Asset Management & Infrastructure Programs: BC’s Perspective

Brian Bedford
Director
Local Government Infrastructure & Engineering
Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development
Ministry’s Mandate

The Ministry’s mandate is to bring together key government services and supports which help to make B.C. communities great places to live, work, visit and invest. The Ministry takes leadership in supporting local governments... to build vibrant and healthy communities that are well governed, liveable, safe, economically resilient, socially and environmentally responsible and full of opportunities for participation in sport and the arts.
Ministry’s Mandate

- providing advice and resources to local governments so that they can better meet the needs of their citizens through planning for sustainable development and addressing issues related to communities' social, economic and environmental well-being; and

- building relationships and developing partnerships with other ministries, local and federal governments, and stakeholders.
Unconditional Grants

- The definition of a grant is simply: *a transfer of money from one organization to another.*

- Ministry provides unconditional grants to local governments through:
  - Small Communities Grant
  - Regional District Grant
  - Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program
Conditional Grants

- Ministry provides conditional grants to local governments through:
  - Infrastructure Planning Grant Program
  - NBCF-Small Communities Fund
  - Clean Water & Wastewater Fund
- Application based & specific to a project
- Meets program outcomes & grant conditions
Conditional Requirements

Eligibility Requirements & Application Questions

Funding Towards Sustainability

Assessment Criteria

‘current conditions become future eligibility’
Ministry Perspective

- The province has made significant investments in LG infrastructure
- AM helps to ensure that infrastructure investments will be planned, built, operated, maintained and financed efficiently and provide best value for money
- AM reduces risk, to the province and to the local government
- The desire is to support local governments in achieving sustainable service delivery.
Sustainable Service Delivery

The process of bringing together the skills and activities of people; with information about the community’s physical infrastructure assets and financial resources to ensure long term sustainable service delivery.
Ministry’s Evolution

- 1990s Funding often used to deal with crisis
- 2000 Shift towards increased local government accountability
- Mid-2000s supports sustainable infrastructure planning and management
- 2010s (Post PSAB 3150) support of education, awareness and implementation of asset management
Current Programs

Infrastructure Planning Grant Program
- Asset Management, Feasibility studies, LWMPs, H₂O conservation...
- Year-round open intake, awards twice a year, up to $10,000
- Next deadline: Jan 18, 2017

NBCF-Small Communities Fund
- 2nd intake; decision expected early 2017
- Asset management conditions
Current Programs

Clean Water and Wastewater Fund (CWWF)

- Joint Federal-Provincial program investing $373 million
- Rehabilitation focused, preparing for future upgrades
- NEW* - cost share 50% federal; 33% provincial
- NEW* - asset management eligible
- Intake Deadline: November 23rd, 2016
- www.gov.bc.ca/cleanwaterwastewaterfund
Current Programs - CWWF

- the rehabilitation and optimization of water, wastewater and storm water related infrastructure;
- Separation of existing combined sewers or overflow control;
- improvement of *asset management* approaches including studies and pilot projects;
- planning for future upgrades to wastewater treatment and collection infrastructure; and,
- new construction projects, including the construction of naturalized systems for management and treatment of wastewater and storm water.
AM application questions

- Do you have a plan to fund, operate and maintain the asset over its lifecycle?
- For the asset class that you are applying for do you have an asset inventory Condition assessment? An asset management plan?
- Using the AM BC Roadmap identify which ‘Basic Level’ practice modules/building blocks your local government has achieved.
Current Programs - CWWF

- Approved Project = Asset Management Conditions:
  - *Current state of AM practice & future activities planned to improve*
  - *Asset renewal profile over 30 years for the corresponding asset class*

- Resources:
  - AssetSMART 2.0 & Renewal Profile guidance
Asset Management BC

Resources

– Asset Management for Sustainable Service Delivery: A BC Framework
– AssetSMART 2.0
– Asset Management Roadmap
– CLIC – Community Lifecycle Infrastructure Costing Tool
– NAMS Training
– Workshops/seminars

AM BC Newsletter (18 issues to date)
– Articles, stories, tips & tactics
– Case studies

www.assetmanagementbc.ca
Final Thoughts

- Asset management is, and will continue to be, integrated into infrastructure grant programs
- Supportive of the continued advancement of asset management in the province
- Open to dialogue regarding future opportunities...