
GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA AND ONTARIO INVEST \$1.2 MILLION TO UPGRADE A.R. KAUFMAN FAMILY YMCA

July 2, 2009

The Kitchener-Waterloo YMCA will benefit from \$1.2 million in joint federal and provincial funding to renew, refurbish and expand the A.R. Kaufman Family YMCA in Kitchener. The federal investment is part of the Recreational Infrastructure Canada program (RInC) in Ontario while the provincial investment comes from Recreation Ontario (Ontario REC).

The joint funding, announced by Kitchener Centre MP Stephen Woodworth and Kitchener Centre MPP John Milloy, will allow the A. R. Kaufman Family YMCA to add 6,000 square feet to its second floor, install an elevator, replace two rooftop HVAC units, repave the parking lot, and more.

The KW YMCA is a charitable organization that strengthens our community by providing opportunities for personal growth and active involvement for all children, adults and families. The YMCA currently serves 12, 000 people of all ages, ethnicities and economic circumstances each year through a variety of programs and services.

"I am particularly pleased to announce this funding today. I have tracked and supported this project from the beginning. These renovations and expansion will be a great asset to the residents of Kitchener Centre," said Member of Parliament, Stephen Woodworth.

"As a member of the A.R. Kaufman Family YMCA, I know how much this project means to our community," said John Milloy, MPP Kitchener Centre. "The YMCA is a community-hub that supports thousands of families and individuals from all backgrounds by providing a safe and welcoming place to participate in physical activity, learn, and meet others. This joint investment to support the renovation and expansion of the Family YMCA will allow it to serve even more people in an upgraded and better-equipped facility."

"We greatly appreciate the federal and provincial funding," said John Haddock, CEO of the YMCAs of Cambridge & Kitchener-Waterloo. "We try to keep our facilities like-new and this grant helps the A.R. Kaufman Family YMCA to do so sooner than planned. The money allows for increased safety, accessibility, comfort and space for those who are pursuing better health for years to come."

The KW YMCA project is one of 758 projects announced on June 26 by Minister of State (Science and Technology) Gary Goodyear, on behalf of the Honourable Tony Clement, Minister of Industry, and Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Leona Dombrowsky, on behalf of George Smitherman, Ontario Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, worth a total joint federal and provincial investment of more than \$380 million.

These programs were designed to provide a timely, targeted stimulus to the economy through investments that will spur construction activity related to existing recreational infrastructure. Beyond economic stimulus and job creation, renewing, rehabilitating and modernizing our recreational infrastructure has the additional benefit of encouraging higher levels of participation in physical activity and community building.

Projects were selected on the basis of merit and construction readiness.

A list of approved projects will be available on July 6, 2009, at www.rinc-on.ca.

LEARN MORE

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