



Provincial Forest Access Roads

Provincial Forest Access Roads Funding Program (Roads)

- Provides funding annually towards the government's fair share of constructing and maintaining primary and branch forest access roads.
- By the end of fiscal 2017-18 the government will have contributed over **\$806** million through this program (since 2006).
- Annual funding amount for 2018-19 is \$54.0 million.
- Sustainable Forest Licence holders and Forest Resource Licence holders on Crown management units are responsible for road construction, maintenance, and monitoring of the forest roads network on the management unit per their obligations under their licence and their MNRF-approved Forest Management Plans.

Roads Continued

- Over 20,000 km of existing forest access roads are maintained and over 800 km are newly constructed annually through this program.
- These forest access roads are for the benefit of many resource users including mining companies, tourism operators, Aboriginal communities, utility and railway companies, hunters, anglers, campers, trappers, cottagers, and the general public. These roads also provide part of the rural infrastructure for emergency preparedness and response.

Background

- June, 2005 - The Minister's Council on Forest Sector Competitiveness, recommended that the government cover road construction and maintenance costs incurred by the forest industry.
- September, 2005 - \$28.0 million available to share in the costs of maintaining primary forest access roads.
- February, 2006 -expanded to \$75.0 million towards the government's share of constructing and maintaining primary and branch forest access roads.
- April, 2006 - Roads Funding Review Committee was formed to provide input into the design of the program and to review it's implementation.
- Funding has fluctuated in recent years:
 - 2011-12 - \$58.8 million
 - 2012-13 - \$60.0 million
 - 2013-14 - \$50.0 million
 - 2014-15 - \$38.7 million
 - 2015-16 – \$60.0 million
 - 2016-17 - \$68.8 million
 - 2017-18 - \$74.2 million

Funding Eligibility

- The road must meet the following criteria:
 - Must be identified in an approved Forest Management Plan and Annual Work Schedule
 - Must be classified as a primary or branch
 - Must be on Crown land
 - Must not be restricted to only forest industry use. (i.e. as long as one other resource user can use road then it is eligible)
“The program supports multi-use public forest access road infrastructure”
- Eligible costs include the construction of new ‘greenfield’ roads and the year-round general maintenance activities associated with existing roads.
- Reimbursement is made for up to 100% of primary roads cost and up to 50% of branch road costs.