

Canada launched an audit in late 2007 to find out what happened to \$472,900 it transferred to the congress for projects aimed at improving the health of Aboriginal Peoples. The audit findings identified concerns with CAP's internal financial controls including approximately \$260,000 of ineligible expenses in consulting fees, travel and meeting costs and per diem for CAP employees during 2005-2006.

23 January

*Aboriginal Politics
federal funding*

Greg Rickford, Member of Parliament for Kenora, on behalf of Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and non status Indians, announces allocating \$3.7 million to improve the road network in northern Ontario. The road network, which spans 3,000 kilometres, is necessary to link isolated communities.

23 January

*Aboriginal Politics
federal funding*

The Government of Canada takes steps to ensure that Aboriginal Peoples fully share economic opportunities through the Aboriginal Aerospace Employment Initiative project. Vic Toews, President of the Treasury Board announces that at least 200 Aboriginal Peoples will gain skills and employment experience. The government is investing \$5.2 million in this project.

5 February

*Aboriginal Politics
Federal government
Social housing
projects*

Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, issues a statement indicating that the Government has reached an important milestone. The Miawpukek First Nation of Newfoundland and Labrador become the first First Nations community approved for housing loans backed by the First Nations Market Housing Fund. He also mentions that Budget 2009 commits an additional \$400 million over the next two years to support

federal funding

Development, announces the Government's commitment to supporting Aboriginal Peoples as outlined in Canada's Economic Action Plan. Minister Strahl announces that \$75 million over two years has been proposed to establish an Aboriginal Skills and Training Strategic Investment Fund. The fund will lay the groundwork for a successor program to the Aboriginal Human Resources Development Strategy (AHRDS), and will focus on employer partnerships and delivering targeted training to improve employment outcomes.

13 February

Aboriginal Politics

federal funding

Skills and Employment

Partnership Project

Ed Komarnicki, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development and to the Minister of Labour, announces an addition to the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Partnership program. The investment is \$2.05 million for the Matachewan Aboriginal Access to Jobs Training Strategy will provide training and skills development opportunities for more than 200 Aboriginal Peoples in northern Ontario.

19 February

Aboriginal Politics

federal funding

Employment

Keith Ashfield, Minister of State (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency) and Member of Parliament for Fredericton, on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, announces that the Government of Canada is contributing approximately \$2.47 million to the ASEP-NB Inc. project through the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Partnership (ASEP) funding provided in Budget 2007. The project will help Aboriginal Peoples take advant

This project is part of the \$200 m

26 March

*Aboriginal Politics
federal funding
Housing*

Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians announces progress on improving housing conditions for Alberta First Nations communities. The Government of Canada has committed \$400 million over the next two years to support on-reserve housing. The funds are dedicated to new social housing projects, remediation of existing social housing stock and to complementary housing activities through programming from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC).

31 March

*Aboriginal Politics
Auditor General
Report*

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) has made satisfactory progress in converting lands to reserve status, says the Auditor General of Canada, Sheila Fraser, in a report that is released today in the House of Commons. In the last three years, it has converted more than 315,000 acres of land to reserves in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, a 42 percent increase since an audit in 2005.

1 April

*Aboriginal Politics
British Columbia
Treaty Commission*

Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, announces the appointment of Sophie Pierre as Chief Commissioner of the British Columbia Treaty Commission. Her appointment officially begins April 2.

6 April

*Aboriginal Politics
federal funding
Employment*

Maurice Vellacott, Member of Parliament for Saskatoon–Wanuskewin, on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, announces support for a series of forums that will bring the supply and demand sides of the labour market equation together. Through the Sector Council Program, the Government of Canada is providing over \$490,000 to the Aboriginal Human Resource Council to co-ordinate and apply. Workforce Connex, a national forum series that links Aboriginal people to regional partners that offer employment training, recruitment and job retention solutions.

9 April

*Aboriginal Politics
Canada,
British Columbia
Maa-nulth*

Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, and Michael de Jong, British Columbia's Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation join the five Maa-nulth First Nations to complete the signing of the Maa-nulth First Nations Final Agreement. This is the third

will strengthen partnerships between Aboriginal employment service organizations and employers through training-to-employment programs linked to concrete job opportunities.

24 April

*Aboriginal Politics
First Nations Bank
of Canada*

Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, announces an innovative partnership with the First Nations Bank of Canada to provide debt financing to First Nation businesses with assets on a reserve. Under the arrangement, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) will provide \$2.6 million to establish a loan loss reserve fund with the First Nations Bank of Canada. The reserve fund will be used by financial institutions as collateral to finance loans to medium and large First Nation businesses with the assets needed to secure the loan located on a reserve.

4 May

*Aboriginal Politics
federal funding
Employment Training*

John Duncan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, announces that the Government of Canada will support Aboriginal Peoples by launching the Aboriginal Skills and Training Strategic Investment Fund application process. Canada's Economic Action Plan provides \$75 million for the Aboriginal Skills and Training Strategic Investment Fund over two years. The Fund's objective is to strengthen partnerships between Aboriginal organizations and employers to help Aboriginal people gain the skills they need for the

*federal funding
Aboriginal Energy
Partnership*

contribution to the Aboriginal Energy Partnership to establish a new fund that will support Aboriginal involvement in renewable energy hydro projects in British Columbia. The Aboriginal Energy Partnership is a new partnership between two Aboriginal capital corporations, Tale'awtxw Aboriginal Capital Corporation and Tribal Resources Investment Corporation. Ecotrust Canada Capital, a subsidiary corporation of Ecotrust Canada, will manage the new \$7 million fund. The Aboriginal Energy Partnership and Ecotrust Canada will each contribute \$2 million to the new fund, with the remaining \$3 million being provided by the Government of Canada.

23 May
*Aboriginal Politics
federal funding
Employment*

Rona Ambrose, Minister of Labour on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development announces \$4 million in federal funding of two Edmonton-based organizations for Aboriginal organizations: Yellowhead Tribal Development Foundation and the Métis Settlements General Council. Through funding, the two organizations deliver employment programs and services including employment counselling, training and skills upgrading and other labour market supports such as child care.

1 June
*Aboriginal Politics
Protests
Border shut down*

Amidst protests by Mohawks of the Akwesasne territory near Cornwall, over border guards carrying ammunition, Canadian authorities shut down the border crossing at the Seaway International Bridge. Mohawk leaders remain firm in protesting against the new gun policy requiring all border guards to carry 9 mm hand guns.

5 June
*Aboriginal Politics
federal funding
Rail Transportation*

Transport Minister John Baird, announces \$5.8 million in federal funding to the Tshiuetin Rail Transportation – a passenger and freight rail company owned and operated by three First Nations communities – for capital improvements of the rail line and the passenger rail service between Sept-Îles and Schefferville. Of the total \$5.8 million funding, \$2 million comes from existing capital funding and \$3.8 million from funding under the Economic Action Plan.

10 June
*Aboriginal Politics
Federal government
Cree-Naskapi
(of Quebec)*

Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, introduces a bill in the House of Commons to amend the Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act. The bill aims to give increased bylaw-making authority to the Cree of Eeyou Istchee. Under the New Relationship Agreement, the Government of Canada promises to bring forward certain specified amendments to the Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act. The amendments make this promise a reality and will provide the necessary powers for the Cree of Eeyou Istchee to assume greater responsibility for economic and community development, as well as to achieve increased autonomy. The Cree of Eeyou Istchee will also receive \$100 million within 30 days of the amendments receiving Royal Assent.

services infrastructure, and approximately 230 renovations of existing infrastructure.

9 November

Aboriginal Politics

Indian Affairs Minister Chuck Strahl will meet with a delegation of the

by CBN will aid in the creation of biofuels from agricultural waste, which will help Canadian farmers with marketing opportunities in the energy sector.

23 January

*Agriculture
federal funding*

Brad Trost, Member of Parliament for Saskatoon-Humboldt, on behalf of Federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz, announces a new initiative in support of biofuels and livestock industries in Saskatchewan.

29 January

*Agriculture
federal funding*

The Government of Canada is investing in new technology that will help create additional opportunities for local employment. The funding will support Haida Gwaii Foods Processing Cooperative's efforts to refine the technology to produce dried wild chanterelles. Funding for this project is provided through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food (ACAAF) program, and delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation (IAF) of British Columbia.

19 February

Agriculture

Mark Parent, Minister of Agriculture for Nova Scotia announces that the Government of Canada will invest \$

Federal roundtable

ongoing commitment to get input directly from farmers when developing agricultural policies. The government's Economic Action Plan delivers \$500 million to the agricultural flexibility program.

5 March

Agriculture

Tax amendments

Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance proposes tax amendments to help farmers who have had to reduce their breeding herds of grazing livestock as a result of flood or excessive moisture. These income tax amendments will permit farmers, who dispose of such breeding livestock in a taxation year because of flood or excessive moisture, to exclude a portion of the sale proceeds from their incomes until the following taxation year. As a result, the full amount of the proceeds eligible for the deferral will be available to replenish their herds in the following taxation year.

6 March

Agriculture

Federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz and Member of Parliament Rick Casson (Lethbridge) announce a \$15.5 million.8 uofBT/TT8 1 Tf10.02 0 0 10.02 72 626.1

Bilateral agreement million for non-Business Risk Management agriculture programs in Saskatchewan over the next four years.

7 April

*Agriculture
Trade and Market
Development Program
Launch*

As part of the new Growing Forward Agricultural Framework, the Government of Canada launches the Trade and Market Development Program to help Canadian farmers and exporters sell more products to more international customers. A key component of the program is the AgriMarketing program that will sell more of Canada's safe, high-quality world-class products around the world.

9 April

*Agriculture
Canada,
British Columbia
Roundtable*

Pierre Lemieux, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture sits down with British Columbia farmers, producers and vintners to get their input on agriculture policies and to let to them know about programs the Government of Canada is delivering for farm families. Hosts of the farmer roundtables included Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and Member of Parliament Chuck Strahl (Chilliwack-Fraser Canyon), Member of Parliament Ed Fast (Abbotsford) and Member of Parliament Ron Cannan (Kelowna-Lake Country).

16 April

*Agriculture
Tomato farmers*

The governments of Canada and Ontario are creating new opportunities in southwestern Ontario by delivering 40 kilometres of pipeline that will provide water for tomato farmers and enhance their production and competitiveness.

24 April

*Agriculture
Canada, Alberta
Growing Forward*

The Governments of Canada and Alberta have signed off on a \$273 million investment to give Alberta farmers stable, bankable programs and to make key investments in innovation and marketing. The Government of Canada and Alberta have worked with farmers every step of the way to

Manitoba. The funding, one of the many job-creating investments in the Economic Action Plan, will improve federal laboratory facilities while providing economic stimulus in regions across the country.

9 May

*Agriculture
Federal Funding
Research*

David Anderson, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Natural Resources and for the Canadian Wheat Board, on behalf of Federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz announces that the Government of Canada is creating jobs and driving research by delivering \$5 million over the next two years, to modernize the Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre (SPARC).

19 May

Agriculture

Jean-Pierre Blackburn, Minister of National Revenue and Minister of State (Agriculture), announces a federal Agriculture

Wheat Industry

investment will be used to develop new varieties of wheat resistant to this fungus. This strain of wheat stem rust, known as Ug99, is not currently a threat to Canadian wheat crops, but the strain has been spreading slowly east across Africa, into Yemen and Sudan. The fungus is expected to reach Egypt, Turkey, the Middle East and India, and scientists agree that it is only a matter of time before Ug99 reaches the crops of North America.

10 July

*Agriculture
federal funding
Environment*

Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz and Minister of National Revenue and Minister of State (Agriculture) Jean Pierre Blackburn, announce the environmental portion of the Growing Forward framework. Worth almost \$200 million over five years, this federal investment will deliver results for a cleaner, healthier environment for Canadians through environmentally responsible agriculture practices. Funding will support initiatives to help farmers transfer research and knowledge into practice and to use science to improve their outcomes. Technical assistance to farmers on land use and planning will be available, as well as information tools and data to help farmers achieve even greater results for the environment.

10 July

*Agriculture
Federal Funding
Livestock Auction
Traceability Initiative*

Federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz and Minister of National Revenue and Minister of State (Agriculture) Jean-Pierre Blackburn announce a new \$20 million Livestock Auction Traceability Initiative that tracks Canadian livestock from the grocery store back to the original farm gate. The Government of Canada will deliver \$20 million through the Livestock Auction Traceability Initiative to upgrade handling systems in facilities to keep track of individual animals as they are mixed with other herds in auction marts and other facilities such as community pastures.

