



THE CORPORATION OF  
**THE VILLAGE OF FRUITVALE**  
In the "HEART OF THE BEAVER VALLEY"

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March 15, 2018

## News Release

For Immediate Release

### **\$71,850 UBCM Grant awarded to the Village Fruitvale: Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Program** (Project made possible thanks to federal Gas Tax Fund)

**Fruitvale, BC (March 15, 2018)** - The Village has been successful in its grant application to the Gas Tax 2017 Strategic Priorities Fund (SPF) application intake. The Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Program focuses on leaks within the piped conveyance system (Infiltration) as well as discharge (Inflow) into it, the combination of which increases flows that can overwhelm the capacity of the treatment plant, leading to increased costs.

Fruitvale's management of its Sanitary Sewer Treatment Plant will be supported by the Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Program, which will help to identify and address excess flows into the piped conveyance system. Through more accurate analysis of flows and mitigation of both inflow and infiltration, the Village can more accurately assess needs and forecast long-term capital budgets. Fruitvale residents' annual sewer fees, meanwhile, will be based upon more reliable estimates of necessary capacity at the treatment plant.

The Village has been provided \$71,850 for the program, the full cost of which is covered by the grant. As part of its overall effort to improve the performance of the Sanitary Sewer Treatment plant and by building on other UBCM-funded studies, Fruitvale continues to dedicate substantial resources to reduce excess (non-sanitary) flows into treatment plant.

Each year, the Government of Canada provides over \$278 million in funding for local government infrastructure across British Columbia through the Federal Gas Tax Fund. The Union of BC Municipalities administers the Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia in partnership with the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

#### **Katrine Conroy, MLA for Kootenay West and BC Minister for Children and Family Development:**

"Upgrading the Village's wastewater treatment plant will help ensure Beaver Creek remains a dependable resource and vital place of recreation for the community. I'm thrilled that the Village of Fruitvale is making this project a reality thanks to a partnership between all levels of government."

#### **Director Wendy Booth, President, Union of BC Municipalities:**

"Communities across BC are looking for funding to replace, upgrade and expand local infrastructure. The federal Gas Tax Fund is accelerating the pace of infrastructure renewal through the transfer of close to \$3 billion since 2005 for projects in our province. I appreciate the Government of Canada's long-term commitment to fund priorities identified by BC local governments."

Fruitvale has been actively engaged with its infrastructure challenges for the last two decades. More recent (2016 & 2017) infrastructure studies have prioritized Sanitary Sewer as a main priority. The \$71,850 Gas Tax grant (to go toward I&I reduction) provides the Village a critical tool to utilize in meeting both its storm water and sanitary sewer management objectives, each of which falls within a larger effort to strategically forecast and finance improvements to the Village's infrastructure assets.

To learn more about the federal Gas Tax Fund visit:

<http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/plan/gtf-fte-eng.html>

<http://village.fruitvale.bc.ca/>

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