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PRESS RELEASE

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The Township of Russell Breaks Ground on Three Community Improvement Projects

Township of Russell, ON – The Township of Russell today celebrated the start of three projects that will improve local transportation and recreation facilities. Pierre Lemieux, MP for Glengarry-Prescott-Russell; Jean-Marc Lalonde, MPP for Glengarry-Prescott-Russell; and Ken Hill, Mayor for the Township of Russell were pleased to see these important community infrastructure projects move forward.

"Investing in recreation facilities and publicly-shared infrastructure ensures that our communities remain safe, accessible and vibrant places for residents to live, work and play," said MP Lemieux. "These projects will enhance key pillars of the community, while stimulating the local economy through job creation and increased tourism."

"Today's announcement is a step in the right direction to renew our recreational infrastructure here in Russell and create jobs and support local trades and businesses," said MPP Jean-Marc Lalonde. "Sport and recreation facilities are more than bricks and mortar, they are places that bring people together, places where people of all ages can become engaged in their community."

"Today's groundbreaking illustrates our Township's commitment to ensuring our residents have access to reliable infrastructure. It is also because the Township Infrastructure Funds, created in 2009, that we have, today, the financial means to move forward with these important capital projects. The upgrade to the Russell Arena will bring a new breath of life to the aging facility, and the revitalization of Route 200 communicates to local residents that roads must be safe. We are pleased that both senior levels of government have acknowledged the needs of Russell Township residents and come to the table," said Mayor Hill. "We are equally happy that the Russell Curling Club has been successful in their application. The Township is thrilled that we have been able to partner with the Curling Club on some preliminary items as our two projects unfold together," he added.

The governments of Canada and Ontario, the Township of Russell and the Russell Curling Club have made a total joint investment of more than \$3 million in these three projects through the Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RIc) program in Ontario and Ontario Recreation (Ontario REC) program, as well as the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund (ISF). For more information on these projects, please refer to the backgrounder.

During these challenging economic times, the governments of Canada and Ontario have taken steps to get shovels in the ground and funding into targeted infrastructure projects across the province.

These projects are among more than 2,400 moving forward throughout Ontario, thanks to a total joint federal-provincial investment of more than \$3.3 billion in infrastructure stimulus funding.