22 July

*Agriculture
Tax deferrals
Manitoba*

Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz announces that livestock producers in Alberta will be eligible for tax deferrals on breeding livestock sold due to the drought in Alberta. The tax deferral allows eligible producers in designated areas to defer income tax on the sale of breeding livestock for one year to help replenish breeding stock in the following year. In the case of consecutive years of drought designation, producers may defer sales income to the first year in which the area is no longer designated.

22 July

*Agriculture
Tax deferrals
Alberta*

Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz announces livestock producers in Manitoba in areas affected by excessive moisture will be eligible for tax deferrals on breeding livestock sold in 2009. Producers who reduced their breeding herds by at least 15 percent are eligible. Thirty percent of income from net sales can be deferred if the herd has been reduced by at least 15 percent, but less than 30 percent. Where the herd has been reduced by 30 percent or more, 90 percent of income from net sales can be deferred.

26 August

Agriculture

Jean-Pierre Blackburn, Minister of National Revenue and Minister of State (Agriculture and Agri-Food), meets with Mr. David Wagner, President

federal funding

and CEO of Atlantic Hydrogen Inc., and personally delivered \$1,102,000 in scientific research and experimental development (SR&ED) investment tax credits earned by the company. During a tour of the company's facility in Fredericton, Minister Blackburn spoke about the importance of the SR&ED program as the largest source of federal government support for industrial research and development.

11 September

*Agriculture
federal funding*

The Government of Canada is investing \$50 million over five years in new processing technologies (The AgriProcessing Initiative). The government projects that this will create new, more stable markets to improve income opportunities for farmers and the processing sector.

BUDGET

27 January

Budget

Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance, tables a comprehensive budget plan to stimulate economic growth

British Columbia

and they softened their earlier commitment to keep the province a “deficit-free zone.” For more information visit:
<http://www.cfs.bc.ca/mysql/Mem%20Adv-2009%20BC%20Budget.pdf>.

6 March

Budget

Federal government

Debt Management

Report

Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance, tables the Debt Management Report for 2007–08 in Parliament, noting that demand for Government of Canada securities remains strong because of Canada’s fiscal advantage and that the significant debt reduction allows the Government to support the economy and keep the interest rates low.

12 March

Budget

Federal government

Budget 2009 passes in the Senate by a vote of 50 to 4. For more information visit: <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2009/pdf/brief-bref-eng.pdf> .

18 March

Budget

Saskatchewan

The government of Saskatchewan releases its budget that promises tax cuts and stimulus spending. Finance Minister Rod Gantfoer forecast a \$425 million surplus for the coming year, even while the economy absorbs a 12 percent spending increase, a massive property tax reduction and high commodity prices. For more information visit:
<http://www.finance.gov.sk.ca/budget/>.

19 March

Budget

Quebec

The government of Quebec releases its budget projecting a deficit, but it says a one percent sales-tax increase beginning January 1, 2011, will eventually help eliminate it. For more information visit:
http://www.budget.finances.gouv.qc.ca/Budget/2009-2010/index_en.asp.

25 March

Budget

Manitoba

Manitoba tables its \$12.7 billion balanced budget that tries to stave off shrinking economic growth by increasing tobacco taxes and user fees to pay for \$226 million in new spending. Manitoba is boasting a \$48 million surplus. For more information visit:
<http://www.gov.mb.ca/finance/budget09/index.html>.

27 March

automotive show Driver's Seat. In February, 2008, the B.C. Supreme Court under Mr. Justice Ehrcke rejected Adbusters' claim that refusing to air the ads was a violation of the right to freedom of expression. The Charter, he said, citing the previous ruling on CBC, did not apply to private corporations. That decision was overturned on Friday, when the B.C. Court of Appeal unanimously rejected the original ruling that the charter did not apply to the CBC, and in consequence, overturned the decision to throw out the case against CanWest Global.

10 April

Court
Supreme Court of
Canada
Property Rights

The Supreme Court of Canada announces that governments have the right to sift through personal garbage once it reaches one's property line, concluding a classic contest over property rights. In a 7-0 ruling, the Court said the rubbish is fair game for police, tax investigators or any other government scrutineer. The Court conceded that garbage contains a broad spectrum of highly private material, ranging from an individual's DNA to banking documents and intimate communications that individuals might well want to keep confidential. But it noted that garbage is discarded for a reason - because it is no longer wanted - which greatly reduces any claim to privacy.

24 April

Court
Federal Court
Omar Khadr affair

A Federal Court judge found that Omar Khadr's human rights were violated and orders Ottawa to ask Washington for the return of the detained Canadian Omar Khadr. United States forces detained Mr. Khadr, 22, after a July, 2002, firefight in Afghanistan in which he suffered several gunshot wounds and other serious injuries. He faced numerous charges before the controversial Guantanamo Bay military commissions system. The most serious charge relates to the alleged murder of a U.S. soldier during the firefight. Mr. Khadr has been in U.S. detention since the age of

17 June
Court
Supreme Court
of Canada
Park's case

In a landmark ruling, the Supreme Court of Canada ultimately upholds Mr. Parks's jury acquittal in the May 24, 1987, stabbing death of Barbara Ann Woods. Psychiatrists testified at Mr. Parks's trial that he had a family history of sleep disorders and was under considerable stress after losing his job and going into serious debt from gambling. Known as parasomnia, sleep disorders are manifested during the deepest part of the sleep cycle - the slow-wave stage - when waking up is difficult.

3 September
Court

Canadian Human Rights Tribunal rules that Section 13 of the Canadian Human Rights Code (protection against that Seber

ENVIRONMENT

16 January

*Environment
Energy Efficiency*

Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources announces the release of a new guide to energy efficiency for industry. The Energy Savings Toolbox, developed in conjunction with provinces, territories and industry stakeholders, provides a step-by- step methodology to help industry identify and capitalize on energy savings.

23 January

*Environment
federal funding
WinSmart Project*

Steven Fletcher, Minister of State (Democratic Reform), announces that the federal government has invested \$185,325 in a new WinSmart biodiesel fuelling station. This is just one of the many green transportation measures that the City of Winnipeg is implementing.

26 January

*Environment
Canadian
Environmental
Assessment Agency*

The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission issued two documents today, the final Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines and the Joint Review Panel Agreement, related to Ontario Power Generation's proposed Deep Geologic Repository project, located in the Municipality of Kincardine, Ontario.

6 February

*Environment
Alberta*

Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach pledges an incentive program that would provide "short-term targeted assistance" for junior and mid-capitalization energy players. Mr. Stelmach's move came as the Canadian Energy Research Institute (CERI) released a report estimating that nearly \$100-billion in spending already planned for the oil sands will never materialize. Canada's Environment Commissioner Scott Vaughan says that the government's plan to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions is not delivering on the promise of "real, measurable and verifiable results." The Environment Commissioner's audit report found no evidence to support the emission-

6 February

*Environment
Environment
Commissioner's
Report*

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National Water Program (CPEINWP), which focuses on environmental training, soil and water conservation projects, research on nitrogen leaching and better identification of the province's wetlands.

23 February

*Environment
Ontario
funding*

George Smitherman, Ontario's Energy Minister, unveils the government of Ontario's plan to transform the way Ontario generates and uses electricity. Bill 150, proposes sweeping change to the electricity system by allowing producers of renewable energy such as wind and solar power access to the transmission grid. It promises attractive prices for the power that is produced in these small projects. Mr. Smitherman estimates that the green energy squeezing out fossil fuels - combined with the \$5 billion that will need to be spent on upgraded, "smart" transmission lines - will boost a consumer's annual bill by just 1 percent. Electricity currently sells in Ontario for about 5 cents kw/h.

2 March

*Environment
Canada, United States
Cap and Trade*

Minister Jim Prentice arrives in Washington to push for a continental system of emission caps and market-based permit trading that would align Canada's regulatory system with the United States. Environmentalists have criticized Canada's proposed "intensity-based" regulations, which would force companies to meet targets as a percentage of their production. This would benefit oil sands companies, for example, as they could increase emissions as their production grows.

3 March

*Environment
ecoMOBILITY*

On behalf of Canada's Transport Minister John Baird, Rob Merrifield, Minister of State (Transport), announces Round Two of the Government of Canada's ecoMOBILITY program. This program is aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions by encouraging people to take public transit or other sustainable transportation options like walking, cycling and carpooling.

17 March

*Environment
Federal environmental
assessment
Exemptions*

Environment Minister Jim Prentice tells a receptive business audience in Calgary that for the next two years certain public projects will be excused from the rigorous federal environmental assessment process. This is intended to streamline the approval process. The federal legislation already exempts scores of projects, including the decommissioning and demolition of buildings, repairs to sidewalks and boardwalks, and removal of signs and benches. But the rules can also exclude from assessment certain types of changes to wind farms, power lines, pipelines and nuclear facilities. Mr. Prentice said there is no limit to the value of projects that may be exempted under the new rules, which take effect immediately, but he would not say what additional types of projects will be excused.

23 March

*Environment
federal funding*

Minister of the Environment Jim Prentice announces that the government will contribute \$2.5 million over five years to the UN Environmental Program's Global Environmental Monitoring System to renew funding for

United Nations water monitoring program. That program used to receive a similar sized budget under the Liberals, but the Conservatives did not renew the full envelope of funding when they came to power in 2006.

26 March

*Environment
federal funding*

Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announces that the Government of Canada will fund eight proposals for the development and demonstration of carbon capture and storage technologies through the ecoENERGY Technology initiative. Successful proposals were submitted by partnerships led or co-led by ARC Resources, Enhance Energy, Spectra Energy Transmission, TransCanada, TransAlta, Husky, Enbridge and EPCOR. Minister Raitt met with the CEOs of each of these companies along with representatives from the British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan governments to establish a network that will share research and expertise in developing and demonstrating carbon capture and storage technologies. Canada's Economic Action Plan includes new measures totaling almost \$2.4 billion to support a cleaner and more sustainable environment and help meet Canada's climate change objectives.

2 April

*Environment
Auto Emissions
Standards*

Environment Minister Jim Prentice says Canada will match new auto emission standards set by the Obama administration. The Conservative government had previously promised mandatory auto emissions for the 2011 model year. Mr. Prentice announces that the target will be met using regulations under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act rather than the original plan to use the Motor Vehicle Fuel Consumption Standards Act.

8 April

*Environment
federal funding*

Earl Dreeshen, Member of Parliament for Red Deer, on behalf of Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announces that the Government of Canada will provide up to \$23.2 million through its ecoENERGY for Biofuels program to Permolex Ltd. The plant in Red Deer has been producing ethanol since 1998. After Permolex Ltd. assumed ownership of the facility in 2003, the plant was expanded with the assistance of the Federal Governments Ethanol Expansion Program.

15 April

*Environment
federal funding
Ontario*

Ben Lobb, Member of Parliament for Huron–Bruce, on behalf of Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announces that the Government of Canada's ecoENERGY for Biofuels program will provide up to \$14 million for GreenField Ethanol's facility in Tiverton, Ontario.

15 April

*Environment
federal funding
Ontario*

Member of Parliament for Lanark-Frontenac-Lennox and Addington, Scott Reid, announces that the Government of Canada is contributing up to \$480,500 in repayable funding to Powerbase Energy Systems Inc. This investment will help Powerbase Energy Systems Inc. create a new manufacturing facility to produce power-generating units that process waste into energy. The facility, located in Carleton Place, is expected to

generate approximately \$35.5 million in annual company revenue by 2013.

17 April

*Environment
federal funding*

Dave Van Kesteren, Member of Parliament for Chatham–Kent–Essex, on behalf of Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announces that the Government of Canada’s ecoENERGY for Biofuels program will provide

30 April

*Environment
federal funding
Solar Water Heating
program*

Pierre Poilievre, Member of Parliament for Nepean–Carleton, announces the investment of \$1.4 million for a Renewable Heat initiative through ecoENERGY. This Solar Water Heating Program is a joint initiative led by Bullfrog Power Inc. together with Enbridge Gas Distribution and EnerWorks. It offers financial incentives and rebates to help Ontario homeowners living in Enbridge Gas Distribution franchise areas to install solar water heating systems. This renewable Heat initiative is one of a series of ecoENERGY initiatives funded by the Government of Canada with an investment of more than \$3.9 billion to increase Canada's supply of clean, renewable energy.

7 May

*Environment
Federal government
Energy Efficiency Act
passes*

Amendments to the Energy Efficiency Act, an act that will solidify Canada's position as an international leader in energy-efficiency standards passes. With this legislation, Canada will have legislative authority to introduce comprehensive standards to regulate the amount of standby power consumed by many products when they are not in use. By regulating standby power, enough electricity will be saved to power more than 300,000 Canadian homes each year, reducing the average household's electricity consumption by three to five percent.

