

Small Communities Fund

Alberta Project Outcomes Report

Municipal Affairs, Government of Alberta
November 30, 2020

For more information regarding this content visit: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/small-communities-fund-alberta-project-outcomes-report>
For program related inquiries, please contact a Grant Advisor at: ma.scfgrants@gov.ab.ca

Table of Contents

Background	4
Purpose of the Program.....	4
Program Governance.....	4
Outcomes Reporting Approach	4
Data Collection Tools.....	4
Report Compilation Methodology.....	5
Establishment of Performance Measurement Indicators.....	5
Baseline Establishment.....	5
Reporting Period	5
Summary of Completed Projects	6
Project Results	6
Highways and Major Roads	6
Drinking Water Infrastructure	7
Wastewater Infrastructure	10
Conclusion	13
Appendix	14
A1: Sample of Outcomes Data Collection Form	14
A2: Sample Outputs Data Collection Form.....	18

Background

Purpose of the Program

The Small Communities Fund (SCF) is a competitive program under the federal government's New Building Canada Plan. The SCF supports communities with populations under 100,000 and funds projects that address local priorities while contributing to national or regional objectives, supporting economic growth, a clean environment and stronger communities. The program was designed to leverage the resources and existing processes of the provinces and territories in managing local projects, while ensuring federal accountability and oversight of the funding envelope.

Program Governance

In Alberta, the program is governed through an agreement between Canada and Alberta. Applicants choose projects that address local and/or regional priorities and submit applications to Municipal Affairs, where they are evaluated against established criteria. Projects receive final approval from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Minister of Infrastructure Canada.

Outcomes Reporting Approach

The SCF funding agreement between Alberta and Canada requires the development of an Outcomes Report. To fulfil this requirement, Municipal Affairs requested grant recipients to provide information on benefits realized from projects funded by the program through the SCF Project Reporting Form (see Appendix A1). The SCF Project Reporting Form was posted on the Municipal Affairs website and also sent to municipalities upon request.

Municipalities were asked to review the form in order to familiarize themselves with the type of information they would be required to submit to Municipal Affairs, and to help them plan collection of the required data. Municipal Affairs contacts a municipality requesting the submission of the form after their project has been completed.

Data Collection Tools

Municipal Affairs developed the SCF Project Reporting Form for collecting project outcomes. Outcomes and performance indicators used in the form were those proposed by the federal government and included in the program's *Guideline for Outcome Reports*. In addition to the outcomes reporting form, an outputs reporting form was developed and used to collect output data from the funded projects (see Appendix A2). Project information as well as the expected output(s)

from a given project were pre-loaded on the form and grant recipients were required only to fill in the performance measure value of the output. This greatly helped in ensuring that all the outputs from a given project, as described in the project application, were collected. To simplify and streamline the future data collection process, the two forms have now been combined into one. This will allow grant recipients to report both their outcomes and outputs in one document.

Report Compilation Methodology

The compilation of the report followed the reporting guideline provided by the federal government. In each project category, performance measurement indicators for the same output from different projects were aggregated to come up with one value, ultimately producing a list of category-specific performance indicators for each output.

The same procedure was used to compile project outcomes, which produced of a list of category-specific outcome performance indicators, as well as the number of relevant projects, with results given in aggregate. Baseline data for all indicators are also reported.

Establishment of Performance Measurement Indicators

Municipal Affairs used performance indicators established for Infrastructure Canada's New Building Canada Fund Provincial-Territorial Infrastructure Component – Small Communities Fund. The department did not establish any new or additional performance indicators.

Baseline Establishment

Municipalities were able to capture baseline conditions at the start of each project. This is demonstrated by the municipalities' ability to provide percentage change in all of the outcomes they reported. Their success in capturing the baseline can be attributed to the early communication that was made by the department to municipalities informing them of the reporting requirements, which included baseline capturing. Grant recipients reported their performance information after projects were completed.

Reporting Period

This outcomes report covers the period from the start of the program, i.e. 2014, to the end of June 2020. A total of 24 projects from 23 municipalities are reported here.

