



ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING  
ENGINEERING COMPANIES | CANADA  
ASSOCIATION DES FIRMES  
DE GÉNIE-CONSEIL | CANADA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Affordable Housing Plans Also Require Infrastructure Investments**

ACEC-Canada Statement on the 2023 Fall Economic Statement

**(OTTAWA) November 21, 2023** - While the federal government's support for housing is welcomed, the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies - Canada (ACEC) is disappointed by the lack of new investments for infrastructure needed to support housing initiatives announced in today's Fall Economic Statement.

“Building new houses and residential buildings to increase housing supply is critical to a growing number of Canadians,” said John Gamble, President and CEO of ACEC. “What is less obvious but equally important is infrastructure such as roads, transit, electrical grids, water and wastewater that allow these buildings to actually become homes. Otherwise, many municipalities may not have the capacity to take full advantage of today's announcements and deliver what Canadians need.”

To facilitate informed and proactive public policy on housing, and a wide range of other infrastructure challenges in the future and over the long-term, ACEC has called on the federal government to expedite the release of the National Infrastructure Assessment (NIA), which it has been working on since 2021. According to Gamble, “The NIA is essential to providing all levels of government and the entire infrastructure labour and supply chain with a roadmap for infrastructure investment, delivery, maintenance, and replacement from coast-to-coast-to-coast.”

The association is also calling on the government to make a clear commitment to extend funding for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program or create a successor program to address immediate infrastructure needs. “While the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program was very successful, the opportunity for new applications closed in March 2023” added Gamble. “New and ongoing demand means municipalities will need new and ongoing investments to ensure their communities are affordable, productive and safe.”

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