11 May

*Environment
federal funding
Wind power*

Rob Moore, Member of Parliament for Fundy Royal, on behalf of Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announces the investment of \$29 million for the Kent Hills Wind Farm, through the ecoENERGY for Renewable Power Program. The wind farm will provide approximately 290,000 MW hours of electricity per year from its 32 turbines. This electricity will be sold to New Brunswick Power to meet the needs of over 17,000 homes.

12 May

*Environment
Federal government
Kyoto Protocol
Implementation Act
Report*

Scott Vaughan, Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development, says that the government's first two climate change plans under the Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act are missing some of the information required under the Act. The 2007 and 2008 climate change plans included targets for expected reductions in greenhouse gas emissions within the Kyoto Protocol period, 2008 to 2012. However, he found that Environment Canada will be unable to determine actual emission reductions for each of the measures planned, as the Act requires. The Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act was passed by Parliament in 2007. It requires the government to produce a plan each year showing how Canada will meet its obligations under the Kyoto Protocol by 2012, the end of the Kyoto Period. The Commissioner is required to assess and report on Canada's progress in meeting those obligations. For this first report he focused on whether the 2007 and 2008 climate change plans contain the information required under the Act. The audit found that expected reductions in greenhouse gas emissions presented in the climate change plans were overstated. For example, some emission reductions projected

to occur within the 2008–2012 Kyoto Period will probably not be realized before the Kyoto Period ends.

14 May

*Environment
Quebec
Cap and Trade System
adopted*

Quebec became the second province to move toward adopting a cap and trade system. Quebec's bill will be adopted by the end of June .By the fall, the province will implement regulations that will require companies to register their levels of greenhouse-gas emissions. The registry will serve as the basis for the Western Climate Initiative (WCI) in determining how many carbon credits will be issued to the province. The credits will then be distributed to companies who meet the greenhouse-gas emission targets. The emission credits will be traded on the Montreal carbon exchange created last year. Polluting companies that fail to meet the emission caps will be fined according to the legislation adopted in Quebec as well as by the other members of the WCI. The first emission caps will be issued between 2012 and 2015, targeting only electricity-producing companies and major industries that emit more than 25,000 tonnes a year of greenhouse gases. After 2015, the second phase will target, among other sectors, transportation as well as home and commercial heating companies.

14 May

*Environment
Energy Efficiency Act*

Bill S-3 (Energy Efficiency Act) giving regulatory powers to the Minister of Natural Resources in order to promote the efficient use of energy in the Canadian market place receives Royal Assent.

14 May

*Environment
Bute Inlet*

Canada's Environment Minister Jim Prentice announces that the proposed Bute Inlet Hydroelectric Project located about 150 km north of Powell River in British Columbia north of the 49th parallel will be approved. (Prentice announced)

19 May*Environment**Federal Funding**Clean Energy Fund*

Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announces the launch of the \$1 billion Clean Energy Fund during an address to the University of Alberta. This Fund invests \$850 million in technology development and demonstration. This includes \$650 million for large-scale carbon capture and storage (CCS) demonstration projects and \$200 million for smaller-scale demonstration projects of renewable and alternative energy technologies. Minister Raitt also announces that there will be a \$150 million research component. This will fund initiatives ranging from basic research to pre-demonstration pilot projects of technologies ranging from next generation renewable and cleaner energy systems to new technologies to address environmental challenges in the oil sands such as water use and tailings.

20 May

ensure that electricity produced by the project is delivered to consumers at competitive prices. The expansion of the West Cape Wind Farm comprises a total of 44 new turbines, with a total capacity of more than 79 megawatts. These turbines will generate approximately 255 gigawatt hours of clean electricity a year — enough to meet the electricity needs of

ecoEnergy

Biofuels program, works to help stabilize the Canadian renewable fuel industry.

21 August

*Environment
Canada, Yukon
Green Infrastructure*

The governments of Canada and Yukon are working together to support a green infrastructure project in the Yukon, including upgrades to the Mayo B hydro generation facility and further development of the Carmacks-Stewart transmission line. This project has been selected for funding under the new federal Green Infrastructure Fund. Twenty million dollars of diesel will be needed annually by 2012 to meet projected demand, releasing 50,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases. It is expected that the project will reduce forecast diesel generation in 2012 by over 40%. This will reduce greenhouse gases from energy production by 50% from current levels.

24 August

*Environment
Federal Funding
Grain-based ethanol*

On behalf of Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, Vic Toews, President of the Treasury Board announces that Husky Energy's Minnedosa plant will receive up to \$72.8 million to support the production of ethanol. Compared with gasoline, grain-based ethanol can reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by up to 40 percent on a life-cycle basis. For biodiesel, the emissions reduction can be as much as 60 percent.

22 September

*Environment
Meeting*

Prime Minister Harper is one of 100 dinner guests invited by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to talk about the environment. This meeting is being held to find common ground before countries meet in Copenhagen in December to sign a new global climate change treaty.

9 October

1 December

*Environment
Mount Milligan
Gold-Copper Project*

Jim Prentice, Canada's Environment Minister, announces that the proposed Mount Milligan Gold-Copper Project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects. The Minister has referred the project back to the responsible authorities, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Natural Resources Canada, for appropriate action.

3 December

*Environment
Canada, China
Agreement on Climate
Change and Culture*

Prime Minister Stephen Harper announces that Canada has signed two agreements with China that will result in greater cooperation on climate change and culture. The Prime Minister and Wen Jiabao, Premier of China, signed the two agreements in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China. Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Climate Change, Canada and China will work together on the long-term global effort to address climate change through mitigation and adaptation. It will strengthen Canada-China cooperation in areas such as energy conservation and efficiency, renewable energy, carbon capture and storage, methane recovery and utilization, and sustainable land management.

7 December

*Environment
federal funding
Solar Energy*

Senator Linda Frum, on behalf of Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, announces an investment by the federal government of up to \$1 million in the First Power solar project through the ecoENERGY for Renewable Heat program. The Government of Canada's investment in the First Power project will support the installation of domestic solar water heating systems in up to 900 homes, with a focus on remote First Nations communities.

17 December

*Environment
Convention
Copenhagen*

Prime Minister Stephen Harper attends the Leaders' Session of the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Copenhagen, Denmark, on December 17-18, 2009. The Canadian Government commits to reducing Canada's

FEDERAL POLITICS

1 January

Federal Politics

TFSA

Corporate tax cuts

The corporate tax cuts and Tax-Free Savings Accounts (TFSA), both introduced by the Government of Canada in Budget 2008, come into effect.

6 January

Federal Politics

federal funding

Canada foundation

for Innovation

Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology), announces the significant investments in the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) in the University of Manitoba. More than \$2 million dollars in funding have been allocated to the university labs and equipment, which will jump-start nine projects in areas of research. The CFI is an independent corporation created by the federal government to fund research infrastructure and is funded by the government of Canada.

8 January

Federal Politics

federal funding

British Columbia

Tom Cannon, Member of Parliament for Kelowna – Lake Country, on behalf of Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification, announces a \$3 million federal government investment, through Western Economic Diversification Canada, towards Community Futures British Columbia. This initiative will bring rural economic diversity to British Columbia.

9 January

Federal Politics

federal funding

Youth work experience

Colin Mayes, Member of Parliament for Okanagan-Shuswap, on behalf of Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification, announces funding of \$31,555 towards the Sounds of Light Multicultural Society to support a new youth work experience program and affordable housing initiative. This Society will help deliver a work experience program for youth and people with disabilities who have demonstrated an interest in construction trades.

11 January

Federal Politics

New representative

in Kandahar

Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, announces the appointment of Ken Lewis as the new Representative of Canada in Kandahar, succeeding Elissa Goldberg who has held the position since its creation in March 2008.

11 January

Federal Politics

federal funding

Halifax

Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway, announces that up to \$393,300 will be provided to the Halifax Regional Municipality for three projects aimed at enhancing security for domestic ferries in Nova Scotia.

12 January

Federal Politics

federal funding

Employment

Cathy McLeod, Member of Parliament for Kamloops-Thompson-Cariboo, announces that at least 420 people with disabilities in Kamloops and surrounding areas will be better prepared to find meaningful employment through the new project. Individuals will take part in orientation sessions and disability employment needs assessments as well as develop a career plan. The Government of Canada is providing \$762,212 to fund this project.

12 January
Federal Politics
federal funding

Denis Lebel, Minister of State for Canada Economic Development, announces the awarding of \$98,968 to Société Bleu Nordique for the acquisition of special equipment. This goes towards the start up of a berry processing plant in the Côte-Nord region.

12 January
Federal Politics

Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance, welcomes the release of the Final report

federal funding

to help small and medium-sized businesses across Canada gain access to the financing they may need when credit markets are constrained.

19 January

Federal Politics

federal funding

New Brunswick

Helena Guergis, Minister of State, announces support for three projects that will benefit female victims of violence in six French speaking rural regions, low-income mothers in rural New Brunswick, and francophone women from ethnocultural minority communities in the Greater Moncton area. Three organizations (Support to Single Parents Inc.; Collectivite ingenieuse de la Peninsule acadienne Inc, and Collectif des femmes du Nouveau-Brunswick) will receive a total of \$799,243 in funding from the Women's Community Fund of the Women's Program of Status of Women Canada.

20 January

Federal Politics

federal funding

Myert Corps Inc. will receive \$4.38 million under the Government of Canada's Employment Assistance Services program for two employment projects. The Community Employment Resource Centre project will help over 12,000 unemployed people obtain employment.

20 January

Federal Politics

federal funding

Saskatchewan

Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology) announces a renewed investment in the National Research Council Canada (NRC) Sustainable Infrastructure Technology Initiative in Regina. Technology clusters are broad-based community partnerships among industry, universities, colleges, and all levels of government that focus on building a competitive advantage for Canada through research and innovation.

22 January

Federal Politics

federal funding

Guy Lauzon, Member of Parliament for Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry, on behalf of Tony Clement, Minister of Industry, announces that 20 communities will benefit from grants under the Ontario Potable Water Program.

22 January

Federal Politics

federal funding

On behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, Russ Hieber, Member of Parliament for South Surrey, White Rock and Cloverdale, announces the Peach Arch Community Services Society will receive more than \$1.7 million for its Employment Resource Centre project under the Government of Canada's Employment Assistance Services program. Through this project, the Employment Resource Centre will help keep more than 2,400 unemployed people in the Surrey area find and keep jobs.

23 January

Federal Politics

federal funding

Airport safety

Jean-Pierre Blackburn, Minister of National Revenue and Minister of State (Agriculture), announces funding under Round One of the federal government's 2009-2010 Airports Capital Assistance Program. This program finances more than \$7 million to enhance airport safety across Canada. The Government of Canada has invested a total of \$476 million for 571 projects at 165 airports relating to runways, taxiways, visual aids and heavy airside mobile equipment.

23 January
Federal Politics
federal funding
Aquaculture Industry

Greg Thompson, Minister of Veterans Affairs Canada, on behalf of Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, announces \$1.1 million in funding for the southwest New Brunswick aquaculture industry through the Aquaculture Innovation and Market Access Program.

23 January
Federal Politics
federal funding
Arts and Culture

James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages, LaVar Payne, Member of Parliament, announce funding for the Medicine Hat Folk Music Club, which will be used for the third annual Tongue on the Post Folk Festival in Medicine Hat. The funding will be paid for through the Arts and Heritage program, announced in September 2007, which provides Canadians \$6,400 in funding for local arts and culture.

23 January
Federal Politics
federal funding
Prince Edward Island

Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, on behalf of Keith Ashfield, Minister of State (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency), and Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resource and Skills Development, announce federal government contributions totalling more than \$1.5 to revitalize the Summerside Raceway in Prince Edward Island. The Atlantic Canada Industry Opportunities Agency, through its innovative Communities Fund, contributes \$1.1 million and Service Canada is providing \$485,000 for the demolition of the existing horse buildings and construction of the new stables and multi-use facility.

23 January
Federal Politics
federal funding
Science and Technology

Greg Kerr, Member of Parliament for West Nova, on behalf of Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology), welcomes the Canada Foundation for Innovation investment in Acadia University. More than \$147,000 in funding was allocated to the university for art labs and equipment for inorganic photo physics and biological sciences. The research facility will include a femtosecond laser, supposedly the world's fastest camera and most powerful microscope, designed to better understand how light interacts with molecules.

23 January
Federal Politics
federal funding
Homelessness Project

Greg Rickford, Member of Parliament for Kenora, on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, announces that the Government of Canada is contributing more than \$96,000 to the Homelessness Partnering Strategy who is helping to renovate and purchase equipment for the "Out of the Cold" shelter in Sioux lookout.

23 January
Federal Politics
federal funding
ACOA

Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway announces that the government is funding six projects in Nova Scotia under Round VI of Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency's (ACOA) flagship Atlantic Innovation Fund (AIF) with \$12.4 million. The AIF will also fund a variety of private and public sector sources, bringing the total value of the Nova Scotia projects to an estimated \$21.9 million.

