
INFORMATION BULLETIN

For Immediate Release
2008FIN0019-001677
Nov. 7, 2008

Ministry of Finance and Ministry responsible for the Olympics

PROVINCE RAISES CAPITAL STANDARD THRESHOLD FOR PPPS

VICTORIA – As part of the government’s commitment to accelerate capital infrastructure projects the threshold has been increased for any provincially-funded capital project to be considered as a public-private partnership.

All provincially-funded capital projects with a value of \$50 million or more will be considered first by Partnerships BC to be built as public-private partnerships (PPPs) unless there is a compelling reason to do otherwise. Previously the threshold for consideration as a PPP was \$20 million.

Since the introduction of the capital standard policy, all projects recommended to be a PPP have been over \$100 million with the exception of one, and none have been below \$20 million. Raising the threshold to this level will ensure that larger projects continue to be considered as potential PPPs, while streamlining the process for smaller-value projects that would not likely be a good fit as PPPs.

Projects between \$20 million and \$50 million will still be screened to determine whether a more comprehensive assessment of the project as a PPP is warranted. However, it is expected that typically such an assessment will not be needed, thus streamlining the planning process for smaller projects. Most projects receiving provincial funding over \$50 million will continue to require preparation of a full business case before project approval.

To-date, public-private partnerships have resulted in significant benefits for taxpayers, including \$131 million in additional benefits on the Sea-to-Sky Highway, \$92 million in benefits for the new Canada Line, \$39 million in benefits on the Abbotsford Hospital and Cancer Centre, and \$25 million in benefits from the new William R. Bennett Bridge. Every project undertaken as a PPP in British Columbia has been completed on-time and on-budget.

-30-

Media contact: Tamara Little
Communications and Government
Relations Director
Partnerships BC
778 991-8326

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province’s news feeds using RSS, visit the Province’s website at www.gov.bc.ca.