

**STATEMENT**

**ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
Groundbreaking of the Drayton Valley Aquatic Centre**

**TO BE READ ON BEHALF OF  
The Honourable Catherine McKenna,  
Minister of Infrastructure and Communities**

**Wednesday, April 21  
Drayton Valley, Alberta**

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

The groundbreaking of the Drayton Valley Aquatic Centre is a significant milestone, and I wish I could be there in person to celebrate with you today.

As a swimmer myself, I know how important aquatic and recreational facilities are to learn vital skills, stay in shape, and stay in contact with the community. These facilities encourage healthy lifestyles, and help make our towns and cities more vibrant and inviting.

The new Drayton facility will have something for everyone and different types of activities, with its 25-metre lap pool, leisure pool, lazy river, hot tub, steam room, multi-purpose rooms and other spaces. When the pandemic is behind us, it will be a place where families and friends can come together again and have fun.

As Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, and an advocate for solutions to fight climate change, I am proud that our government is investing \$7.5 million dollars in this aquatic centre. In fact, under the Investing in Canada plan, the Government of Canada has invested more than \$5 billion in over 350 infrastructure projects across Alberta.

During these challenging times we're going through, Canada is working closely with Alberta and municipalities to get projects built more quickly—projects that improve the quality of people's lives, create jobs, and contribute to regional development.

Thanks to projects like the Drayton Valley Aquatic Centre, Canada will remain among the best places in the world to live, work, and raise a family. I am thrilled that this project is getting underway, and I look forward to when I can visit the new facility and swim a few laps!

Thank you.