



Meeting Annual Communications Requirements

Communications requirements

Requirements are set out in <u>municipal funding agreements</u> – but in short, municipalities are expected to:

- Share project information promptly and before funds are spent;
- <u>Post project signage where appropriate</u>; and
- <u>Complete regular announcements</u>.

Sharing project information

Report infrastructure projects supported by the CCBF to us:

- Promptly and ideally as soon as the capital budget is approved; and
- Online through our <u>CCBF reporting site</u>.

Posting project signage

Install a sign at all CCBF project sites – except where it is impractical or inappropriate to do so.

The installation of a physical sign is not necessarily appropriate if your project is:

- Located in a remote area that is not visible to the public;
- Short (i.e., under seven days); or
- Small (i.e., has a total project cost of less than \$100,000).

In lieu of installing a physical exterior sign, you may, where appropriate:

- Install an interior sign (e.g., in the lobby of the building affected by your project); or
- Use digital signage (e.g., on a project web site or on a social media platform).

You may also install a single sign for a cluster of similar projects (i.e., a group of projects within the same investment category that are located in close proximity to one another).

Signs should be:

- Posted 30 days before construction begins; and
- Removed 30 days after construction ends.

Costs incurred to post signs are eligible project costs and can be financed by the CCBF.

See Infrastructure Canada's <u>signage page</u> for templates and more information.

Completing regular announcements

Municipalities with active CCBF projects must complete at least one communications activity each year by:

- Holding a milestone event;
- Distributing a news release;
- Profiling a project on social media or the municipal website; or
- <u>Sending project details and photos to us</u> for dissemination on our website and social media channels.

Events and news releases must be approved by AMO and the Government of Canada.

- Contact us at least 15 working days beforehand.
- We will loop in communications staff with the Government of Canada.
- The Government of Canada may provide quotes and/or a federal representative.
- You may be required to delay events and news releases if insufficient notice is provided.

Include AMO's CCBF team as soon as possible for other activities (e.g., profiles on social media). We can:

- Review your content for wording, confirmation of funding amounts, etc.; and
- Reshare your announcement on our website, X, Instagram, YouTube, or LinkedIn.

Not sure how to get started?

- Skim the latest announcements on our website for inspiration;
- Consult our interactive map to find ongoing CCBF projects in your community; and
- <u>Contact us</u> if you would like help to draft communications materials.

Social media tips

When posting on social media:

- Use plain language avoiding jargon and other technical language;
- Include a photo or video to make your post more engaging;
- Use the #CCBF and #CCBFinOntario hashtags to get more eyes on your post; and
- Tag us so that we can reshare your content.

You can find us:

- At @CCBFinOntario on <u>X</u> or <u>Instagram</u>; or
- By searching for "The Canada Community-Building Fund in Ontario" on LinkedIn.

Photography tips for social media

Add an engaging and <u>appropriately sized</u> photo to help your post stand out. Show people enjoying the CCBFfunded asset if possible – children playing in your new park, a couple exploring your freshly rehabilitated trail, or families visiting businesses in your revitalized downtown core, for example. Try to avoid quiet shots of infrastructure standing alone – unless the photo has artistic merit (e.g., a stunning sunset over your repaved roadway). Consider using scenic photos of your community if these options are unavailable.