Summary of Completed Projects

Twenty-four of 56 funded projects have been completed and are included in this report. These projects fall under three categories: Highways and Major Roads, Drinking Water, and Wastewater. The total cost of completed projects was \$109,346,352, of which the total Federal SCF contribution was \$31,295,626. Table 1 provides details on category-specific project costs and contributions.

Table 1: Summary of Completed Projects

Project Category	Number of Completed Projects	Total Costs of Completed Projects (\$)	Total Federal SCF Contribution on Completed Projects (\$)
Highways and Major Roads	1	9,000,000	1,500,000
Drinking Water	14	57,589,701	17,793,411
Wastewater	9	42,756,651	12,002,215
Total	24	109,346,352	31,295,626

Project Results

Highways and Major Roads

For the reporting period, only one Highway/Road project was completed with an output of 19 lane kilometres of road, as shown in Table 2. The project is reported to have increased traffic volume by about 300 per cent and has substantially reduced travel times on that road, as per the Outcomes summary in Table 3.

Table 2: Highways and Major Roads Project Outputs

Output	Performance Measure	Result	Unit Measure
Road paved/built	Length of road	19	Lane kms

Table 3: Highways and Major Roads Projects Outcomes

Outcome	Number of Projects	Indicator	Baseline	Result	Percent Change
Increasing efficiency and mobility by supporting efforts to reduce congestion, effectively manage traffic volume, and reduce travel time	1	Change in traffic volume over a period of time (# of vehicles per hour)	26.7	80	300
		Change in traffic volume for industry over a period of time (# of industry-related vehicles per hour)	13.3	40	300
		Decrease in average travel time from point A to point B (distance (9.6 km)) (time (10 minutes))	0	10	-

Drinking Water Infrastructure

Under the Drinking Water category 14 projects have been completed. Major outputs from this category include the installation of 39,365 metres of water lines, the installation/addition of 554 litres per second (47.9 million litres per day) of pumping capacity, an addition of 7.82 million litres per day water treatment capacity, and building reservoirs with a total water storage capacity of 8,259 cubic metres. Full drinking water output details are given in Table 4.

Table 4: Drinking Water Project Outputs

Output	Performance Measure	Result	Unit Measure
Reservoirs built	Number of reservoirs	6	Number
Reservoirs built	Capacity of reservoirs	8,259	Cubic metres
Water line installed	Length of water line	39,365	m
Water treatment capacity added	Water treatment capacity	7.82	ML/day

Output	Performance Measure	Result	Unit Measure
Pump house built	Pump house floor area	331	m ²
Raw water pumps installed	Number of raw water pumps	2	#
Water distribution pumps installed	Number of water distribution pumps	5	#
Pumping capacity installed	Pumping capacity	554	L/s
Water control valves installed	Number of water control valves	2	#
UV disinfection systems installed	Number of UV disinfection systems	2	#

Seven of the drinking water projects resulted in an increase in the number of households, industries, commercial establishments, and institutions provided with access to safe drinking water. Under this outcome, the increase in geographic area with new access to clean water is reported to be 819.3 square kilometres while the monthly increase in the amount of raw water available for water treatment plant is over 260 million litres. Ten drinking water projects resulted in improving the efficiency and service reliability of water treatment facilities and distribution systems, with three of these projects geographically increasing the area with access to clean water by 1,581 square kilometres. Under the same outcome, four projects upgraded or maintained the water system by the installation of 11,383 metres of new pipes or repair of the existing ones. Full drinking water outcome details are presented in Table 5.

Major outputs from the drinking water category include the installation of 39,365 metres of water lines, the addition of 47.9 million litres per day (554 litres per second) pumping capacity, and addition of 7.82 million litres per day of water treatment capacity

Table 5: Drinking Water Projects Outcomes

Outcome	Number of Projects	Indicator	Baseline	Result	Percent Change
Increasing the number of households, industries, commercial establishments, and institutions provided with access to safe drinking water (7 projects)	5	increase in geographic area with new access to clean water (km ²)	1409.9	819.3	58
	1	number of homes connected to storm water / waste treatment system (# of homes)	1,200	15	1.25
	1	increase in litres of available raw water for water treatment plant, over a period of time (million litres/month)	504.68	262.44	52
Improving the protection and/or management of drinking water sources	1	existing water system upgraded or maintained by installation or repair of new pipe (m)	1,433	430	30
Improving the efficiency and service reliability of water treatment facilities and distribution systems (10 projects)	3	increase in geographic area with new access to clean water (km ²)	23,155	1581	7
	2	reduction in distribution system's water leakage/loss over a period of time (million litres/month)	7.37	2.43	33
	4	existing water system upgraded or maintained by installation or repair of new pipe (m)	47,784	11,383	24
	1	reduction in number and type of contaminants	100	10	10

