

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Engineers Canada Recognizes Federal Government's Continued Commitment to Infrastructure, Innovation

Ottawa, ON., March 5, 2010 — Canada's engineering profession welcomes the federal government's continued commitment to renewing the nation's infrastructure and investing in research and development

Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty presented the 2010 federal budget on March 4, 2010, the day after the Speech from the Throne which spoke of Canada's Economic Action Plan and its unprecedented investments in infrastructure.

"We welcome the continued investments in infrastructure, including new money for federal bridges and ferries," said Engineers Canada chief executive officer Chantal Guay, ing., P.Eng., M.Env. "We look forward to continuing to work with the federal government on a long-term strategy for renewing Canada's infrastructure in the interest of public safety."

The budget includes the second year of Canada's Economic Action Plan, which will flow \$7.7 billion into the economy, building on last year's investments of \$8.3 billion. The \$4 billion Infrastructure Stimulus Fund has been fully committed at this point.

The budget also contained modest investments in research and development, including an additional and ongoing \$32 million each to the National Science and Engineering Research Council and the other granting councils, along with an additional \$8 million for the Indirect Costs of Research program.

"Research and development are key to driving Canada's economy," said Ms. Guay. "Professional engineers play an important role in safely bringing new technologies and innovations resulting from research and development into our society."

The engineering profession has consistently called for sustained investments in research and development, and will continue to work with the federal government to that end.

-30-

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.

For more information, contact: Will Meyer, Manager, Communications
613-232-2474, ext. 249
will.meyer@engineerscanada.ca