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# *News Release*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Tuesday, January 5, 2009**

## **Government of Canada Invests in Calgary Playgrounds**

**Calgary, Alberta** – Deepak Obhrai, Member of Parliament for Calgary East, on behalf of the Honourable Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification, announced today federal funding to strengthen Community Infrastructure in Calgary. Funding for this investment is being provided under the Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) program of Canada's Economic Action Plan.

"Our Government's investment in Parks Foundation Calgary(PFC), is continuing to build Infrastructure in Calgary, to encourage greater participation in physical education and the use of recreational facilities," said Deepak Obhrai, Member of Parliament for Calgary East.

The federal grant of \$309,517.00 will be administered by PFC to replace 13 playgrounds in Calgary. The playgrounds are identified in areas of high need and are reconstructed to meet safety standards. The projects are in conjunction with the City of Calgary, PFC, community fundraising, and private donation.

"The playgrounds are an important part of many communities across Calgary. They will bring us together as families, friends and neighbours to interface with each other through sports, while getting fit and healthy, and most importantly, having fun," said Obhrai.

"The Building Playgrounds and Communities Grant Program relies on the support and partnership of all levels of government. The Federal government's commitment of RInC funds will allow this Grant Program to thrive in 2010, ensuring that communities all over Calgary are strengthened through the creation of new and safe play spaces", stated Myrna Dubé, President, Parks Foundation Calgary.

"The Building Playgrounds and Communities Grant Program made our dream of a new playground a reality. Now the Albert Park Community has a safe and exciting play space for our children and a meeting place for our community. We are happy to know that with the help of RInC funding, this program will continue to enrich the lives of other communities throughout Calgary", stated Marline Racine, Manager, Albert Park Community.

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“The City of Calgary understands the importance of great playgrounds in a community and Parks is delighted to be working with Parks Foundation Calgary in their ‘Building Playgrounds and Communities’ grant program. Only in its second year - this program has already made a difference to more than a dozen communities. The RinC funds awarded from the Federal Government today will ensure funding continues well into 2010 and The City is pleased to be part of this ongoing partnership.” stated Anne Charlton, Director, City of Calgary Parks.

The Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) program will invest \$500 million in recreational facilities across Canada over a two-year period. It will provide a temporary economic stimulus that will help reduce the impacts of the global recession while renewing, upgrading and expanding recreational infrastructure in Canadian communities.

For information on Canada’s Economic Action Plan, please visit [www.actionplan.gc.ca](http://www.actionplan.gc.ca).

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