Outcome	Number of Projects	Indicator	Baseline	Result	Percent Change
		present in tap water as a result of the project (%)			
Improving the quality of drinking water and, where possible, alignment with the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality (3 projects)	2	reduction in number and type of contaminants present in tap water as a result of the project (%)	100	10 and 60	10 and 60
	1	existing water system upgraded or maintained by installation or repair of new pipe (m)	42,533	2,552	6

Wastewater Infrastructure

In the Wastewater Infrastructure category, nine projects were completed. Major outputs from this category include the installation of 37,212 metres of wastewater lines, wastewater treatment capacity addition of 2.2 million litres per day and the installation of 230 metres of storm water line. Full wastewater output details are given in Table 6.

Table 6: Wastewater Project Outputs

Output	Performance Measure	Result	Unit Measure
Wastewater line installed	Length of wastewater line	37,212	m
Wastewater treatment plant installed	Wastewater treatment capacity	2.2	ML/day
Storm water line installed	Length of storm water line	230	m
Manholes installed	Number of manholes	5	#

Output	Performance Measure	Result	Unit Measure
Lagoon built/capacity added	Lagoon capacity	23,700	m ³
Flow controls installed	Number of flow controls	2	#

The number of properties impacted by sanitary sewer and combined sewer overflow events annually has been reduced by 71%, equal to 1,095 homes.

On the outcomes, one project resulted in an increase in the number of households, industries, commercial establishments, and institutions with untreated wastewater connected to sanitary wastewater system. Under this outcome, 1,002 homes were connected to storm water or wastewater treatment systems.

Eight of the wastewater projects resulted in improving the reliability or performance of the wastewater collection and/or treatment system, where another 20 homes were connected to storm water or wastewater treatment system. Additionally, this outcome resulted in a 71 per cent decrease in the number of properties impacted by sanitary sewer and combined sewer overflow events annually, equivalent to 1,095 homes; and there was a 300 per cent increase in wastewater collection and treatment capacity (equal to 16.4 million litres per day). Full wastewater outcome details are presented in Table 7.

Table 7: Wastewater Infrastructure Projects Outcomes


Outcome	Number of Projects	Indicator	Baseline	Result	Percent Change
Increasing the number of households, industries, commercial establishments, and institutions with untreated wastewater connected to sanitary wastewater system	1	change in number of homes connected to storm water/waste treatment system (# of homes)	0	1002	N/A
Improving the reliability or performance of the wastewater collection and/or treatment system (8 projects)	1	change in number of homes connected to storm water/waste treatment system (# of homes)	2,000	20	1
	2	decrease in number of properties impacted as a result of sanitary sewer and combined sewer overflow events, over a period a period of time (i.e., annually)	1,545	1,095	71
	5	increase in capacity (million litres/day)	2.37	1.099	46
Improving the quality of treated storm water effluent; reducing the volume and incidents of discharge of untreated wastewater effluent	1	increase in capacity (million litres/day)	5.47	16.40	300

Conclusion

Since its inception in 2014, the SCF program has supported a number of projects in Alberta, providing municipalities with the ability to address their ongoing infrastructure needs. The 24 completed projects have had positive impacts on economic growth, a cleaner environment and building stronger communities. For example, drinking water projects have geographically increased access to safe drinking water by 58 per cent, which is equivalent to almost 820 square kilometres; while the wastewater projects have increased wastewater collection and treatment capacity by 48 per cent, which is more than one million litres per day. These outcomes by themselves will ensure safe and healthy communities, which in turn will lead to economic growth and stronger communities. As more projects from the program are completed, more beneficial outcomes are expected to continue to roll out.