23 January*Federal Politics**Canada Revenue Agency**Project Trident*

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) launches a webpage dedicated to Project Trident, an awareness project that targets identity theft, charities-related fraud, and tax preparer fraud. There are currently over 70 cases that make up Project Trident and there have already been 13 convictions resulting in over \$1.8 million in fines and a total of 210 months of mandatory jail time.

26 January*Federal Politics**Speech from the**Throne*

Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, delivers the Government's speech from the Throne. Her speech provides more details on the next step in the Harper Government's Economic Action Plan for Canada. For more details see:

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6 February

Cadman with a \$1 million life insurance policy in return for a vote against the then Liberal government. In a joint statement, the Liberal Party and the Conservatives said the matter was dropped and that no other comments would be made. This move was in direct contradiction with Mr. Harper's past vows to take the matter to a total victory in front of a judge.

10 February

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Canada Health
Infoway*

Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health, announces that the Government of Canada, through its Economic Action Plan, is continuing to support the creation of health information systems. Funding of \$500 million is in addition to \$400 million in support provided to Canada Health Infoway in Budget 2007. This brings the Government of Canada's total commitment to \$2.1 billion.

11 February

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Education*

Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, announces that the Government of Canada will make additional student loan funding available to York University students due to the strike. There are about 13,000 York University students receiving Canada Student Loans and since their school year has been extended, the Government of Canada is expected to give out between \$6 million and \$7 million more in Canada Student Loans to help them finish out their school year.

11 February

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Education*

The Government of Canada is making post-secondary education more affordable and accessible for students and families across Canada beginning in fall 2009. New grants of \$250 per month for students from low-income families and \$100 per month for students from middle-income families will reduce the amount of debt students will incur. The new Repayment Assistance Plan will ensure that debt is manageable, with the loan payments based on student income.

13 February

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Youth Employment*

Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development Saskatchewan announces that youth facing employment barriers are getting valuable job-preparation training thanks to the Government of Canada. Three Saskatchewan communities will benefit from four youth employment projects, two in Regina, one in Prince Albert, and one in Yorkton. These projects will receive over \$208,000 in total funding through the federal Youth Employment Strategy Skills Link program.

13 February

*Federal Politics
Labour*

Rona Ambrose, Minister of Labour, announces that the government is launching consultations to modernize labour standards under Part III of the Canada Labour Code to ensure that they remain relevant and effective the 21st-century economy. The consultations will follow up on the report entitled Fairness at Work: Federal Labour Standards for the 21st Century, produced by the Federal Labour Standards Review Commission in 2006, and will act on the government's commitment to seek the views of business, unions and employees before deciding on a course of action.

17 February

Federal Politics

federal funding

Media

James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages, announces the creation of the Canada Periodical Fund, a modern, streamlined program in support of Canadian magazines and community newspapers. This announcement builds on the Budget 2009 commitment to provide \$30 million over the next two years for Canadian periodicals.

17 February

Federal Politics

federal funding

Employment

Senator Consiglio Di Nino announces on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development that at-risk youth in Scarborough will benefit from the Government's local employment project. The Shouters National Evangelical Spiritual Baptist Faith International Centre of Canada will receive \$198,951 in federal funding

improve accessibility across Canada. The goal of the EAF is to promote vibrant communities that benefit from the participation of people with varying abilities in everyday life activities.

20 February
Federal Politics
federal funding
Seniors Program

Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development and Member of Parliament for Haldimand–Norfolk, announces nearly \$25,000 in funding for the Haldimand Community Support Centre under the Government of Canada’s New Horizons for Seniors Program. The funding will help ensure that seniors have the opportunity to participate and take an active leadership role within their community.

20 February
Federal Politics
federal funding

Ray Boughen, Member of Parliament for Palliser, Saskatchewan, on behalf of Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health, announces the Government

subject to a mandatory sentence of life imprisonment without eligibility for parole for 25 years. The new legislation will also create two new offences for assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm and aggravated assault against a peace or public officer. Both would be punishable by a maximum penalty of 10 and 14 years.

26 February

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Literacy Ontario*

Dean Del Mastro, Member of Parliament for Peterborough, on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, announces government funding of \$311,925 for Literacy Ontario Central South's project Literacy and Essential Skills in Industrial Arts. Literacy Ontario will develop essential skills course material in industrial arts for use by instructors and participants in the program.

26 February

*Federal Politics
Mid-shore
Patrol vessels*

Christian Paradis, Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada and Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, announce that the Government of Canada has taken the next step towards procuring mid-shore patrol vessels on behalf of the Canadian Coast Guard. The government plans to procure up to twelve new mid-shore patrol vessels (MSPVs) to provide support for the Fisheries Conservation and Protection Program, as well as Maritime Security. Through industrial and regional benefits, this contract will boost the Canadian economy by providing for 100 percent of the contract in direct and indirect industrial and regional benefits. This means that the contractor will generate one dollar of economic activity in Canada for every dollar it receives from the contract.

26 February

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Manitoba
Drug prevention*

Merv Tweed, Member of Parliament for Brandon-Souris, Manitoba, on behalf of Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health, announces that the Government of Canada is supporting projects under the Drug Strategy Community Initiatives Fund that will strengthen drug prevention among youth in Manitoba. The Brandon School Divis

of more than \$11,000 will also help with the hiring of a part-time project coordinator, and will allow for the purchase of equipment and supplies.

27 February

Federal Politics

federal funding

Ontario

Homelessness

Partnering Strategy

Daryl Kramp, Member of Parliament for Prince Edward–Hastings, on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, announces that the Government is investing in the purchase of a multi-passenger transit vehicle for the Central Hastings Support Network in Madoc, Ontario through the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS). The HPS funding of \$50,868 will help buy a vehicle that will provide transportation for individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, so that they can gain access to employment and other support services in Belleville, Ontario.

6 March

Federal Politics

federal funding

Immigrant Integration

Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Minister Jason Kenney announces that immigrants in Edmonton will have access to more language training, employment assistance and information to help them integrate into the community. These services will receive \$2.3 million in federal funding.

13 March

Federal Politics

Laurie Hawn, Member of Parliament for Edmonton Centre, highlights investments of \$194,250 in eight projects in Edmonton under the

riverfront area within the village of River John. The Harbour Authority of Pictou Landing will develop a master plan for economic development in the area and to support their financial stability.

18 March

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Seniors Program*

Minister LeBreton announces more than \$11 million in funding for more than 900 projects across Canada through the Capital Assistance component of the New Horizons for Seniors Program. These projects include: increasing the Age Credit by \$1,000 for 2009 and beyond to allow eligible seniors to receive up to an additional \$150 in annual tax savings; providing seniors with \$200 million in tax relief by reducing the required minimum withdrawal amount for 2008 from Registered Retirement Income Funds by 25 percent; providing \$400 million over two years through the Affordable Housing Initiative for the construction of housing units for low-income seniors; establishing an independent task force to make recommendations on a cohesive national strategy on financial literacy for Canadians.

18 March

*Federal Politics
Atlantic Pilotage
Authority Regulations
Amendments*

The Government of Canada introduces a regulatory amendment intended to protect Atlantic waters and to improve navigation safety. Canada's Transport Minister, John Baird, announces the regulations amending the Atlantic Pilotage Authority Regulations, which will help protect the waters surrounding Saint John, New Brunswick, and Placentia Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador.

20 March

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Nova Scotia
Historic sites*

Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment and Minister responsible for Parks Canada, announces the Government of Canada's intention to make major infrastructure improvements in national historic sites across Nova Scotia, and to the Cabot Trail in Cape Breton Highlands National Park. Projects that will be funded include investment in the Cabot Trail in Cape Breton Highlands National Park (\$14 million), Port Royal National Historic Site (\$700,000) and Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site (\$2 million).

21 March

Federal Politics

Stockwell Day, Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Asia

Skills Link Program

benefit from the Government's commitment to a local employment project. LOFT (Leap of Faith Together) Community Services will receive over \$270,000 in federal funding through the Government of Canada's Skills Link program for its Pre-Employment Project.

23 March

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Adult Learning and
Employment Programs*

Dean Del Mastro, Member of Parliament for Peterborough, announces, on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, that the Government is supporting a project that will help workers with low levels of literacy. Under the project entitled 'Building Training Partnerships to Enhance Low-Skilled Workers' Participation in the Workforce, Pathway to Possibilities (PTP) Adult Learning and Employment Programs receives over \$455,000 to work with five communities across Canada to develop workforce literacy and essential skills programs for adults with low skills levels.

23 March

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Education*

Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health, Dr. Colin Carrie, Parliamentary Secretary, and New Brunswick Senator Percy Mockler announce that the Government of Canada will provide further support for Francophone students pursuing post-secondary educational opportunities in the health care field. The Government will provide \$4 million in federal support to help the Consortium strengthen its promotion and recruitment efforts, expand the scope of distance learning, strengthen clinical training for students through the purchase of new medical equipment, and strengthen continuous learning and teaching recruits.

24 March

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Seniors Program*

Barry Devolin, Member of Parliament for Haliburton–Kawartha Lakes–Brock, announces federal support for the Haliburton Kawartha Lakes Elder Abuse Prevention Network under the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program. Mr. Devolin highlights over \$19,000 in funding for the Haliburton Kawartha Lakes Elder Abuse Prevention Network to help ensure that seniors have the opportunity to participate and take an active leadership role within their community.

25 March

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Employment Insurance*

The federal government puts \$60 million more into Employment Insurance for Service Canada. The number of Canadians applying for the program jumped to 560,400 in January, up 22.8 percent from a record low a year ago. Ontario was particularly hit hard as the depressed manufacturing sector pushed unemployment up 81.6 percent in the city of Windsor.

25 March

*Federal Politics
Stimulus bill*

The Harper government won approval to put \$3 billion in emergency stimulus into Canada's economy after Liberals backed off their demand for details on how the money will be spent. Provision for the special stimulus

plan to improve the quality of the tourist site and draw a greater number of visitors, particularly from outside Quebec.

30 March

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Seniors Program*

Jean-Pierre Blackburn, Minister of National Revenue, Minister of State (Agriculture) and Member of Parliament for Jonquière–Alma, announce federal support to improve the facilities and equipment of organizations under the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program. Minister Blackburn highlights \$43,567 in funding under the Capital Assistance component of the New Horizons for Seniors Program, which helps organizations that support seniors to replace outdated equipment or undertake needed renovations.

31 March

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Arctic research*

Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, announces six more recipients of the \$85 million fund to upgrade key Arctic research facilities. All six are in Nunavut.

6 April

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Universities*

Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology), announces an investment of \$7.9 million to fund eight new or renewed Canada Research Chairs in four universities in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador. This includes \$321,880 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) for research infrastructure.

6 April

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Safety and Security*

Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway, and Peter Van Loan, Minister of Public Safety, announce that the Government of Canada is investing \$2 million for 10 new research projects to advance Canada's capability to prevent and prepare for safety and security threats, whether caused by terrorist or criminal activity, accident, or natural disaster.

6 April

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Student employment*

Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources, on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, announces increased funding of \$20 million for Canada Summer Jobs to help Canadian students acquire skills and work experience.

6 April

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Economic growth*

Dick Harris, Member of Parliament for Cariboo - Prince George, on behalf of Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification, announces funding for the Cariboo region to stimulate and grow the local economy. The first investment of \$220,000 will support the Cariboo-Central Interior Poultry Producers Association to create a mobile poultry-processing unit that will help diversify the local economy and encourage growth in the poultry industry.

7 April

*Federal Politics
federal funding*

James Flaherty, Minister of Finance, on behalf of Rob Nicholson, Member of Parliament for Niagara Falls, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, announces federal funding of \$103,140 to the National Anti-

Anti-racism campaign

Racism Council of Canada. The organization will undertake research on the feasibility of establishing a Youth Restorative Action Project in Ontario, using the same model as Alberta.

7 April

Federal Politics

federal funding

Ontario Justice

Education Network

James Flaherty, Minister of Finance, on behalf of Rob Nicholson, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, announces federal funding for the Ontario Justice Education Network. Part of this funding will support the Ontario Justice Education Network in creating the "*Aboriginal Justice Education Project.*" And part will to provide justice education training sessions to staff and volunteers who work with disadvantaged youth.

7 April

Federal Politics

federal funding

Employment training

On behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, Brian Jean, Member of Parliament for Fort McMurray–Athabasca, and Chris Warkentin, Member of Parliament for Peace River, announce \$300,000 in federal funding to help rural Albertans with disabilities prepare for jobs or become self-employed.

