

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Engineers Canada Recognizes Federal Government's Commitment to Infrastructure**

---

January 30, 2009, Ottawa –The federal government's commitment to infrastructure, which Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty summarized while presenting the federal budget on January 27, 2009, is welcomed news by the engineering profession.

“The investment in infrastructure is especially pertinent in light of the current fiscal crisis, and we recognize that this government has remained committed to infrastructure policy and projects,” said Engineers Canada CEO Chantal Guay, P.Eng., ing., M.Env. “Infrastructure growth will result in creating new jobs through the construction of new housing and cultural and heritage institutions, as well as in supporting an economically-competitive edge. The investments in these areas, combined with support in sustainable energy projects, will play a significant role in maintaining the quality of life Canadians enjoy.”

Engineers Canada also acknowledges that the important issue of providing safe drinking water to Canada's northern communities is one aspect of the \$515 million infrastructure investment for First Nations. Northern communities will see further infrastructure investments in their schools and other community services.

The budget includes the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, where ‘shovel ready’ projects could qualify for up to 50 percent of the cost from the federal government, if construction begins in 2009–2010. Through important infrastructure investment, the government of Canada is contributing to leading-edge public policy development and decisions on infrastructure projects to be funded through collaborative efforts.

“We will continue to work together with the federal government by offering expertise and guidance as it continues to develop and roll out its short and long-term infrastructure programs and policies,” said Ms. Guay. “Given professional engineers' role in building a safer and healthier Canada, our knowledge in this area of activity can and has served as a valuable asset to the government and can contribute to establishing a sustainable framework for infrastructure renewal.”

*Engineers Canada is the national organization of the 12 provincial and territorial associations that regulate the practice of engineering in Canada and license the country's more than 160,000 professional engineers.*

*Engineers Canada is the business name of the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers.*

- 30 -

**For more information, contact:** William Meyer, Manager, Communications  
[will.meyer@engineerscanada.ca](mailto:will.meyer@engineerscanada.ca)  
613-232-2474, ext. 249