Appendix

A1: Sample of Outcomes Data Collection Form (4 pages)

		Small Communities Fund (SCF) - Project Reporting Municipal Affairs		
<p>As a funding recipient under the SCF program, you are required to provide information about the benefits of your project, including outcomes and results. This form will collect data on your project outcome and indicator(s), based on the project category under which you received funding. Performance Measurement is conducted to satisfy a number of requirements including, but not limited to: federal reporting requirements, GoA decision-making, program-planning and policy-making.</p>				
<p>Municipal Affairs requires the submission of results (i.e. data). Please note the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results are to be provided in both in the unit of measure specified and in percentage (%), where indicated. • When reporting results, please specify the time period over which the data was collected. • You will also have space to provide a qualitative description of the benefits realized by the project. • It is recommended that you begin collecting data relating to the indicator(s) you choose as soon as possible, following project completion. 				
<p>Please submit the completed form within 3 months of project completion, or once actual results have been determined.</p>				
Municipality Information				
Municipality Name		Date - Select Date -		
Mailing Address		Office Use Only Municipal Code		
Contact Person	Position			
Telephone Number	Fax Number			
E-mail Address				
Project Information				
Project Title		Project Number		
Project Location/Address				
Estimated construction start date: - Select Date -		Estimated construction end date: - Select Date -		
<p><i>* If Start Date or End Date have changed since original application, please provide <u>newest</u> information.</i></p>				
Project Categories, Outcomes and Performance Indicators				
<p>Instructions: Select the category under which your project was approved. You will then be asked to select a corresponding outcome and performance indicator(s).</p>				
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Category: Highways and Major Roads Infrastructure</p>				
<p>Outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Improving access for remote areas affected by resource development-related activity, and/or improved social and economic outcomes in affected communities <input type="radio"/> Increasing efficiency and mobility by supporting efforts to reduce congestion, effectively manage traffic volume, and reduce travel time 				
			Page 1 of 4	

Instructions: Select the category under which your project was approved. You will then be asked to select a corresponding outcome and performance indicator(s).

<i>Performance Indicators: (Select one or more)</i>		Result
<input type="checkbox"/>	% change in traffic volume over a period of time (# of vehicles)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	% change in traffic volume for industry over a period of time (# of industry-related vehicles)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase in # of kilometres of paved lane or new road where condition is rated as good to very good	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Decrease in average travel time from point A to point B (minutes)	

Category: Public Transit Infrastructure

Outcome:

Supporting efforts to reduce urban congestion:

* Increasing transit ridership

* Improving mobility (e.g., improved access, reduced travel time)

<i>Performance Indicators: (Select one or more)</i>		Result
<input type="checkbox"/>	% increase in portion of fleet that is accessible to persons with disabilities	
<input type="checkbox"/>	% increase in transit passenger capacity (#seats)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	% change in geographic area of municipality served by transit system (km ²)	

Category: Disaster Mitigation Infrastructure

Outcome:

Reducing the social, physical and/or economic risks associated with natural hazards and/or adverse effects related to climate change.

<i>Performance Indicators: (Select one or more)</i>		Result
<input type="checkbox"/>	% increase in geographic area protected from natural disasters, i.e., flood, fire, etc. (specify type of disaster and km ²)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	% increase in estimated value of property protected (\$)	

Category: Wastewater Infrastructure

Outcome:

- Increasing the number of households, industries, commercial establishments, and institutions with untreated wastewater connected to sanitary wastewater system
- Improving the reliability or performance of the wastewater collection and/or treatment system
- Improving the quality of treated stormwater effluent; reducing the volume and incidents of discharge of untreated wastewater effluent
- Reducing the volume and incidents of discharge of untreated wastewater effluent as a results of sanitary sewer and combined water sewer overflow events
- Measurably and quantifiably reducing the volume and/or improvement in the level of treatment of wastewater effluent

Performance Indicators: (Select one or more)

Result

<input type="checkbox"/>	% decrease in # of properties impacted as a result of sanitary sewer and combined sewer overflow events, over a period a period of time (i.e., monthly or annually)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	% change in # of homes connected to stormwater/waste treatment system (# of homes)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	% change in # of homes connected to stormwater/wastewater treatment system	
<input type="checkbox"/>	% change in geographic area connected to stormwater/wastewater treatment system (km ²)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	% increase in capacity (litres/day)	