7 April

Federal Politics

*New auto industry
measures*

Consumer confidence

Tony Clement, Minister of Industry, and Stockwell Day, Minister of International Trade, announce new measures to help boost consumer confidence in the auto industry. The Government of Canada has created the "Canadian Warranty Commitment Program" for new vehicles purchased from General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) and Chrysler Canada Inc., and added \$700 million to Export Development Canada's (EDC) Accounts Receivable Insurance (ARI) program available to auto parts suppliers. Under the Canadian Warranty Commitment Program, the federal government is committed to honouring consumer warranties on new vehicles purchased from GMCL or Chrysler Canada for a limited period while improved restructuring plans are put in place.

7 April

Federal Politics

federal funding

Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification announces that Canada's government is investing \$886,500 for industrial research and development and technology commercialization in the field of advanced manufacturing at Camosun College.

8 April

Federal Politics

federal funding

Jean-Pierre Blackburn, Minister of National Revenue and Minister of State (Agriculture), announces \$3.1 million in funding for seven new projects under the Charities Partnership and Outreach Program of the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

8 April

Federal Politics

federal funding

Nova Scotia Premier Rodney MacDonald and Senator Fred Dickson announce \$13,399,800 to improve the water and wastewater systems for residents of Amherst, Springhill, Oxford and Maccan. The projects will

17 April

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Canada Winter Games*

Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway, announces funding of \$2 million toward the coordination and hosting of the 2011 Canada Winter Games in Halifax.

20 April

*Federal Politics
federal funding
SSHRC*

The Government of Canada announces \$136 million in funding to further the development of talent and knowledge among Canada's top scholars in the social sciences and humanities. Through grants and fellowships administered by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), these investments will support more than 2,500 of Canada's best researchers.

21 April

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Homelessness
Partnering Strategy*

Inky Mark, Member of Parliament for Dauphin–Swan River–Marquette, on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, announces that Homelessness Partnering Strategy funding will be used to support data analysis and information sharing on homelessness in Swan River. With this new federal investment of over \$44,000, the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Parkland Region will provide community coordination, training, technical support and data analysis for the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) in Swan River.

24 April

*Federal Politics
Small vessels
safety regulations*

Canada's Transport Minister, John Baird, introduces new Small Vessel Regulations to better regulate the safety of small vessels and improve public safety. The proposed regulations include new requirements to enhance current safety equipment, vessel construction some operational requirements for pleasure craft and small commercial vessels and renewable pleasure craft licences in order to improve the accuracy of licence information for search and rescue purposes.

24 April

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Skills Link Project*

Lee Richardson, Member of Parliament for Calgary Centre, on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development announces that Calgary area youth will benefit from the Government of Canada's support for a local employment project. The YWCA of Calgary will receive \$461,244 in federal Skills Link funding to support the Vermilion/YWCA Skills Training Centre project, which will help 48 young Canadians facing employment barriers prepare for and find meaningful employment.

24 April

*Federal Politics
federal funding*

Denis Lebel, Minister of State for Canada Economic Development, announces that the Municipality of L'Anse-Saint-Jean, Quebec will receive \$1,190,094 in joint government funding under the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) for new water and sewer infrastructure to serve a residential complex near Mont Édouard.

24 April

Federal Politics

Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, announces the appointment of Lyall D. Knott, a senior partner of Vancouver-based law

*IJC Commissioner
appointment*

firm Clark Wilson LLP, to the International Joint Commission (IJC) as a Canadian commissioner.

1 May
Federal Politics

Ben Lobb, Member of Parliament for Huron–Bruce, announces federal support of \$84,500 to improve the facilities and equipment of five seniors

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TransCore Link
Logistics

Link Logistics Inc. for the satellite-based tracking of goods and monitoring of products. Through this project totalling \$10.4 million, TransCore will evolve GPS-related, wireless and data transfer technologies for its GlobalWave system, which tracks and monitors goods and vehicles travelling through global supply chains in order to improve shipping security, fleet management and performance. This project will create and/or maintain an average of 20 high-quality jobs in the Ottawa suburb of Kanata for each year.

29 May
Federal Politics
federal funding
Employment

On behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development Stephen Woodworth, Member of Parliament for Kitchener Centre, announces that Ray of Hope Inc. will receive \$240,486 in Skills Link funding to support its Youth Employment Skills at Morning Glory Cafés program. This project will help 16 youth develop life and employment skills that will help them prepare for and find meaningful employment or return to school.

3 June
Federal Politics
federal funding

Denis Lebel, Minister of State (Canada Economic Development) takes part in the announcement of a \$12-million non-repayable contribution from the Government of Canada to the National Optics Institute (INO). This sum, paid under Canada Economic Development's *Business and Regional Growth* program, will enable INO to implement its in-house research program and commercialize its research and development work worldwide.

4 June
Federal Politics
federal funding

Denis Lebel, Minister of State (Canada Economic Development), announces that the Quebec Aerospace Association (AQA) will receive

Opportunities Act

gives two new advance polling days to the campaign period, on the Sunday eight days before election day and on the Sunday immediately before election day. More importantly, all 65,000 regular polls will be open on the Sunday before election day. This will maximize the opportunity for Canadians to vote at polls in their own neighbourhoods.

13 July

*Federal Politics
federal funding
British Columbia*

Senator Nancy Greene Raine, on behalf of Lynne Yelich, Minister of State (Western Economic Diversification), announces federal support for a land development project in Princeton, British Columbia, to stimulate and grow the local economy. The Town of Princeton will transform 20 lots on industrial land to function as a fully serviced business park. Federal funding of \$450,000 is being provided by Western Economic Diversification Canada under the Community Economic Diversification Initiative (CEDI), a component of the federal Mountain Pine Beetle Program.

15 June

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Huntsville
G8 Summit*

Tony Clement, Minister of Industry and Member of Parliament for Parry Sound-Muskoka, announces more than \$2 million in federal funding for beautification projects and infrastructure upgrades in Port Severn and South River. The funding will come from the G8 legacy infrastructure fund, which was set up to benefit civic projects in the Parry Sound-Muskoka area in advance of the Huntsville G8 Summit taking place in June 2010.

16 June

Federal Politics

Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance, highlights the multitude of measures taken by the Government under the

17 June

Federal Politics
Employment Insurance

Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff strike an employment insurance deal: first, a “leader's mandated working group of 6 people – three chosen by Conservatives, three by Liberals” to look at issues around employment insurance reform. Second, another report card on the infrastructure stimulus spending in the fall, much earlier than the third report card will be tabled. This would allow the Liberals a possible trigger, if they and the other opposition parties choose to pull it, to defeat the government in the fall.

21 June

Federal Politics
federal funding
Quebec

Denis Lebel, Minister of State (Canada Economic Development), announces that the Fondation communautaire Gaspésie-Les Îles has been awarded \$700,000 in non-repayable funding over two years through the Community Diversification program to pursue its efforts to promote entrepreneurship and business succession in the region. Dedicated to improving quality of life in Gaspésie and Îles-de-la-Madeleine, the Fondation has made it its mission to curb the exodus of youth from the region, encourage those who have left to return and attract new young residents to the area.

23 June

Federal Politics

Bill number C-7 to amend the Marine Liability Act and the Federal Courts Act receives Royal Assent.

24 June

Federal Politics
federal funding

On behalf of Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, Gary Lunn, Minister of State for Sport and Member of Parliament for Saanich-Gulf Islands, announces over \$2.8 million in funding, over the next two years, to undertake needed repairs, maintenance work and infrastructure upgrades at the Institute of Ocean Sciences in Sidney. The funding is part of a \$250 million commitment in Canada's Economic Action Plan designed to accelerate investment over the next two years to modernize federal facilities across the country.

25 June

Federal Politics
federal funding
University of Victoria

Andrew Saxton, Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Treasury Board on behalf of Lynne Yelich, Minister of State (Western Economic Diversification) announces \$620,000 in federal support for the University of Victoria's Genome British Columbia Proteomics Centre to enhance its research, analytical and training services. Funding will help the University of Victoria purchase and install specialized imaging equipment at the Proteomics Centre. The equipment offers stronger research and training opportunities for researchers, academics and industry. Funding will also

Test Establishment

Establishment (NETE), headquartered in Montreal. PWGSC worked closely with Department of National Defence (DND) on a competitive procurement for this contract, valued at \$600 million for 15 years. If all options for renewal are exercised, 200 jobs will be maintained in Canada, especially in Halifax, Ottawa, Victoria and LaSalle, Quebec.

2 July

*Federal Politics
Canada, Haiti
Debt forgiven*

Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance, announces that the Government of Canada will forgive \$2.3 billion in debt the Republic of Haiti owes Canada through the Canadian Debt Initiative. With this relief, Canada has now cancelled \$965 million worth of debt owed by the world's poorest and most heavily indebted countries, including all of the eligible debt owed by Latin American and Caribbean nations.

3 July

*Federal Politics
federal funding*

Acting on behalf of Denis Lebel, Minister of State for Canada Economic Development, Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister responsible for the Outaouais region and Memb Eag002ET1 gbJ115 TD4 Twgn

announces that *Aéroport international de Mont-Tremblant Inc.* will

community
improvements. This project will \$

Inc. (ART) has

8 July
Federal Politics

Denis Lebel, Minister of State (Canada Economic Development),

23 July

*Federal Politics
federal funding
New Brunswick
Bilingualism*

On behalf of James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages, Rob Moore, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice and Member of Parliament Fundy Royal, announces \$141,000 in government funding for Canadian Parents in New Brunswick. The funding aims to foster the development of Canada's minority Anglophone and Francophone communities and enable them to participate fully in all aspects of Canadian life.

24 July

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Newfoundland and
Labrador*

Senator Fabian Manning announces on behalf of Keith Ashfield, Minister of State for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) that the Town of Paradise in Newfoundland and Labrador will upgrade its wellness complex with the support of \$564,000. The town will also provide \$507,967 to support the project.

27 July

*Federal Politics
Ericsson purchase
of Nortel*

Ericsson purchases of Nortel Networks Corporation's wireless assets for \$1.13 billion U.S. Two courts overseeing the bankruptcy filing of Nortel Networks Corporation have approved the sale of the company's wireless assets to Ericsson. However, Nortel pensioners are lobbying Ottawa to pass an emergency amendment to the federal Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act to give them status ahead of other unsecured creditors in Canada. Ontario Finance Minister Dwight Duncan and Research in Motion (RIM) insist Ottawa should block the deal that allows key Canadian technology to slip into foreign hands. Ericsson said it followed all the rules to acquire the assets, including those involving a key next-generation wireless technology that RIM and the Ontario government argue are vital and should stay in Canada.

28 July

Peter MacKay, Minister of

4 August

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Ontario*

Dave Van Kesteren, Member of Parliament for Chatham-Kent-Essex, announces a grant of \$3,545,871 for the Municipality of Chatham-Kent under the Ontario Potable Water Program (OPWP). The program provides financial support to promote local economic development in municipalities that have experienced increased costs for their Canada-Ontario Infrastructure Program (COIP) drinking water projects to comply with changes to Ontario drinking water regulations.

5 August

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Post-secondary*

Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, announces two new student financial assistance measures: the Canada Student Grants Program and the Repayment Assistance Plan. The

expectancy of the aircraft. This acquisition contract is expected to generate benefits for local economies and will provide approximately 5,500 jobs and an opportunity for up to 15,000 indirect jobs for Canadians across the country.

11 August

*Federal Politics
federal funding
British Columbia*

Jay Hill, Member of Parliament for Prince George - Peace River and Leader of the Government, on behalf of Lynne Yelich, Minister of State (Western Economic Diversification), along with Bruce Sutherland, Chair of Northern Development Initiative Trust, announce funding of \$10 million for 23 projects in communities across Northern British Columbia through the Community Adjustment Fund (CAF).

12 August

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Alberta*

On behalf of Tony Clement, Minister of Industry, Devinder Shory, Member of Parliament for Calgary Northeast, announces the Government of Canada's investment of more than \$240,000 to support Calgary's GlobalFest as part of the Marquee Tourism Events Program.

12 August

*Federal Politics
federal funding
"Own the Podium"*

Gary Lunn, Minister of State (Sport), announces an investment of nearly \$52 million to 43 summer national sport organizations for 2009-2010 through the Government of Canada's Sport Support Program. As part of this investment in Canada's summer sports, close to half of these funds will be directed to the summer sport Own the Podium initiative. This funding will help support sports and athletes with potential for podium results at the next Olympic and Paralympic Summer Games.

