate for external components and the very active construction market at the time of the project.



THE CANADIAN CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION'S

NATIONAL AWARDS Program

CCA is now calling for submission to its National Awards. The CCA National Awards represent a tremendous opportunity to be recognized as a leader in the Canadian construction industry in the areas of:

CCA Awards of *Recognition*

- Trade Contracting
- General Contracting
- Roadbuilding
- Manufacturers, Suppliers and Services

CCA Awards of *Excellence*

- Environmental Achievement
- Member Association Excellence
- Innovation
- International Business
- National Safety
- Person of the Year
- Community Leadership
- Gold Seal

Application Deadline set for December 4, 2009

To obtain a copy of the submission guidelines and nomination form, please visit CCA's website at www.cca-acc.com/overview/awards/awards_e.asp. The deadline for all submissions is December 4th.

The awards ceremony will take place March 18th during CCA's 92nd annual conference aboard the Regent Seven Seas Mariner. For more information, please contact CCA Director of Communications Michel Hachey at mhachey@cca-acc.com or 613-236-9455.