Category: Drinking Water Infrastructure

Outcome:

- Increasing the number of households, industries, commercial establishments, and institutions provided with access to safe drinking water
- Improving the protection and/or management of drinking water sources
- Improving the efficiency and service reliability of water treatment facilities and distribution systems
- Improving the quality of drinking water and, where possible, alignment with the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality

Performance Indicators: (Select one or more)

Result

<input type="checkbox"/>	% increase geographic area with new access to clean water (km ²)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	% reduction in distribution system's water leakage/loss over a period of time (litres/monthly or annually)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	% reduction in number and type of contaminants present in tap water as a result of the project	
<input type="checkbox"/>	% of existing water system upgraded or maintained by installation or repair of new pipe (m)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	% increase in litres of available raw water for water treatment plant, over a period a period of time (litres/monthly or annually)	

Category: Solid Waste Management Infrastructure

Outcome:

Reducing environmental impacts from landfills (e.g. greenhouse gas emissions, leaching of liquid waste soil contamination); or increasing energy recovery from solid waste management activities.

Performance Indicators: (Select one or more)

Result

<input type="checkbox"/>	% increase in volume of leachate managed/controlled, over a period of time (litres/monthly or annually)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Volume of methane gas recovered (m ³ /year)	

Project Categories, Outcomes and Performance Indicators

Optional: Provide a qualitative description of the project's benefits (Maximum 1,000 characters)

Reporting Certification

This form must be completed by the Chief Administrative Officer or Duly-Authorized Signing Officer.

_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Date</i>
_____ <i>Print Name</i> Chief Administrative Officer or Duly-Authorized Signing Officer	_____ <i>Telephone Number</i>

Legal Statement

The personal information provided on this form or on any attachments is required for the purpose of determining your eligibility for the Building Canada - Small Communities Fund (SCF) Program and the administration of the program. Your personal information is collected under the authority of Section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act and will be managed in accordance with the privacy provisions under the FOIP Act. If your grant application is approved, your name, the grant program and the amount of the grant may be published on the Government of Alberta Grant Disclosure Portal as authorized under section 40(1)(b) and (f) of the FOIP Act. Should you have any questions about the collection, use or disclosure of your personal information, you may contact the Director of Federal Programs Unit at the address below.

Submission

Submit completed Project Reporting to:

Alberta Municipal Affairs
Grants and Education Property Tax Branch
Federal Programs Unit
17th Floor, 10155 - 102 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4L4

Telephone: toll free by dialing 310-0000 then, (780) 427-2225
Fax: (780) 422-9133
Email: ma.scfgrants@gov.ab.ca

 **Print Form**

 **Save Form**

 **Reset Fields**

A2: Sample Outputs Data Collection Form



Small Communities Fund (SCF)
- Project Outputs Reporting
 Municipal Affairs

Introduction

Project Performance Measurement Data Collection

As a funding recipient under the SCF program, you are required to provide information about the benefits of your project, including outputs and outcomes. This form will collect data on your project output(s) and their respective performance measure(s), based on the project category under which you received funding. Performance Measurement is conducted to satisfy a number of requirements including, but not limited to federal reporting requirements, Government of Alberta decision-making, program-planning and policy-making.

Performance Measure(s) for the Project Output

To ensure all the required output information is collected, this form has been preloaded with the project outputs expected from your project. The Table below lists the outputs anticipated from your project as per the application form, as well as the performance measures for those outputs. Please fill in the correct value for each performance measure identified.

Please submit the completed form by (DATE).

Project Information

Municipality Name: Town of Wainwright
Project Title: Town of Wainwright Storm Water Management Plan Stage 1
Project No.: TO-WAIN-02
Project Category: Wastewater Infrastructure



Output	Performance Measure	Performance Measure Value	Unit of Measure
Sewer line installed	Length of sewer line	Click or tap here to enter text.	m
Pumps installed	No. of pumps	Click or tap here to enter text.	#
Pumps installed	Pumping capacity	Click or tap here to enter text.	L/s