12 August

*Federal Politics
federal funding
Quebec*

Laurent Lessard, Quebec's Ministre des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire, and Jacques Gourde, Member of Parliament for Lotbinière-Chutes-de-la-Chaudière, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada and to the Minister of National Revenue, acting on behalf of the Honourable Denis Lebel, Minister of State (Economic Development), announce that the Municipality of Saint-Janvier-de-Joly will receive \$340,440 in joint government financial assistance under the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) for the extension of its domestic sewer system. This extension work along Village Road, will directly benefit 14 properties, or 40 residents within the municipality's urban perimeter. The municipality will also carry out additional improvements including the installation of a sewer main, a pumping station and a force main.

13 August

Prime Minister Stephen Harper

13 August

Federal Politics

federal funding

New Brunswick

Investment to the Next Century

Keith Ashfield, Minister of State (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency), on behalf of Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology), announces a \$500,000 contribution to Marwood Ltd. from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP). This contribution will support the New Brunswick-based company, through one of its operating divisions, Cape Cod Finished Wood Siding Inc., in researching, developing, and commercializing superior paint coatings to provide increased long-term performance to wood siding.

16 August

Federal Politics

federal funding

Nova Scotia

Peter McKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway, announces that the Government of Canada is investing \$4.6 million in Nova Scotia infrastructure projects under Canada's Economic Action Plan.

17 August

Federal Politics

federal funding

Rick Casson, Member of Parliament for Lethbridge, on behalf of Lynne Yelich, Minister of State (Western Economic Diversification), announces \$372,7e-u6.io19. Tw.illning Ior Le

17 August
Federal Politics
federal funding
New Brunswick

Keith Ashfield, Minister of State (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency) and Roland Haché, Education Minister and Member of Legislative Assembly for Nigadoo-Chaleur, announce a commitment to invest more than \$370,000 towards renovations to the Sportplexe Richelieu, in New Brunswick. The project will enable the Village of Nigadoo to repair a leaking roof and replace damaged insulation in the Sportplexe Richelieu. The improvements will also help reduce energy costs.

18 August
Federal Politics
federal funding
Quebec

Denis Lebel, Minister of State (Canada Economic Development), joins David Whissell, Ministre du Travail and Ministre responsable de la région des Laurentides, acting on behalf of Laurent Lessard, Ministre des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire, in announcing that the Municipality of Saint-Paul will receive \$360,000 in combined government financial assistance under the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) to carry out water collection and treatment work. The financial assistance will enable the municipality to bring its drinking water production infrastructure up to standard, improve the quality of the drinking water it distributes and conduct more effective monitoring.

17 August
Federal Politics
federal funding
British Columbia

Dick Harris, Member of Parliament for Cariboo – Prince George, on behalf of Lynne Yelich, Minister of State (Western Economic Diversification), announces federal support for six projects in the Cariboo – Chilcotin region. The six projects range from a study of biomass energy opportunities to the development of tourism marketing strategies and economic development plans. While different in scope, these projects all have one common goal – to strengthen, diversify and ensure the long-term resilience of the local economy, and to ensure that individuals and families are able to thrive in the region. Total federal funding of \$800,040 is being provided by Western Economic Diversification under the Community Economic Diversification Initiative (CEDI), a component of the federal Mountain Pine Beetle Program.

18 August
Federal Politics
federal funding
Manitoba

Kerri Irvin-Ross, Manitoba Minister of Healthy Living, Joy Smith, Member of Parliament for Kildonan-St. Paul, on behalf of Lynne Yelich, Minister of State (Western Economic Diversification), and Winnipeg Councillor Harry Lazarenko announce \$60,420 in funding from the Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) for the Gwen Sector Creative Living Centre in Winnipeg.

18 August
Federal Politics
federal funding
New Brunswick

Greg Thompson, Minister of Veteran's Affairs and Member of Parliament for New Brunswick Southwest, on behalf of Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, announces that over \$20.6 million in funding is being provided for small craft harbours projects in Southwest New Brunswick.

20 August

Greg Rickford, Member of Parliament

Synthetic Drug

Justice, and Raf Souccar, RCMP Deputy Commissioner of Federal

2 September
Federal Politics
federal funding
British Columbia

The Government of Canada awards a contract for \$47.3 million to Stuart Olson Constructors Inc. of Richmond, British Columbia, for *Phase IV* of the modernization of the Fleet Maintenance Facility (Cape Breton) at the Esquimalt Dockyard. This construction contract will generate approximately 255 direct employment opportunities throughout the course of the work.

2 September
Provincial Politics
Alberta
China Investment

PetroChina Co. Ltd., a state-owned Chinese enterprise, announces \$1.9 billion in investment in the oil sands of Alberta.

3 September
Federal Politics
International Reserves

The Department of Finance announces that Canada's official international reserves increased by an amount equivalent to \$8521.77 million (CAD) during August to \$55,966.59 million (CAD).

4 September
Federal Politics
federal funding

James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages, and Diane McGifford, Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy for Manitoba and Chair of the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada

*federal funding
Quebec*

*canadiennes et de la Réforme des institutions démocratiques, acting on
behalf of Laurent Lessard, *Ministre des Affaires municipales, des Régions**

2 October

The Federal government will introduce

Correctional Services

resulting from its suit of new crime laws. Mr. Van Loan, who is responsible for the Correctional Service of Canada, confirms the possibility of using the farm land for prisons in a written response tabled recently in the House of Commons. The Minister's response also revealed the annual budget for "corrections infrastructure" has grown from \$88.5 million in 2006-07 to \$195.1 million this year. It is projected to peak at \$211.6 million in fiscal year 2010-11.

18 October

Seventy-six boat migrants who came to Vancouver illegally, will appear

Conditional Release Act Code to repeal the “fait hope” clause. This means that criminals who commit first or second degree murder will no longer be able to apply for early parole.

29 October

Federal Politics

Telecommunications

Bill C-47, an Act regulating telecommunication facilities to support investigations is referred to Committee after a Second Reading in the House of Commons. The *Technical Assistance for Law Enforcement in the 21st Century Act* will require service providers to include interception capability in their networks. Requirements to obtain court orders to intercept communications will not be changed by this Act, which will require service providers to supply basic subscriber information to law enforcement agencies and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service on request.

29 October

Federal Politics

Criminal Code

of Canada

Amendments

Bill C-46, an Act to amend the Criminal Code, the Competition Act and the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Act, is referred to Committee after a Second Reading in the House of Commons. The *Investigative Powers for the 21st Century (IP21C) Act* will ensure that law enforcement officials have the tools they need to fight crime in today's modern environment by updating certain existing offences as well as creating new investigative powers to effectively deal with crime in today's

1 December
Federal Politics
federal funding
British Columbia

Jay Hill, Member of Parliament for Prince George–Peace River, on behalf of Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification, announces federal funding for facility upgrades that will create jobs for the community of Kitimat. The Snow Valley Nordic Ski Club is undertaking facility improvements in preparation for hosting the 2010 BC Winter Games.

1 December
Federal Politics
Immigration

Jason Kenney, Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Minister says that the Government of Canada is expediting the processing of more than 400 applications in an effort to help victims of Typhoon Ketsana reunite with close family members who are Canadian citizens and permanent residents. In September, Typhoon Ketsana hit the Philippines capital of Manila and other areas in the northern Philippines, resulting in the worst flooding in more than 40 years.

1 December
Federal Politics
Federal funding
Quebec

Denis Lebel, Minister of State for Canada Economic Development, awards \$300,000 in repayable funding to the firm *Béton préfabriqué du Québec*. This assistance will enable the startup to acquire the equipment it needs to launch its operations in Baie-Comeau. Requiring an overall investment of \$3.5 million, this project will result in the creation of 20 direct jobs in Quebec.

2 December
Federal Politics
federal funding
Quebec

Denis Lebel, Minister of State for Canada Economic Development, announces the awarding of \$3,205,212 to the *Conseil des Montagnais du Lac-Saint-Jean* through the *Community Diversification* program for the construction of a complex on the banks of Lac Saint-Jean showcasing Inuit culture and ancestral traditions. The new complex will include an arts pavilion, a stage, a period general store, a rest area for cyclists travelling the *Véloroute des Bleuets* and various other recreational tourism facilities to allow visitors the opportunity to learn more about how the Inuit lived in the early 1900s.

4 December
Federal Politics
federal funding
British Columbia
Employment training

Gary Lunn, Minister of State (Sport) and Member of Parliament for Saanich–Gulf Islands, announces on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development that adults in British Columbia will benefit from two federally funded projects that will help them improve their literacy and essential skills so they can get jobs. The Association of Service Providers for Employability and Career Training will receive \$693,824 for its Essential Skills Online project. The Association will work in partnership with the Vancouver Island University’s Centre for Continuing Studies to develop an online literacy and essential skills training tool that is based on an existing product, *Your Money Matters*.

4 December
Federal Politics

Denis Lebel, Minister of State for Canada Economic Development, announces the awarding of \$1,340,000 in repayable funding to *Village*

federal funding

Vacances Monts-Valin granted through the *Community Adjustment Fund* provided for under *Canada's Economic Action Plan*. This assistance will enable the enterprise to build and outfit the first eight cabins of what will eventually become a 25-unit lodging complex in Monts-Valin.

7 December

*federal funding
Nova Scotia*

required for to the design and construction of a proposed Mi'kmawey Debert Cultural Centre and trail network. Mi'kmawey Debert Cultural Centre at Debert, Nova Scotia, will be reforested with the help of a Government of Canada investment totaling more than \$400,000. Federal funding provided through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency includes \$150,000 from the Agency's Innovative Communities Fund and \$237,588 in support from the Communities Adjustment Fund, a key economic stimulus initiative under the Government of Canada's Economic Action Plan.

13 December
*Federal Politics
federal funding
Atlantic Canada
Opportunity Agency*

Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway, confirms the contribution to the Town of Truro, to assist in renovations to the Colchester Legion Stadium. The Colchester Legion Stadium and the Town of Truro will receive more than \$855,000 in funding from the Atlantic Canada Opportunity Agency (ACOA)'s Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) program under Canada's Economic Action Plan.

14 December
*Federal Politics
federal funding
Alberta*

Brian Jean, Member of Parliament for Fort McMurray–Athabasca and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, on behalf of Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification, announce Economic Action Plan funding that will strengthra

the Quebec Parental Insurance Plan provided by the Government of Quebec. In addition, they will now be eligible to take advantage of sickness and compassionate care benefits offered by the Government of Canada through the EI program.

21 December
Federal Politics
Labour arbitration
CN and Teamsters

Rona Ambrose, Minister of Labour, appoints Mr. Andrew Sims as arbitrator in the negotiations between Canadian National Railway (CN) and the Teamsters Canada Rail Conference.

21 December
Federal Politics
Canadian Forces
Investigation
Afghan detainees

The Canadian Forces National Investigation Service (CFNIS), the investigative arm of the Canadian Forces Military Police, investigates all allegations of Afghan detainee mistreatment while in Canadian Forces (CF) custody. All of the completed investigations to date have determined that allegations of mistreatment of Afghan detainees by Canadian Forces (CF) members were unfounded and that CF members acted out of compassion.

- 1 May**
Health
H1N1
- The Government of Canada launches a major public information Citizen Readiness Campaign to make Canadians and their families more aware of the H1N1 flu virus (human swine flu). Print ads, related to the campaign, focus on how to prevent flu infection will appear across the country in major daily and weekly newspapers on Saturday May 2nd and Monday May 4th.
- 19 May**
Health
Chalk River
Reactor
- Chalk River reactor shuts down after a power outage in parts of eastern Ontario and western Quebec. However, a heavy water leak was detected within the facility the following day, and Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. (AECL) estimates the reactor will be out of service for more than a month while repair options are considered. The agency says the heavy water is being contained and stored in drums, and there is no threat to workers, the public, the environment or nuclear safety as a result. The aging facility provides about half the global supply of isotopes used in medical imaging. AECL says it has enough medical isotopes for the week, but will be unable to meet demand by Saturday.
- 19 May**
Health
H1N1
- Canada's chief public health officer, David Butler-Jones, expresses cautious optimism that the country has seen the worst of a new virulent flu strain for the season and told Canadians that they no longer need to postpone travel plans to Mexico.
- 29 May**
Economy
Federal-provincial
meeting
- Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty meets his provincial and territorial counterparts at Meech Lake, Quebec, to discuss the state of the Canadian economy and measures taken to provide stimulus, and to review progress on implementing Canada's Economic Action Plan.
- 8 June**
Health
Ontario
eHealth
- The CEO of eHealth Ontario, Sarah Kramer, defends her role in a spending scandal that has cost taxpayers millions of dollars. She was given a \$317,000 severance package and received a \$114,000 bonus after just months on the job.
- 11 June**
Health
H1N1
- The Government of Canada today reassures Canadians that it will continue to implement the Canadian Pandemic Influenza Plan in close coordination with domestic and international partners in order to address H1N1 flu virus. The announcement was made in response to today's decision by the World Health Organization to raise the H1N1 flu virus pandemic alert level from Phase Five to Phase Six.
- 12 June**
Health
H1N1
- The federal and provincial governments are developing a plan to implement in the event the H1N1 pandemic does take hold. The plan stipulates that guidelines need to be developed to assist doctors in making tough choices about the allocation of the vaccine.
- 1 September**
- British Columbia health study allows two Vancouver therapists to give the

Health
Vancouver Trials

drug ecstasy to patients in a scientific trial aimed at finding new ways to help people with post-traumatic stress disorder. The two therapists are the first Canadians to be permitted to conduct a trial like this. They are recruiting 12 people to take part, which they hope might include Canadian soldiers and police officers.

