Flood Mitigation - High River

Following last summer’s floods, the Government of Alberta is investing more than $600 million in community flood mitigation. The following provides some information on the work currently being done in High River.

The Alberta government directed $87 million to specific community-level mitigation projects that address the unique situation and level of risk in High River.

Berms and dikes
Working closely with the Town of High River, berms and dikes were rebuilt to the 2013 high water mark, plus an additional one metre.

Raising of 498 Avenue East
498 Avenue East will be raised to protect a key access route and act as a berm on the north side of the Hamptons.

Removal of the CP Rail Bridge
The old CP Rail Bridge has been removed to eliminate a troublesome chokepoint on the Highwood River.

Wallaceville restoration to natural state
In support of the Town of High River’s overall flood mitigation plan, the neighbourhood of Wallaceville will be returned to a natural state to widen the river channel and eliminate a chokepoint on the Highwood River.

Highwood River Diversion
The proposed Highwood River diversion would redirect some of the river's flow around the Town of High River during flood conditions. The Highwood River diversion would be designed to handle approximately 500 cubic metres of water per second. Three options are on the table for the diversion route: one south, one north, as well as a split north-south route.

This project is currently in the environmental screening and community consultation phase. Final decisions on how to proceed with the Highwood River diversion will be based on what we learn in the coming months.

High River Flood Recovery Erosion Control (FREC) Program Funding
Six approved projects for a total of $10.3 million. Work done through FREC is primarily erosion control work to rebuild and reinforce river banks.