

HOW TO BUILD A SUSTAINABLE RURAL CANADA

- Increase cooperation and partnerships among rural municipalities, senior levels of government, industry, rural stakeholders and Aboriginal communities.
- Increase educational opportunities for rural Canadians by reducing the barriers to access post-secondary opportunities.
- Increase high-speed connectivity in rural and remote regions of Canada to ensure readily available access to critical information and to promote opportunities.
- Ensure stable, predictable funding for local and regional governments, not necessarily based on population.
- Establish a federal ministry dealing solely with issues and opportunities of rural and remote Canada.
- Establish a rural network to share best practices for rural economics, infrastructure, environment and governance across all jurisdictions of Canada.
- Communicate the messages from the *Rural Matters!* symposium to decision makers, rural organizations and community leaders.