30 September

Health
H1N1
Aboriginal Peoples
Manitoba

In Wasagamack, Manitoba, a 2,000-member reserve, the Aboriginal communities in Manitoba ask for help with the H1N1 flu and instead receive 200 body bags. Jim Wolfe, Manitoba director of Health Canada's Inuit and Aboriginal Health Branch, subsequently apologizes for sending body bags to Manitoba First Nations communities this afternoon, explaining that the 200 post-mortem kits sent to northern communities were never intended to be part of the H1N1 flu kits.

1 October

Health
Seasonal Flu
and H1N1
vaccination

New Brunswick's public health authorities moved up seasonal flu shots for all their residents before proceeding to the pandemic vaccine campaign. Quebec and Nunavut defer their seasonal flu campaigns until after their H1N1 mass vaccination clinics. Ontario, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories and Yukon will offer seasonal shots only to the elderly, then they will roll out the swine flu vaccine when it becomes available in November, and resume seasonal flu shots in December or January.

7 October

Health
Ontario
eHealth

Ontario's Auditor-General has linked Premier Dalton McGuinty to the hiring of former eHealth Ontario chief executive officer Sarah Kramer, whom he says wielded considerable power and ignored the agency's own policies in doling out lucrative contracts to consultants. Under Ms. Kramer's watch, two thirds of the dollar value of contracts at eHealth were awarded without competitive tenders, Jim McCarter says in a report. eHealth's Board of Directors felt it had little power over Ms. Kramer because chairman Alan Hudson hired her "with the support of the Premier," the report said. Ms. Kramer and Dr. Hudson resigned from eHealth in June over the contracts.

14 October

Health
H1N1

David Butler Jones, Canada's chief public health officer, said the H1N1 vaccine needs to be tested for its safety and effectiveness before being rolled out to Canadians. However, doctors are worried that not getting the flu shot out right away will mean that the virus will peak before people get inoculated. Canada's vaccine, produced by GlaxoSmithKline at its plant in Ste-Foy, Quebec, has yet to be approved by Health Canada. Ottawa has already ordered 50 million doses of the H1N1 vaccine from GlaxoSmithKline.

15 October

Health

Chief public health officer says Canadians will get H1N1 shots faster than other countries. He also said that although Canada may be behind other

H1N1

countries in rolling out its swine flu vaccine, the population should be immunized by Christmas before the virus peaks.

19 October

Health

H1N1

David Butler-Jones, Canada's chief public-health officer, has hinted that Canadians could be offered the H1N1 vaccine at the end of October if Health Canada moves through the regulatory hurdles quickly. More than one million doses of the H1N1 pandemic vaccine have been shipped to provinces and territories, and Health Canada is expected to approve the drug as early as this week.

27 October

Health

H1N1

Federal health officials spend \$2.55 million more on an emergency order of 200,000 doses of the H1N1 vaccine intended for pregnant women. The order is expected to be delivered to provinces and territories next week.

29 October

Health

H1N1

Although Canada ordered 50 million doses of the H1N1 vaccine, only six million will be shipped to provinces and territories by the end of the week. High risk groups of individuals are asked to get inoculated first, followed by the red Health

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

16 January

Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Canada's proONS

La Francophonie

Brunswick's participation in La Francophonie, and its follow-up on the organization's proceedings.

20 March

Intergovernmental

Relations

Canada, Alberta

Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification, and Doug Horner, Minister of Alberta Advanced Education and Technology, sign a new \$50 million Canada-Alberta Western Economic Partnership Agreement (WEPA) that

Joint funding

Desjardins drinking water treatment facility.

27 March

*Intergovernmental
Relations*

Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway and Pat Dunn, Nova Scotia Minister of Health Promotion and

30 April

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada, Quebec
Employment training*

Jean Charest, Premier of Quebec, with Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, Josée Verner, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, President of the Queen's Privy Council of Canada and Minister for La Francophonie, and Sam Hamad, Quebec Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity, announce the signing of three new agreements totaling over \$1 billion aimed at developing the skills of workers and improving the employability of unemployed people in Quebec.

4 May

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada, Alberta
Joint funding*

Gary Goodyear, Canada's Minister of State (Science and Technology), Rona Ambrose, Canada's Minister of Labour, and Doug Horner, Alberta Minister of Advanced Education and Technology, announce investments totalling more than \$348 million in 28 projects for post-secondary institutions in Alberta. The investment will help provide economic stimulus and promote employment by creating jobs for engineers, architects, trades people and technicians. It is also helping to generate the advanced technological infrastructure needed to keep Canada's research and educational facilities at the forefront of scientific advancement.

13 May

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada, Newfoundland
and Labrador
Joint funding
fisheries*

Gail Shea, Canada's Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, and Tom Hedderson, Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture, announce \$266,604 in funding for early commercialization of submersible technology that will enable development of deep water mussel aquaculture in areas exposed to arctic ice in Newfoundland and Labrador. The Government of NL will contribute \$45,514 from its Aquaculture Strategic Development Program.

22 May

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada, Manitoba
Joint funding*

Vic Toews, President of the Treasury Board and Member of Parliament for Provencher, on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, and Andrew Swan, Minister of Competitiveness, Training and Trade for Manitoba, sign an agreement to invest more than \$34 million in Manitoba's employment and training programs that will help an estimated 3,400 Manitobans get back to work. This new funding is in addition to the almost \$128 million provided to the Province of Manitoba over the next two years for employment and training programs under existing agreements.

22 May

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada, Alberta
Joint funding
Employment*

Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment and Member of Parliament for Calgary Centre-North, on behalf of Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, along with Hector Goudreau, Minister of Employment and Immigration for Alberta, announce the signing of the agreement to invest \$101 million in Alberta's employment and training programs. This new funding is in addition to the approximately \$315 million provided to the Province of Alberta over the next two years for employment and training programs under existing agreements. The Government of Alberta will use the funding to support provincial

highlight Manitoba's commitment to increasing access to French language services in the province.

3 July

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada, Quebec
funding*

Denis Lebel, Minister of State (Canada Economic Development), joins Serge Simard, Ministre délégué aux Ressources naturelles et à la Faune du Québec and Ministre responsable de la région du Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean, acting on behalf of Nathalie Normandeau, Deputy Premier of Quebec, Ministre des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune and Ministre responsable du Plan Nord, in announcing that more than \$61 million will be invested in silvicultural operations in the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean region between 2009 and 2011. This funding, which represents the region's share of the \$200 million, will serve mainly for the rehabilitation of areas poorly regenerated as a result of the numerous forest fires that ravaged the region in 2002 and 2005.

6 July

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada, Quebec
Funding*

Denis Lebel, Minister of State (Canada Economic Development), and Nathalie Normandeau, Deputy Premier of Quebec and Ministre des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune, Ministre responsable du Plan Nord and Ministre responsable de la région Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, announce investments of \$900,000 for 2009-2010, for the repair and restoration of bridges and culverts on forest multi-use roads on Gaspésie public lands.

6 July

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada, Manitoba
Funding
Post-secondary*

Rod Bruinooge, Member of Parliament for Winnipeg South, on behalf of Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology), and Peter Bjornson, Manitoba Minister of Education, Citizenship and Youth, on behalf of Diane McGifford, Manitoba Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy, announce \$41.2 million in funding for infrastructure projects at post-secondary institutions in Manitoba.

9 July

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada, Quebec
Joint funding*

Acting on behalf of Laurent Lessard, Ministre des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire, Michel Matte, Member of the National Assembly for Portneuf, and Sylvie Boucher, Member of Parliament for Beauport-Limoilou, acting on behalf of Denis Lebel, City of Cap-Santé will receive \$1,571,668 in joint government funding under the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) to extend its domestic sewer system to the eastern limits of the city.

13 July

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada, Quebec
Funding*

Denis Lebel, Minister of State for Canada Economic Development, and Serge Simard, Ministre délégué aux Ressources naturelles et à la Faune and Ministre responsable de la région du Saguenay – Lac-Saint-Jean, on behalf of Nathalie Normandeau, Deputy Premier of Quebec, Ministre des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune and Ministre responsable du Plan Nord, announce investments of \$1,900,000 for 2009-2010, for the repair and restoration of bridges and culverts on forest multi-use roads on Côte-Nord public lands.

13 July

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada,
Newfoundland and
Labrador
Funding*

Keith Ashfield, Minister of State (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency), Dianne Whalen, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Lumsden Mayor Jeannette Gibbons announce that federal and provincial governments will provide \$138,000 in funding to assist the Town of Lumsden, Newfoundland and Labrador in upgrading its water treatment plant through a contribution of just over \$414,000 from the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF).

17 July

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada, Quebec
Joint funding*

Acting on behalf of Denis Lebel, Minister of State for Canada Economic Development, Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister responsible for the Outaouais region and Member of Parliament for Pontiac, and Norman MacMillan, Quebec's *Ministre délégué aux Transports*, *Ministre responsable de la région de l'Outaouais* and Member of the National Assembly for Papineau, acting on behalf of Laurent Lessard, *Ministre des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire*, announce that the City of Thurso will receive \$2,775,000 in joint government funding under the Communities

municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire , acting on behalf of Laurent Lessard, Ministre des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire , announce that the Municipality of Sainte-Ursule will receive \$2,076,220 in joint government funding under the Communities Component of the Building Canada Fund – Quebec for water treatment work in the Petit-Poste sector. The project involves installing sanitary sewer lines along Rang Fontarabie and de la Gare Road.

12 August

*Intergovernmental
Relations
Canada, Manitoba
Joint funding*

Manitoba Health Minister, Theresa Oswald, Rod Bruinooge, Member of Parliament for Winnipeg South, on behalf of Lynne Yelich, Minister of State (Western Economic Diversification), and Winnipeg's Acting Deputy Mayor, Gord Steeves, announce funding for renovations to the football field that will create jobs in Winnipeg. Total cost of the project is \$420,000. Federal funding of \$138,600 is provided through the Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) program as part of Canada's Economic Action Plan with the Province of Manitoba providing \$150,000. The City of Winnipeg is contributing \$61,000 towards the project.

24 August

Intergovernmental

Acting on behalf of Denis Lebel, Minister of State (Canada Economic

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financial assistance under the Communities Component of the Building Canada Fund – Quebec (FCCQ) to replace its main drinking water reservoir.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

5 January

*International
Relations
Canada, United States*

Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans announces that Canada and the United States ratify an agreement on changes to five chapters of the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST), which expired at the end of 2008.

7 January

*International Relations
Israel, Gaza
Federal contribution*

Beverley J. Oda, Minister of International Cooperation, and Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs announce that Canada is responding to the situation in Gaza. On January 3 Israeli troops entered northern Gaza, initiating a ground offensive. The Government of federal contribution Canada, through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), will contribute \$4 million dollars.

13 January

International Relations

Beverley J. Oda, Minister of International Cooperation, announces Canadian humanitarian and economic assistance to address winter food

4 February*International Relations**United States**“Buy American”*

The United States Senate softens the "Buy American" provision contained in the economic recovery bill. This is good news for Canada since the bill will hurt Canada's economy. Michael Wilson, the Canadian ambassador to the United States, sent a terse letter to Senate leaders earlier this week urging them to drop the provision, and Embassy officials have been continuing to lobby congressional leaders to plead Canada's case. The European Union also sent a letter to Congress.

Finance

financial system is needed. However, no new initiatives were announced to stop the global contraction.

17 March

Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Stockwell

independence. The Tamil youth have requested to meet with a Conservative MP but so far no one has met with them.

16 April

*International Relations
Canada, Morocco*

Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz met with Moroccan Agriculture Minister Aziz Akhenouch and Moroccan Trade Minister Abdellatif Mazouz in Rabat, Morocco, to discuss opportunities

and fencing to secure the corridor. It also includes track reconfigurations, and signal and communications modifications.

7 May

*International Relations
Canada, United States
COOL*

Stockwell Day, Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway, and Gerry Ritz, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, announce that the Government of Canada is taking action on behalf of Canadian farmers in the dispute over United States (US) country-of-origin labelling (COOL) measures. Canada initially requested WTO consultations with the U.S. on COOL in December 2008, as it believed the measures were creating undue trade restrictions. At that time, U.S. provisions were being implemented on an interim basis. A Final Rule to implement COOL was published in the U.S. Federal Register on January 15, 2009. However, on February 20, 2009, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture issued an open letter to the U.S. industry, encouraging the use of stricter and broader labelling practices. According to Canadian industry representatives, those proposals will only add to the challenges they are already experiencing. They have observed that, since COOL came into effect, some U.S. processors are choosing not to buy Canadian animals, or are trying to buy them at a reduced price.

15 May

*International Relations
European Union
Seal hunt*

The European Union (EU) assembly endorses a bill banning all products and processed goods derived from seals, including their skin, arguing that commercial seal hunting is inhumane. The bill still needs the backing of EU governments, but officials called that a formality since national envoys have already endorsed the bill. Canada's East Coast seal hunt is the largest of its kind in the world, killing an average of 300,000 harp seals annually. Canada exported around \$5.5 million (USD) worth of seal products to the EU in 2006. Inuit groups say the ban will spell disaster for their communities, which rely heavily on seal hunts for jobs and income. Canadian authorities say the seal hunt is sustainable, humane and provides income for isolated fishing communities. Canada and Norway have already warned they would take the 27-nation bloc to the World Trade Organization if it moved to ban seal product imports.

25 May

*International Relations
Canada, Pakistan
Arms ban*

The Harper Government invalidates the Defence Minister Peter MacKay's assertions that Canada is considering lifting an 11 year-old ban on arms sales to Pakistan. A senior Indian diplomat voiced concerns about Canada selling arms to neighbouring Pakistan. However, Pakistan's diplomats in Canada say that diplomats told them within the past two weeks it was being considered. An aide to Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon asserted that the ban will not be lifted.

1 June

*International Relations
Canada, United States
Border crossing*

New border rules requiring Passports, Fast Cards, Passport Cards, Secure Certificate of Indian Status, and Nexus Cards, are in effect at the United States and Canada border land and water crossing. The new rule is part of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, intended to filter out terrorists

and other criminals before they enter the U.S.

4 June

27 June

International Relations

G8

*Foreign Ministers’
meeting*

Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, attends the G8 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in Trieste, Italy, held June 25 to 27, 2009. During the meeting, foreign ministers from the G8, and the European Union address international security issues such as nuclear non-proliferation, terrorism, crime and peacebuilding. Cannon expressed Canada’s views on regional and country issues concerning Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Af

*Canada, Mexico
federal funding*

suppress its increasingly powerful drug cartels.

11 August

*International Relations
Canada, Pakistan
federal funding*

International Co-operations Minister Bev Oda announces that Canada will send another \$25 million to help Pakistanis who have fled Taliban violence. The United Nations estimates that more than two million people in Pakistan have been displaced by the fighting. The aid that Canada provides will be distributed through United Nations agencies, the Red Cross, Save the Children, and CARE.

11 August

*International Relations
Canada, United States,
Mexico
North America
Leaders' Summit*

A declaration signed by Prime Minister Stephen Harper, United States President Barack Obama and Mexican President Felipe Calderon in Guadalajara, Mexico commits the three governments to work together on climate-change issues, including the construction of their emissions-trading systems. The U.S. has agreed to work with Canada and Mexico to develop a North American carbon market that would allow Canadian emitters to meet some portion of their targets through purchasing credits in the NAFTA marketplace. The agreement by leaders from the three countries could help keep down compliance costs for Canadian emitters, while expanding the market for renewable energy companies and others that create carbon credits with projects in Canada.

14 August

*International Relations
Canada, China
China visit*

Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance, concludes a series of meetings with senior members of the Chinese government during a Canadian mission to China from August 10 to August 14, 2009. The mission deepened the economic relationships between Canada and China and highlighted the strength of the Canadian financial system and financial institutions. Minister Flaherty's delegation included Bank of Canada Governor Mark Carney, Superintendent of Financial Institutions Julie Dickson, other key Canadian government officials and senior financial industry executives.

22 August

*International Relations
Canada, Brazil
Brazil visit*

Stockwell Day, Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway, concludes a two-day visit to Brazil where he worked to strengthen Canada's economic presence in this country. In 2008, Canadian exports to Brazil totalled \$2.6 billion, a 70 percent increase over the previous year. Key exports to Brazil include fertilizers, mineral fuels and oils, salt, sulphur, cement, machinery, paper and paperboard.

4 September

*International Relations
Canada, China
Canadian Trade Office*

Gerald Keddy, Parliamentary Secretary to Stockwell Day, Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway, concludes a visit to India, where he opened a new Canadian trade office in Kolkata, a dynamic business, transportation and financial hub. With existing trade offices in Hyderabad, New Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai,

1 December
International Relations
World Trade
Organization

Stockwell Day, Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway, reaffirms Canada's commitment to strengthening the World Trade Organization in order to increase global trade. The announcement follows high-level talks in Geneva with his WTO counterparts from 152 countries.

4 December
International Relations
Foreign Ministers'
Meeting
Berlin

Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, concludes his participation in a NATO foreign ministers meeting in Brussels that addressed a number of key security issues. During this meeting, Minister Cannon discussed the NATO-led mission in Afghanistan with Canada's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) partners as well as with Afghanistan's Foreign Minister Ranjin Dadfar Spanta.

10 December
International Relations
Afghanistan Mission
Canada's Quartely
Report

Stockwell Day, Minister of International Trade, Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway and Chair of the Cabinet Committee on Afghanistan, releases the Government of Canada's sixth quarterly report on Canada's engagement in Afghanistan. Highlights of the sixth quarterly report include the August 20 presidential and provincial council elections and the arrival of a significant number of U.S. forces in Afghanistan.

25 December
International Relations
Liu Xiaobo affair

Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issues a statement denouncing the 11-year prison sentence given to Chinese intellectual and dissident Liu Xiaobo by the Beijing Municipal No. 1 Intermediate People's Court.

MUNICIPALITIES

27 July
Municipalities
Toronto
City Workers' Strike

A month-long strike in Toronto ends with two of Toronto's largest unions holding on to key benefits from the cash-strapped municipality. The three-year deal preserves benefits for nearly 30,000 current workers – including a hot-button bankable sick-day scheme - and also includes modest wage gains. The deal ends a 36-day strike that brought garbage collection to a halt and shut summer camps, libraries and swimming pools. It was the longest labour dispute in the city's history.

7 August
Municipalities
Toronto
TTC

Bob Dechert, Member of Parliament for Mississauga Erindale, Ontario, Transportation Minister Jim Bradley, Toronto Transit Commission chair Adam Giambone and York Regional chair Bill Fisch announce that a contract has been awarded to the Toronto company LOVAT Inc. for the purchase of four tunnel boring machines for the Toronto-York Spadina subway extension. The total contract value is approximately \$58.4 million and will generate manufacturing jobs in the Greater Toronto Area.

28 September*Municipalities**Huntsville**G8 Summit*

Claude Doughty, the Mayor of Huntsville, puts thousands of dollars on his personal credit card to order steel for a local infrastructure project required for hosting the Group of Eight world leaders in June. Mr. Doughty knew that he risked supplier delays if he did not order the steel in January, which would leave the building unfinished by the G8 summit. When the funding had not been approved he put down a security deposit to set the

30 October*Municipalities**Quebec**Municipal elections*

Gérald Tremblay wins the Montreal Mayor race with a lead of 17,548 votes over Ms. Harel. The two-term mayor had 37 percent of the votes, compared to 33 percent for Ms. Harel. Elections in hundreds of municipalities across Quebec also took place on Sunday, including Quebec City where incumbent Regis Labeaume was re-elected with a convincing majority.

5 March*Municipalities**Federation of**Canadian Municipalities**Bottled water*

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities has taken a stand against bottled water. The group asked Canadian cities and towns Saturday to phase out the sale and purchase of bottled water on municipal property. Twenty-seven Canadian municipalities have already phased out the sale of bottled water on their property. On

*British Columbia
Throne Speech*

drug addiction and mental-health issues in the country's most impoverished neighbourhood, the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver. For more information visit:
http://www.gov.bc.ca/premier/media_gallery/speeches/2009/feb/state_of_t

1 April*Territorial Politics**Nunavut**Ten year anniversary*

Nunavut, the most recent province of Confederation, turns 10 today. John Amagoalik, a veteran Inuk leader, began calling for an Inuit homeland in the early 1970s and later played a key role in the historic land-claims settlement that led to the creation of Nunavut. Nunavut is spread over one-fifth of Canada's land mass and three time zones.

2 April*Provincial Politics**Ontario**Toronto Transit*

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty offers Toronto's mayor, David Miller, \$9 billion for transit only two days after McGuinty removed municipal politicians, including Toronto Mayor David Miller and York Region chairman Bill Fisch, from his Toronto-area transportation body. The Premier announced billions - originally pledged before the 2007 election - for the two politicians' key public-transit projects, which they say will transform the Toronto area. For Mr. Miller, the highlight is a \$4.6 billion, 31-kilometre, partially tunnelled light-rail line across Eglinton Avenue from Kennedy subway station to Pearson airport, the central component of his Transit City light-rail plan. In all, Toronto was promised \$7.2 billion, with the province paying the entire capital costs of the projects.

3 April*Provincial Politics*

In his annual report, Prince Edward Island Auditor-General Colin Younker

*Newfoundland and
Labrador
New Brunswick Power
Hydro-Québec*

Canada. On October 29th a tentative \$10 billion deal was reached with New Brunswick Power and Hydro-Québec. Hydro-Québec will spend \$4.7 billion for the assets of New Brunswick Power and also take on its debt of approximately \$5 billion.

9 November
*Provincial Politics
Ontario
George Smitherman
resigns*

George Smitherman, Ontario's Deputy Premier and Energy Minister, announces that he will leave Dalton McGuinty's cabinet to run for Toronto's mayoralty in November, 2010. Mr. McGuinty congratulates Mr. Smitherman for reducing wait times in hospitals and spearheading the Green Energy Act that will help create 50,000 jobs while he worked for him.

9 December
*Provincial Politics
Ontario
Harmonized sales tax*

Legislation to merge the GST and PST to a single 13 percent sales tax in Ontario passes its third and final reading. The legislation includes cuts to corporate and income taxes that take effect January 1, and one-time rebates of up to \$1,000 for some families to offset the impact of the HST. British Columbia is also set to merge its provincial sales tax with the GST on July 1, something Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador have already done.

SENATE

8 January
*Senate
New appointments*

Prime Minister Stephen Harper drops his reliance on confidence votes and moves towards stacking the Senate with Tories. Breaking his initial vow to appoint senators in only rare circumstances, Mr. Harper appointed 18 new Senators last month.

18 February
*Senate
Reform
Limited terms*

The Harper government introduces new Senate reform legislation that would oblige the new Conservative-appointed senators to resign from the Senate after an eight-year term. Minister of State for Democratic Reform Steven Fletcher said in an interview that new legislation would put the limit on all senators appointed since the October, 2008, election and into the future. Currently, senators can serve in the upper house until the age of 75. Previous legislation aimed at imposing limits on Senate terms died prior to the last election, with the Senate questioning the constitutionality of the idea.

7 May
Senate

Steven Fletcher, Minister of State introduces legislation to build on the measures brought forward in the

reforming the Senate by limiting Senate terms to eight years, giving Canadians a say over who represents them in the Upper House.

28 May

Senate

Reform

Term Limits

Steven Fletcher, Minister of State (Democratic Reform), reaffirms the Government's commitment to Senate reform and announces the introduction of legislation in the Senate to establish term limits for new senators. This "Senate Term Limits" bill will cap the tenure of new senators at one term of eight years. The bill also provides that the eight-year term limit will apply to all senators appointed after the October 2008 general election, including the 18 recently appointed senators. The eight year terms will begin once the bill receives Royal Assent.

27 August

Senate

Appointments

Prime Minister Stephen Harper fills nine vacancies in the Senate, including Jacques Demers, a former Montreal Canadiens hockey coach, and former journalist Linda Frum. The Liberal Party has 53 seats in the 105-seat Red Chamber, while the Conservative Party has 46. The other six seats are held by independents and Progressive Conservatives.

9 October

Senate

Sentencing Legislation

Several Liberal senators say the legislation concerning how much time to deduct from prison sentences for time already served, supported by Michael Ignatieff, is too restrictive. Judges may award twice the time served in recognition that jails are less pleasant places than federal prisons and that the time served does not count toward parole. Claiming that defence lawyers are abusing the practice by drawing out trials, all 10 provincial Attorneys-Generals asked the federal government to restrict it. Legislation brought forward by the Conservative government earlier this year to do just that sailed through the House with unanimous consent.